



## **EVPP 362, SPRING 2021 INTERMEDIATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY**

<b>Prerequisite (s):</b>	EVPP 361 or GOVT 361
<b>Place and time:</b>	Online (Tuesdays) & Thursdays 1:30-2:45 pm on Zoom
<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Younsung Kim
<b>Contact info:</b>	<a href="mailto:ykih@gmu.edu">ykih@gmu.edu</a>
<b>Course Website:</b>	<a href="http://mymasonportal.gmu.edu">http://mymasonportal.gmu.edu</a>
<b>Zoom:</b>	<a href="https://gmu.zoom.us/j/3845961853">https://gmu.zoom.us/j/3845961853</a>
<b>Office hours:</b>	Tues 1:30-2:45am or by appointment (Please email in advance)

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is designed to provide students with an *in-depth* understanding of environmental policy and politics, both in the U.S. and globally. During the course, we will examine the complicated nature and scope of environmental, energy, and natural resource problem—dilemmas arising from scientific uncertainty, political polarization, technological change, market and bureaucratic failures, and so forth. We will also consider policy approaches which have been implemented or proposed to address industrial pollution and commons problems. Furthermore, this class is designed to equip you with the basic skills necessary to assess public policies. Classes will be a mix of lectures and discussions. Case-based readings will be used to convey a practical understanding of key concepts and values in environmental policy and politics.

The purpose of this course is

- to develop a deeper, more profound understanding of environmental issues and conflicts between environmental protection and economic development
- to understand the constraints of conventional environmental regulations and explore the new direction of environmental policy and politics
- to learn about the advantages and drawbacks of different policy approaches, ranging from command-and-control regulation and market-based mechanisms to voluntary programs and collaborative decision-making schemes.
- to provide tools for you to evaluate environmental policies or programs

This course will also empower students to develop skills essential for independent scholarly research such as

- ability to make accurate distinctions among personal beliefs, claims, and evidence-based understanding
- ability to evaluate the credibility of source information and select valid and relevant information for scholarly inquiry
- ability to articulate and refine creative, focused, and manageable research questions that address potentially significant and previously less-explored aspects of environmental issues

- ability to retrieve information about previous scholarship from credible sources that provide and enable comprehensive analysis and/or synthesis

**Required Books**

- Judith A. Layzer, Sara R. Rinfret, *The Environmental Case: Translating Values into Policy*, 5th ed., Washington DC: CQ Press.
- Regina S. Axelord, Stacy D. Vandevener, *The Global Environment: Institutions, Law, and Policy*, 5<sup>th</sup> ed., Washington DC: CQ Press

The required book is available from the campus bookstore and various online booksellers.

**Articles or Book Chapters**

In addition to the textbooks for the course, journal articles, reports, and other readings are available on the course Blackboard website or through GMU e-journals.

**GRADING**

Synchronous class participation:	10%	
Online class assignments:	15%	
Case reviews	20%	(10% each essay)
Midterm exam:	20%	
Research paper:	35%	(5% for research outline, 25% for final paper, 5% for oral presentation)

**1. Synchronous Class participation & Online Class Assignment**

Participation will be based on factors such as contributing to discussions, asking questions and offering commentary, and doing the background preparation for simulations and exercises. You will never be *penalized* for participating, even when this takes the form of vague complaints like, “I’ve got no clue why we are reading this stuff or why it was written in the first place!”

However, I do expect that you use class time to ask thoughtful questions and engage in reflective discussion. Students that are engaged in the classroom learn more. Moreover, significant class participation makes our time together more interesting.

To facilitate class participation, it is imperative that all reading assignments be completed *before class*. *Daily* participation grades for in-class classes will be assessed at the end of each class. Non-attendance earns 0 points, unless a student submits three questions to the instructor via email prior to his or her absence. Attendance with no participation earns 1 point, whereas attendance with participation earns 2 points. A third point can be earned based on the substance and quality of your participation. As an example, if you attend class and do not participate to the discussion, you will earn a participation grade of 33 percent and reduce your overall course grade by 7 percent. Should you decide to leave at the break you will receive 0 participation points, regardless of how active you were during the first half of class.

There are class participation for online assignments, discussion board activities or quizzes.

## 2. Midterm exam

The midterm will be take-home. The questions will be based on course readings, lectures, and discussions.

## 3. Written assignments

Two case reviews are required. Each case essay is *due at the beginning* of the synchronous class session in which the case is assigned as a required reading. No retrospective work is allowed. That means, after the case discussion is done, I will not accept your case analysis paper.

In addition to two case analysis essays, you will conduct an independent mini research project. 2 or 3 people can be grouped into one project. More information about the graded activities and assignments is posted on the course Blackboard site.

### GRADE RANGES:

A+ = 98 up	B+ = 88-89	C+ = 78-79
A = 92-97	B = 82-87	C = 73-77
A- = 90-91	B- = 80-81	C- = 71-72, etc.

### COURSE POLICIES

- I rely on “...@gmu.edu” email addresses for communicating with students. To set up your “gmu.edu” email account, see [http://mason.gmu.edu/~montecin/memo/memo\\_www.htm](http://mason.gmu.edu/~montecin/memo/memo_www.htm). To forward “gmu.edu” messages to a different email address, see [http://mason.gmu.edu/~montecin/memo\\_forward.htm](http://mason.gmu.edu/~montecin/memo_forward.htm). Also please be sure to keep track of your gmu email account to make sure it doesn’t go over quota.
- Please use email for communications and for handing in all assignments.
- Please contact me right away if personal circumstances arise that may interfere with class participation or completion of assignments.
- If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) at 703-993-2474, or <http://ods.gmu.edu/>. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.
- Do not cut and paste language off the web without correct attribution. If you take more than a word or two in succession from a source, you must give a citation and use quotation marks. If you have questions about how to cite sources, please let me know. Mason’s writing center also has useful guidelines (<http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/>).
- Students are responsible for verifying enrollment. Please note the deadlines published in the Schedule of Classes ([Spring 2021 Academic Calendar | Office of the University Registrar | George Mason University \(gmu.edu\)](#)). After the last day to drop a class, withdrawing from this class requires the approval of the dean and is only allowed for nonacademic reasons.
- **Late/Missed Assignments:** Please note that I will enforce the deadlines for assignments strictly. If you submit your assignments within 72 hours after the deadlines, you will lose 30% of your grade. After one week past, your assignment will not be accepted. However, I will make an exception for students with genuine medical or personal problems that get in touch with me at least 3 days before the due date. The bottom line is to communicate with me as early as possible.

## **HONOR CODE**

*“To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, respect, trust, and fairness among all members of the George Mason University community and with the desire for greater academic and personal achievement, we, the student members of the University Community has set forth this:”*

George Mason University has an Honor Code, which requires all members of this community to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Cheating, plagiarism, lying, and stealing are all prohibited. All violations of the Honor Code will be reported to the Honor Committee. For more detailed information, see <http://academicintegrity.gmu.edu/honorcode>.

I strictly enforce Mason’s Honor Code. Students must NOT collaborate one assignments or exam without explicit permission from the instructor.

## **OTHER USEFUL CAMPUS RESOURCES**

- University Libraries “Ask a Librarian” <http://library.gmu.edu/mudge/IM/IMRef.html>.
- Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS): (703) 993-2380; <http://caps.gmu.edu>.
- University Policies: The University Catalog, <http://catalog.gmu.edu>, is the central resource for university policies affecting student, faculty, and staff conduct in university academic affairs. Other policies are available at <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/>. All members of the university community are responsible for knowing and following established policies.

## **SEMESTER PLAN**

Refer to “Syllabus” tab at the Blackboard course.