

**PA 8171 Environmental Policy
Spring 2009**

David Konisky
112 Middlebush Hall
Office hours: Mondays 4-5pm, or by appointment.
Phone: 882-2718
Email: koniskyd@missouri.edu

Day/Time/Location: Wednesdays, 3-5:30pm in 210 Middlebush

Course Description.

This course is an introduction to U.S. environmental policy, focusing on the institutions and political actors involved in environmental protection. The course provides a survey of the primary laws, regulations, and policies that comprise pollution control and natural resource management policy, with an emphasis on the former. The course will also consider relevant theoretical and empirical approaches that social scientists apply to study the political, economic, and social context of environmental policy-making across the U.S. states.

This course assumes that students have a basic understanding of American political institutions and the policy process, but there are no specific prerequisites for the course. Students with questions about their preparation should consult the instructor.

Required Texts.

Stephen Breyer. 1993. *Breaking the Vicious Circle*. Harvard University Press.
Daniel Fiorino. 2006. *The New Environmental Regulation*. MIT Press.
Deborah Guber. 2003. *The Grassroots of a Green Revolution*. MIT Press.
Sheila Jasanoff. 1990. *The Fifth Branch: Science Advisers as Policymakers*. Harvard University Press.
Allan Mazur. 1998. *A Hazardous Inquiry: The Rashomon Effect at Love Canal*. Harvard University Press.
Paul Portney and Robert Stavins. 2000. *Public Policies for Environmental Protection*. RFF Press.
Aseem Prakash and Matt Potoski. 2006. *Voluntary Environmentalists*. Cambridge University Press.
Sheldon Kamieniecki and Michael Kraft. 2007. *Business and Environmental Policy*. MIT Press.

Course Blackboard Website

I will use the course website at <http://blackboard.missouri.edu> to distribute additional required readings and further information about course assignments. Grades will also be posted on the website. If you experience any problems finding or accessing information, please let me know.

Course Requirements/Grading.

Two Short Essays (20%)

To facilitate discussion and engagement with the course readings, each student will write a short “reading response essay” twice during the semester (each worth 10% of your final grade). These essays should be analytical, and not mere summaries of readings. A successful essay might be a critique of a book or article, it might pull out the key themes that link readings together, highlight tensions between different authors or theories, or present evidence that contradicts or supports a key hypothesis. The essays should be no longer than 3 pages in length (double-spacing, 12pt font). These essays should be emailed to all class participants on the Tuesday before class by 5pm.

Research Paper (35%)

The paper requirement for the course is a research paper that will be due on the last day of class. Students have two options. First, students can prepare a literature review on the social science research regarding a particular environmental policy issue. These reviews should be critical reviews and not merely descriptive. Alternatively, students can write a paper analyzing governmental action toward a particular environmental problem, focusing on the strengths and shortcomings of existing policy approaches. The topic for the research paper must be approved in advance by the instructor. Plan to provide an outline of the paper to me on March 18.

Take-Home Exam (25%)

A take-home exam will be distributed on the final day of class and will be due a week later. The essay-format exam will be comprehensive, covering both lectures and readings.

Class Participation (20%)

Participation includes attendance and participation. Students who miss a class will need to explain their absence. If you know that you are going to be absent ahead of time, please let me know. More than one missed class will jeopardize your grade for the entire course. Participation in class is a vital part of this course. In order to fully participate in class, assigned readings – which for some weeks will be substantial – need to be completed before class.

As part of your class participation grade, you are expected to provide 2-3 discussion questions to the instructor prior to each class. These should be submitted via email by 5pm on the Tuesday before class.

In addition, I expect you to keep up with environmental policy-related items in the news, and there are several environmental newswires and blogs linked on the course Blackboard site.

Policy on Late Assignments and Incompletes.

Please plan to complete all of the work for this course by the specified due dates. I will only grant incompletes under extraordinary circumstances, which must be brought to my attention immediately. Late assignments will not be accepted without my prior approval.

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty is fundamental to the activities and principles of a university. All members of the academic community must be confident that each person's work has been responsibly and honorably acquired, developed, and presented. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort was successful. The academic community regards academic dishonesty as an extremely serious matter, with serious consequences that range from probation to expulsion. Cheating of any kind will jeopardize your credit for the entire course. When in doubt about plagiarism, paraphrasing, or collaboration, please consult the course instructor.

Students With Disabilities

If you need accommodations because of a disability, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please inform me immediately. Please see me privately after class, or at my office.

To request academic accommodations (for example, a notetaker or extended time on exams), students must also register with the Office of Disability Services (<http://disabilityservices.missouri.edu>), S5 Memorial Union, 882-4696. It is the campus office responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting academic accommodations, and for accommodations planning in cooperation with students and instructors, as needed and consistent with course requirements. For other MU resources for students with disabilities, click on "Disability Resources" on the MU homepage.

Class Schedule.

The schedule for the course is subject to change. I will announce any changes during class, and I will post changes to the syllabus on the class Blackboard site.

Jan. 21 Course Introduction

I. First-Generation Environmental Policy: Command and Control Regulation

Jan. 28 Air and Water Pollution Control

Marc K. Landy, Marc J. Roberts, and Stephen Richard Thomas. 1994. *The Environmental Protection Agency*. Oxford University Press, Chapter 2. Portney and Stavins, *Public Policies for Environmental Protection*, Chapters 1-2, 4, 6.

Richard L. Revesz. 1997. *Foundations of Environmental Law and Policy*. Foundation Press. pp.207-246.

Matthew Potoski and Neal D. Woods. 2002. "Dimensions of State Environmental Policies," *Policy Studies Journal* 30(2): 208-226.

Feb. 4 Managing Toxics and Wastes

Mazur, *The Rashomon Effect at Love Canal*.
Portney and Stavins, *Public Policies for Environmental Protection*, Chapter 7.
Robin R. Jenkins, Elizabeth Kopits, and David Simpson. 2009. "The Evolution of Solid and Hazardous Waste Regulation in the United States." *Review of Environmental Economics and Policy* 3(1): 104-120.

Feb. 11 Public Lands Management and Biodiversity Protection

Judy Layzer. 2005. *The Environmental Case*. CQ Press, Chapter 7.
Charles Davis. 2008. The Politics of Regulatory Change: National Forest Management Planning under Presidents Bill Clinton and George W. Bush. *Review of Policy Research* 25(1): 37-51.
Jason F. Shogren and John Tschirhart. 2001. *Protecting Endangered Species in the United States*. Cambridge University Press, Chapters 1, 4, 7 and 11.
2008 Department of Interior Inspector General Report.
Stephen Meyer, End of Wild, *Boston Review*

Feb. 18 Role of Science in Environmental Policy I: Risk Assessment

Richard L. Revesz. 1997. *Foundations of Environmental Law and Policy*, pp.50-71, 85-93.
J. Clarence Davies. 1996. *Comparing Environmental Risks*. RFF Press, Chapters 1-3.
Graham, John D. and Jonathan Baert Wiener. 1995. *Risk vs. Risk: Tradeoffs in Protecting Health and Environment*. Harvard University Press, Chapters 1, 7.
Breyer, *Breaking the Vicious Circle*.

Feb. 25 Role of Science in Environmental Policy II: Scientists as Advisors

Sheila Jasanoff, *The Fifth Branch: Science Advisers as Policymakers*.
Rebecca J. Long and Thomas C. Beierle. 1999. "The Federal Advisory Committee Act and Public Participation in Environmental Policy." RFF Discussion Paper 99-17.

March 4 Environmental Regulation and the Courts

Peter J. May. 2002. "Social Regulation," in Salomon, ed. *The Tools of Government, A Guide to the New Governance*. Oxford University Press, pp. 156-216.
O'Leary, Rosemary. 2006. "Environmental Policy and the Courts," in Vig and Kraft, eds. *Environmental Policy*. CQ Press, pp.148-168.
Eric Helland. 1998. "Environmental Protection in the Federalist System: The Political Economy of NPDES Inspections." *Economic Inquiry* 36(2): 305-319.

Martin Nie. 2008. "The Underappreciated Role of Regulatory Enforcement in Natural Resource Conservation." *Policy Sciences* 41(2): 139-164

II. Second-Generation Environmental Policy: Alternative Approaches

March 11 Regulation Revisited

Fiorino, *The New Environmental Regulation*

March 18 Cost-Benefit Analysis and Market-Based Approaches

Portney and Stavins, *Public Policies for Environmental Protection*, Chapter 3.
Richard Morgenstern, *Economic Analysis at EPA*. RFF Press, Chapters 2-4.
A. Denny Ellerman, Paul L. Joskow, Richard Schmalensee, and Juan-Pablo Montero. 2000. *Markets for Clean Air: The U.S. Acid Rain Program*. Cambridge University Press, Chapters 1-4.

March 25 Spring Break

April 1 Voluntary Regulation and Information Provisions

Kathryn Harrison. 1999. "Talking with the Donkey: Cooperative Approaches to Environmental Protection." *Journal of Industrial Ecology* 2(3): 51-72.
Aseem Prakash and Matt Potoski, *Voluntary Environmentalists*.

April 8 Devolution and Community-Based Environmental Protection

Dewitt John. 2004. "Civic Environmentalism," in Durant, Fiorino, and O'Leary, eds. *Environmental Governance Reconsidered*. MIT Press, pp. 219-254.
Lubell, Mark, Mark Schneider, John T. Scholz, and Mihriye Mete. 2002. "Watershed Partnerships and the Emergence of Collective Action Institutions." *American Journal of Political Science* 46(1):148-163.
William D. Leach, Neil W. Pelkey, and Paul A. Sabatier. 2002. "Stakeholder Partnerships as Collaborative Policymaking: Evaluation Criteria Applied to Watershed Management in California and Washington." *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* 21(4): 645-670.
Stephen M. Meyer and David M. Konisky. 2007. "Local Institutions and Environmental Outcomes: Evidence from Wetlands Protection in Massachusetts." *Policy Studies Journal* 35(3): 481-502.

III. Environmental Policy Topics

April 15 Business and the Environment

Kamieniecki and Kraft, *Business and Environmental Policy*.

April 22 Environmental Justice

- Evan J. Ringquist. 2004. "Environmental Justice," in Durant, Fiorino, and O'Leary, eds. *Environmental Governance Reconsidered*. MIT Press, pp. 255-288.
- Bullard, Robert, Paul Mohai, Robin Saha, and Beverly Wright. 2007. *Toxic Wastes and Race at Twenty 1987-2007*. A report prepared for the United Church of Christ Justice & Witness Ministries. Cleveland, OH: The United Church of Christ.
- Hird, John A. and Michael Reese. 1998. "The Distribution of Environmental Quality: An Empirical Analysis." *Social Science Quarterly* 79(4): 693-716.
- David M. Konisky. 2009. "Inequities in Enforcement? Environmental Justice and Government Performance." *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* 28(1): 102-121.

April 29 Environmental Attitudes

- Guber. 2003. *The Grassroots of a Green Revolution*
- David M. Konisky, Jeffrey Milyo, and Lilliard E. Richardson, Jr. 2008. "Environmental Policy Attitudes: Issues, Geographical Scale, and Political Trust." *Social Science Quarterly* 89(5): 1066-1085.

May 6 Climate Change

- Portney and Stavins, *Public Policies for Environmental Protection*, Chapter 5.
- Barry G. Rabe. 2008. "States on Steroids: The Intergovernmental Odyssey American Climate Change Policy." *Review of Policy Research* 25(2): 105-128.
- Nathaniel O. Keohane. 2009. "Cap and Trade, Rehabilitated: Using Tradable Permits to Control U.S. Greenhouse Gases." *Review of Environmental Economics and Policy* 3(1): 42-62.
- Gilbert E. Metcalf. 2009. "Designing a Carbon Tax to Reduce U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions." *Review of Environmental Economics and Policy* 3(1): 63-83.
- Baldwin, Robert. 2008. "Regulation Lite: The Rise of Emissions Trading." *Regulation & Governance* 2: 193-215.