

SYLLABUS

PUAF 698L Selected Topics in Public Affairs: International Environmental Agreements Spring 2005

**Tuesdays 4:15-6:45 VMH 2101F
University of Maryland School of Public Policy**

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Required Texts:

- Luterbacher and Sprinz, eds. *International Relations and Global Climate Change*. MIT, 2001.
- Haas, Keohane and Levy, eds. *Institutions for the Earth: Sources of Effective International Environmental Protection*. MIT, 1993.
- Oran Young. *Institutional Dimensions of Environmental Change*. MIT, 2002.
- Akira Iriye. *Global Community*. University of California, 2002.
- Handouts (listed below).

Recommended Texts:

- Birnie and Boyle. *International Law and the Environment*. 2nd ed. Oxford, 2002.
- Levy and Newell, eds. *The Business of Global Environmental Governance*. MIT, 2005.
- UNEP. *Economic Instruments in Biodiversity-Related Multilateral Environmental Agreements*. 2004.

Overview of the Course:

The basic subject of this course is not new – there now exist hundreds of international environmental agreements and treaties (multilateral and bilateral). The study of such agreements and international environmental regimes, however, is quite new. There is no one systematic framework or unified approach, nor is there one appropriate model. We will therefore conduct this seminar as a general, critical inquiry into the nature of IEAs and the theoretical and practical contexts through which they are formed and enacted. We will engage in this examination through several general elements of environmental agreements: ideals and values leading to the necessity or desirability of IEAs; negotiation and shifting roles of actors and institutions in treaty and regime formation; texts and case studies of selected IEAs; and the evaluation of IEAs in regard to effectiveness, compliance, and enforcement. The goal is to come away from this course with a greater understanding of the nature and elements of treaty formation, as well as a firmer idea of what would be required to have better international environmental agreements for the future.

This seminar will be conducted informally, minimizing lecture and maximizing discussion. Participation in class discussions is therefore crucial to the success of the course.

Course Requirements:

- Participation is built into the course grade in two ways: A) weekly analytic writing questions (one page, typed) over the readings for that day. I will collect these, without advance notice, eight times during the semester (taking the best six of these for the final grade). This will not be announced prior to the class meetings, so you should make a habit of doing these weekly rather than guessing which days they will be taken up. These questions should demonstrate a careful, thoughtful reading of the texts. B) your participation in class discussions. These two elements combined will constitute 50% of the grade.
- The other 50% of the grade will be a 20-page term paper or case study. An abstract of your paper idea will be due ahead of time for approval by the instructor. Students may provide rough drafts of papers to the instructor for comments and suggestions for improvements up to one week prior to the final due date of the paper. Feel free to contact me regarding any questions you may have while working on your papers.

Tentative Schedule of Readings:

1 February – Introduction: IEAs in an International Relations Context

8 February – Basic Features, History, and IR Perspectives of IEAs

- Handout: Ronald Mitchell, “International Environmental Agreements: A Survey of their Features, Formations, and Effects.” *Annual Review of Environment and Resources*.
- Handout: 1959 Antarctic Treaty study from Rosenau, *Thinking Theory Thoroughly*. Westview, 2000.
- Skim Iriye. Chapters 1-3.

15 February – The Mediterranean Action Plan [www.unepmap.org]

- Handout: Mark Sagoff, “Why Save the Seas?” In L. Anathe Brooks and Stacy VanDeveer, eds. *Saving the Seas: Values, Scientists, and International Governance*. Maryland Sea Grant, 1997.
- Handout: Peter Haas, *Saving the Mediterranean: the Politics of International Environmental Cooperation*. Columbia UP, 1990. Chapters 2-4.

22 February – The Mediterranean Action Plan

- Handout: Haas, *Saving the Mediterranean*. Chapters 5, 8.
- Handout: Jon Skjaereth, “The Effectiveness of the Mediterranean Action Plan.” In Edward L. Miles, et al, eds. *Environmental Regime Effectiveness*. MIT Press, 2002. Skim.

1 March – The Climate Change Regime [Kyoto Protocol: <http://unfccc.int/2860.php>]

- Handout: Falkner. “The Business of Ozone Layer Protection.” In Levy and Newell. *The Businesses of Global Environmental Governance*. MIT, 2005.
- Luterbacher and Sprinz. Chapters 2, 4.

8 March – The Climate Change Regime

- Luterbacher and Sprinz. Chapters 7, 10, 11, 13.
- UNFCCC text [unfccc.int/essential_background/kyoto_protocol/items/1678.php]

15 March – Institutions, Negotiation, and the Capacity to Confront Environmental Problems

- Oran Young. *The Institutional Dimensions of Environmental Change*. Chapters 1-4.

21 March to 27 March (Spring Break)

29 March – Institutions, Negotiation, and the Capacity to Confront Environmental Problems

- Oran Young. *The Institutional Dimensions of Environmental Change*. Chapters 5-7.

5 April – Effectiveness in Environmental Institutions

- Haas, Keohane, Levy, *Institutions for the Earth*. Chapters 1, 3, 5.

12 April – Effectiveness in Environmental Institutions

- Haas, Keohane, Levy, *Institutions for the Earth*. Chapters 6, 7, 8.

19 April – Effectiveness and Compliance

- Haas, Keohane, Levy, *Institutions for the Earth*. Chapter 9.
- Handout: Barrett, “International Cooperation and the International Commons.”
- Handout: Skim Birnie and Boyle, “Regulation, Compliance, Enforcement, and Dispute Settlement.”

26 April – The Role of Transnational Advocacy Networks and Business

- Handout: Margaret Keck and Kathryn Sikkink, *Activists Beyond Borders*. Chapters 1, 4, 6.
- Skim Luterbacher and Sprinz, Chapter 5 (Raustiala).
- Finger, “The New Water Paradigm.” In Levy and Newell. *The Businesses of Global Environmental Governance*. MIT, 2005.
- Skim Iriye. Chapters 4, 5.

3 May – The United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) [www.biodiv.org]

- Handout: Kal Raustiala, “The Domestic Politics of Global Biodiversity Protection in the United Kingdom and the United States.” In Miranda Schreurs and Elizabeth Economy, eds. *The Internationalization of Environmental Protection*. Cambridge UP, 1997.
- Tolba, *Global Environmental Diplomacy*. Chapter 8.
- Handouts: CBD Preamble, Articles 1-21.
- Abstracts due.

10 May – The UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

- “Access to Genetic Resources: An Evaluation of the Development and Implementation of Recent Regulation and Access Agreements” Environmental Policy Studies Workshop, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University. 1999.
- “The International Cooperative Biodiversity Group Drug Development and Biodiversity Conservation in Africa: Case Study of a Benefit-Sharing Plan.” Maurice M. Iwu and Sarah A. Laird. 1998.
- Skim Iriye, 6, Conclusion.
- Papers due.

Selected links of interest

ECOLEX Database of Environmental Law (IUCN, FAO, UNEP):
<http://www.ecolex.org/>

Columbia Environmental Treaties and Resource Indicators:
<http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/entri/>

International Environmental Agreements Database:
<http://iea.uoregon.edu/>

UN Treaty Handbook:
<http://untreaty.un.org/English/TreatyHandbook/hbframeset.htm>

ASIL Resources for International Environmental Law:
<http://www.asil.org/resource/env1.htm>

International Environmental Law links:
<http://www2.spfo.unibo.it/spolfo/ENVLAW.htm>

Yearbook of International Cooperation on Environment and Development:
<http://www.greenyearbook.org/>

CIA World Factbook, Appendix C: Selected Environmental Agreements:
<http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/appendix/appendix-c.html>

Convention on Biological Diversity:
<http://www.biodiv.org/default.shtml>

Real Climate blog on Climate Science:
<http://www.realclimate.org/>

GEF Accredited NGOs:
<http://www.gefonline.org/ngolist.cfm>

Historical documents – treaties:
<http://fletcher.tufts.edu/multi/chrono.html>

IISD Linkages for Environment and Development:
<http://www.iisd.ca/>

Guide to Treaty and International Agreements Research:
http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/doemoff/gov_trtygde.html

Links for Research on International Treaties:
http://www.law.nyu.edu/library/foreign_intl/treaties.html

US Treaties and Environmental Agreements in Force 2003 (State Dept.):
<http://www.state.gov/s/1/24224.htm>