Advanced Academic Programs
Zanvyl Krieger School of Arts and Sciences
Johns Hopkins University
AS.420.650.81- International Environmental Policy
Summer 2018

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Office Hours: by appointment

Course Description

This course explores the methods and strategies for promoting solutions to global environmental problems. Through consideration of issues such as stratospheric ozone depletion, global climate change, tropical deforestation, loss of biodiversity, transnational pollution, and other threats to the international commons, students examine policymaking from the perspective of developed and developing countries, the United Nations system, international financial entities, and nongovernmental interest groups. By investigating important international agreements, students determine how far the international community has come in solving specific problems, what obstacles prevent effective international solutions, and what needs to be done to overcome barriers. Prerequisite: 420.614 Environmental Policymaking and Policy Analysis, equivalent course, or experience.

Course Goals & Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- describe the general scope, nature and evolution of international environmental law and policy through a survey of the discipline;
- explain the principles and design of multilateral environmental agreements;
- identify the institutional architecture and governance for addressing international environmental issues;
- obtain the necessary background to follow developments in the field.

Textbook/s

This course uses the following texts:


Additional readings are listed in Appendix A.

Other equipment/software/websites/online resources

This course requires the use of the following resources: video recording and viewing technology

Specific Technology Requirements & Skills for this Course

Learning online requires some basic knowledge of computer technology. At a minimum, you need to be able to:

- Navigate in and use Blackboard; the Blackboard Student Orientation course on your “My Institution” page
- Create and save MS Word documents; review MS Word training and tutorials for PC users (all versions); Word Help for Mac users
- Find basic resources on the Internet
- Create and organize files & folders on your computer
- Send, receive, and manage email

Assignments and Grading Policy
### Assignments

In the table below, you will find a brief description of the various assignments in this course including due dates, assignment weights, and frequency.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
<th>Assignment Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 1: Treaty presentation</td>
<td>As per syllabus topic</td>
<td>20 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 2: Negotiation background paper</td>
<td>Mid-semester</td>
<td>20 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 4: Research Paper</td>
<td>August 22</td>
<td>30 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 4: Course Engagement</td>
<td>weekly</td>
<td>30 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total 100 points

### Grading Policy

Active participation is vital to a successful class. You are expected to actively contribute each week and will be credited on a weekly basis for your contributions. The two lowest weekly participation grades will be dropped.

One class will include model climate change negotiations. You will be assigned a country or negotiating group to represent during the class negotiations. Please prepare a 5-10 page background paper on your positions regarding key matters involving the conference. Participation in activities should be consistent, of high quality, and reflect both a high level of academic thinking and your own personal perspectives, opinion, and ideas. (Sample rubrics are available.)

The paper will be graded on clarity of thought, consistency with public positions, and the ability to demonstrate an understanding of key climate change concepts and legal and political dynamics.

Your final research paper should consist of 20-30 pages (double spaced 12 point font) of original work in the field of international environmental policy, written in the form of a potential journal article submission or annotated professional policy paper. Late submissions will be penalized by 1 point (out of the 30 total) for each day they are late. The paper will be graded on clarity of thought, depth of analysis, originality, and the ability to demonstrate an understanding of key concepts of international environmental law and political dynamics regarding its implementation.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>98% to 100%+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93% and less than 98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90% and less than 93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87% and less than 90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83% and less than 87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80% and less than 83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70% and less than 80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0% and less than 70%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This course will follow the [Advanced Academic Programs Grading Policies](#).

**Assignment Submission**

Students are required to adhere to the following guidelines when submitting written work:

- Use APA or another standard professional style format (e.g. MLA, Bluebook, Chicago)
- Adhere to page limits for each assignment
- Cite sources properly

The instructor uses the [SafeAssign](#) tool for written assignments. Please review the JHU Ethics Statement below prior to submission.

**Assignment Feedback**

The instructor will aim to return assignments to you within 2 weeks following the due date, depending on the length of the assignment. You will receive feedback in the My Grades area of the course which can be accessed via the navigation menu.

**Late Policy**

You are expected to contact your instructor in advance if you think you cannot meet an assignment deadline. Absent prior arrangements, the assignment score will be reduced by 2% per day late.

**Extra Credit**

You have the opportunity to earn: (a) up to three extra points for exceptional performance for class participation; (b) up to 1.5 extra points for an exceptional treaty presentation; (c) up to 1.5 extra points for an exceptional negotiations paper and/or (d) up to 4 extra points for an exceptional research paper. Beyond this, extra credit is only available if explicitly arranged with the professor based upon extenuating circumstances.

**Synchronous Sessions**

The instructor may hold live, synchronous sessions in Adobe Connect. Attendance for synchronous sessions, while not required, is highly recommended. If you cannot attend a synchronous session, you will be responsible for watching the recording at a later time.

**Time Management Expectations**

It is expected that you look ahead to schedule your time. Plan to complete coursework across several days of the week rather than all in one day. Be sure to consider how group activities impact your schedule as well. Some assignments require that you work on them for multiple weeks. Be sure to review the assignment directions at the beginning of the course so that you can plan your time accordingly. Please seek help before becoming frustrated and spending a significant amount of time to resolve an issue.

**Directions for Students**

**Next Steps:** Carefully review the remaining sections of the syllabus before beginning the first week’s activities, which are located in the Lessons area of the navigation menu in your online course.

Once you feel that you are ready to dive into the first week’s activities, select Lessons on the navigation menu.
Then, select Week 1 to begin.

**About Your Course**

**Course Structure**

This course begins with an introduction to key pillars of international environmental law and their relationship to sustainable development. We then survey of key treaties and other international instruments and mechanisms used to manage and protect natural resources and support sustainable livelihoods, starting with the commons and then by issue. We then shift to governance, examining the administrative law of international institutions, including UN agencies, the World Bank, and the global trade regime.

**What To Expect in this Course**

This course is 12 weeks in length and includes individual, group, and whole group activities in a weekly cycle of instruction. Each week begins on a Wednesday and ends on the following Tuesday. Please review the course syllabus thoroughly to learn about specific course outcomes and requirements. Be sure to refer to the Checklist each week, which provides a week-at-a-glance and shows targeted dates for the completion of activities.

**Course Policies**

**Course Participation**

**Participation Requirements**
You are expected to log into Blackboard regularly throughout the week - a daily check-in is recommended. It is your responsibility to read all announcements and discussion postings within your assigned forums. You should revisit the discussion multiple times over the week to contribute to the dialogue.

**Group Work**
Group work may be assigned as part of this course. If group work is required, you are expected to work equitably within your group to complete collaborative group activities. If group work is assigned, you will have an opportunity to privately rate your own participation and that of your group-mates.

**Online Etiquette**
In this course, online discussion will primarily take place in our online discussion board. In all textual online communication, it is important to follow proper rules of online etiquette... communicating with others in a proper and respectful way. For helpful tips, please these [Ground Rules for Online Discussions](#).

**Course Protocols and Getting Help**

**Amendments to the Course**
Changes to the course will be posted in the Announcements section of your course. Please check announcements every time that you log into your online course.

**Course Communication**
You should communicate often with your classmates and the instructor. The majority of communication will take place within the Discussion forums. When you have a question about an assignment or a question about the course, please contact your instructor, or post your question in the course's "Syllabus & Assignment Question" forum.

**Email Communication**
For questions regarding course activities and assignments that would be general interest to other students, please post those in the Discussion forum. If you have a question regarding course activities and assignments of a
personal nature, please send an email message to the instructor and observe the following guidelines:

- Include the title of the course in the subject field (e.g., JHU Insert Name of Course).
- Keep messages concise, and check spelling and grammar.
- Sign your full name (the sender’s email is not always obvious).
- For the quickest response, send an email to both kristenhite7@gmail.com and khite1@jhu.edu

Feel free to contact your instructor with comments, questions, and concerns. All email messages will be sent to you via your JHU email account, so you should be in the habit of checking that account every day or you should ensure that your JHU email account forwards messages to another account of your choice.

University Policies

General
This course adheres to all University policies described in the academic catalog. Please pay close attention to the following policies:

Students with Disabilities
Johns Hopkins University is committed to providing reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students with disabilities. Students with documented disabilities should contact the coordinator listed on the Disability Accommodations page. Further information and a link to the Student Request for Accommodation form can also be found on the Disability Accommodations page.

Ethics & Plagiarism
JHU Ethics Statement: The strength of the university depends on academic and personal integrity. In this course, you must be honest and truthful. Ethical violations include cheating on exams, plagiarism, reuse of assignments, improper use of the Internet and electronic devices, unauthorized collaboration, alteration of graded assignments, forgery and falsification, lying, facilitating academic dishonesty, and unfair competition. Report any violations you witness to the instructor. Read and adhere to JHU’s Notice on Plagiarism.

Dropping the Course
You are responsible for understanding the university’s policies and procedures regarding withdrawing from courses found in the current catalog. You should be aware of the current deadlines according to the Academic Calendar.

Getting Help
You have a variety of methods to get help. Please consult the help listed in the "Blackboard Help" link in the online classroom for important information. If you encounter technical difficulty in completing or submitting any online assessment, please immediately contact the designated help desk listed on the AAP online support page. Also, contact your instructor at the email address listed atop this syllabus.

Copyright Policy
All course material are the property of JHU and are to be used for the student's individual academic purpose only. Any dissemination, copying, reproducing, modification, displaying, or transmitting of any course material content for any other purpose is prohibited, will be considered misconduct under the JHU Copyright Compliance Policy, and may be cause for disciplinary action. In addition, encouraging academic dishonesty or cheating by distributing information about course materials or assignments which would give an unfair advantage to others may violate AAP’s Code of Conduct and the University’s Student Conduct Code. Specifically, recordings, course materials, and lecture notes may not be exchanged or distributed for commercial purposes, for compensation, or for any purpose other than use by students enrolled in the class. Other distributions of such materials by students may be deemed to violate the above University policies and be subject to disciplinary action.
Code of Conduct

To better support all students, the Johns Hopkins University non-academic Student Conduct Code has been integrated and updated to include all divisions of the University. In addition, it is important to note that all AAP students are still accountable for the Code of Conduct for Advanced Academic Programs.

Title IX

Confidentiality and Mandatory Reporting

As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe and inclusive learning environment on our campus. I also have mandatory reporting responsibilities related to my role as a Responsible Employee under the Sexual Misconduct Policy & Procedures (which prohibits sexual harassment, sexual assault, relationship violence and stalking), as well as the General Anti-Harassment Policy (which prohibits all types of protected status based discrimination and harassment). It is my goal that you feel able to share information related to your life experiences in classroom discussions, in your written work, and in our one-on-one meetings. I will seek to keep information you share private to the greatest extent possible. However, I am required to share information that I learn of regarding sexual misconduct, as well as protected status based harassment and discrimination, with the Office of Institutional Equity (OIE). For a list of individuals/offices who can speak with you confidentially, please see Appendix B of the JHU Sexual Misconduct Policies and Laws.

For more information on both policies mentioned above, please see: JHU Relevant Policies, Codes, Statements and Principles. Please also note that certain faculty and other University community members also have a duty as a designated Campus Safety Authority under the Clery Act to notify campus security of certain crimes, as well as a duty under State law and University policy to report suspected child abuse and/or neglect.
Appendix A

Course Topics & Readings

The following are the selected readings for this course. All readings are required unless noted as optional. All readings unless otherwise noted are available from JHU ARES (eReserves) system.

Week 1: From Stockholm to Rio², and then to the mainstream: foundational concepts of sustainable development.
   
   
b) Read textbook 135-188 (A Brief History from Stockholm to Johannesburg).
   
c) Review the Sustainable Development Goals at [https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300) – pick on one goal of your choice and submit 1-2 pages identifying why you picked the topic and discuss the relevance and adequacy of the associated targets.

Week 2: Foundations of International Law: basic principles and framework, sources, disputes, and compliance. Where are the “teeth” of international environmental law?
   
   
b) Custom (309-314) and General Principles (315-top of 317; bottom of 320-top of 324; bottom of 335-345; 347-56—notes optional);
   
c) Compliance and dispute resolution: Compliance Monitoring and Reporting, Deterrence, and Liability (397-407 through Note 1); extraterritoriality and Stockholm Principle 21 (407-09 including notes); Compliance facilitation (409-412); Dispute resolution and compliance mechanisms (412-419, notes optional)
   
d) Dispute resolution case study: Trail Smelter (510-518, including notes 2, 3, and 5),

Governing the commons


**Paper topic due **


Local to Global: Managing natural resources and transboundary pollution
Week 7: Fresh water, wetlands, and transboundary pollution. Freshwater Resources (837-913); Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (1166-73).
**First draft of research paper due. Email kristenhite7@gmail.com**


Governance, Finance and Trade


August 22: paper due.