

Climate Politics & Science-Policy

Thursdays 10– 12:30 PM ~ CIRES CSTPR conference room

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Course Web Page: http://sciencepolicy.colorado.edu/students/envs-geog_5100

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The objective of this course is to explore, understand and critically analyze influences and trends in climate politics and science-policy. Structured in a seminar discussion format, class sessions work through the historically-sensitive and culturally-situated climate governance at multiple scales. Accessed primarily through peer-reviewed literature, sessions critically interrogate movements and dynamics in climate politics and science-policy decision-making. As examples, course participants will consider assessments, critiques and proposals:

- to improve governance architectures shaping climate decision-making (from the mild corrective to radical restructuring),
- to reduce emissions while attending to climate adaptation, vulnerability and resilience
- to (equitably/justly) divide up a remaining 500 billion tons of Carbon that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Working Group I asserts can still be emitted into the atmosphere
- to decarbonize industry and society at multiple levels

To dig into the details of the complex and highly-contested issues, the course has intensive reading demands. By way of themes in climate politics at the science-policy interface, we challenge our thinking about climate change as a problem, develop new frameworks for analysis, and discuss practical and conceptual alternatives for mitigation and adaptation actions in our individual and collective lives. Session discussions help us distinguish patterns, appraise and assess values, and gain insights from a variety of perspectives and viewpoints concerning climate change politics and science-policy.

Focusing primarily on social science engagements, course participants will gain an improved understanding of the myriad factors, pressures and processes that are involved in contemporary climate politics undergirding explicit policy proposals. Course participants will more capably identify consequential spaces of decision-making, recognize tractable places for change and fashion constructive strategies for their own research by way of best available evidence from work done in these areas. Overall, our attention to these course themes, concepts and case studies will help us to more capably understand, analyze and engage in the high-stakes 21st century arena of climate politics and policy.

COURSE READING MATERIALS

This is the required text for the course:

Stripple, J. and Bulkeley, H. [eds] (2013) *Governing the Climate: New Approaches to Rationality, Power and Politics* Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK

The book is available at the campus bookstore. Additional readings are available through the course webpage (as some will be added as these issues develop during the term) or by email.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Overview

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| news/blog items (1 pt each over 13 weeks total) | 13 pts |
| weekly reading responses (2 pts each over 13 weeks total) | 26 pts |
| public talk written assignment | 11 pts |
| individual project proposal | 10 pts |
| individual project presentation | 10 pts |
| final exam (a.k.a. individual project term paper) | 30 pts |
| | ----- |
| | total: 100 points |

Attendance & Class Participation

It is important that everyone stay up to date with the readings, and complete them *before* the class for which they are assigned. Everyone is expected to attend all sessions and to engage critically with the readings and issues that are discussed. Our discussions inevitably will build upon previous sessions. Come to each class session ready to contribute with comments you have assembled based on the readings and the topics/issues they raise. Your participation is valued, and enhances class sessions. I must note here that *if you accumulate more than three unexcused absences during the semester, you will not be able to pass the course.*

News/Blog Items (13 points)

Each of the thirteen noted weeks, bring to class a news or blog item related to the course content. We will begin each session with a short discussion of these items, tethering the conceptual frameworks and engagements to unfolding issues in the public arena. In addition, tweet these news/blog items by class time each of the noted weeks with the hashtag #climate5100

Weekly Reading Responses (26 points)

In the thirteen noted weeks below, course participants will provide **two-page responses, including summaries and 3-4 discussion questions for the articles or chapters you pick.** Approach each reading with a critical eye, and draw on your critical faculties over providing a mere summary/description of the content. I will bring a sign-up sheet for these readings and summaries selections in the preceding week. Please circulate these summaries to the group in the text of the email and by attachment (in Word or PDF) via email at envs-geog5100@lists.colorado.edu by **10am Wednesdays (24 hours before our session).**

Written Assignment (11 points)

For class in week 5, you will need to complete a public talk review **with a limit of 1000 words**. This means that the assignment must be clearly written and concise.

Sometime in the first five weeks of the term, attend a public lecture on a subject related to climate change politics and science-policy. Talks take place on campus and around the Boulder community nearly every day. I will announce some of these at the beginning of each class session – please also feel free to announce them at the beginning of class as well.

To help you engage critically with your chosen public talk, consider the following questions:

- What happened? Was it well attended? Was/were the speaker(s) engaging?
- What are the main points or themes raised by the speaker(s)?
- How do their observations, comments, arguments compare/contrast with course material, your own ideas, or other information you have come across in the past?
- Where are possible weaknesses in the author's arguments?
- Do you agree with the author's central assertions, theories, ideas? If so, why? If not, why not?

Take an analytical approach: do not simply describe what happened. This is **due in class, Thurs Feb 11**.

Term Project: proposal, paper, and presentation

This term project is designed to so that all course participants can creatively and uniquely apply theoretical and conceptual frameworks discussed during the term to a contemporary climate politics and science-policy challenge. Week to week, draw on the readings and discussions to develop your term project. As such, the project is best considered as a term-long effort, rather than an end-of-April task.

Project proposal (10 points)

By **February 25 (week 7)**, you will need to select a topic on which to base your term project, and submit a project proposal in class. I encourage you to be very specific. These proposals will be limited to **3000 words** (including annotated bibliography). You will need to include an **annotated bibliography of at least 8 relevant readings** that you plan to draw on for the term paper. **Note your word count on the proposal you hand in.**

Individual project term paper presentation (10 points)

Term project presentations will be delivered in our final session on Thursday, April 29 (**week 16**). Depending on the number of presentations, it will roughly follow a 10 minute presentation + 5 minute discussion/questions format.

Individual project term paper (a.k.a. final exam) (30 points)

The final exam will be the individual project term paper. The term paper will be due by the start of the final exam scheduled for our course, **Monday, May 5th at 4:30pm**. These term papers can be emailed to me (as a PDF or Word document). They should be approximately **8000 words** (including references). **Note your word count. At least 20 references** will be needed to make this paper a success (up to 25% of the total references may be web-based).

University Recommended Syllabus Statements: Additional Logistics

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, and <http://www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices> If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see guidelines at <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/go.cgi?select=temporary.html> Disability Services' letters for students with disabilities indicate legally mandated reasonable accommodations. The syllabus statements and answers to FAQs can be found at <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices>

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. See full details at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. See policies at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html> and at http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code

The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on Discrimination and Harassment, the University of Colorado policy on Sexual Harassment and the University of Colorado policy on Amorous Relationships apply to all students, staff and faculty. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of sexual harassment or discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH, the above referenced policies and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at <http://www.colorado.edu/odh>

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-735-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Other information on the Honor Code can be found at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html> and at <http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/>

SEMINAR SESSION DISCUSSION AND READING SCHEDULE

COMPONENT I: FRAMEWORKS

Thursday, January 14 (week 1)

- *introductions, overview of the course*
- *schedule, logistics*

Thursday, January 21 (week 2)

- *reading summary #1 due by 10AM Wednesday via email*
- *news/blog items #1*

Readings:

Weston, D. (2013) *The Political Economy of Global Warming: the Terminal Crisis* Routledge, London, Chapter 2: State of the Planet, Kyoto and Technical Fixes, pp. 3-13

Weston, D. (2013) *The Political Economy of Global Warming: the Terminal Crisis* Routledge, London, Chapter 4: The Global Political Economy and Global Warming, pp. 14-41

Newell, P. and Paterson, M. (2010) *Climate Capitalism: Global Warming and the Transformation of the Global Economy* Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK, Chapter 1: Introducing Climate Capitalism, pp. 1-10

Newell, P. and Paterson, M. (2010) *Climate Capitalism: Global Warming and the Transformation of the Global Economy* Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK, Chapter 2: Histories of Climate, Histories of Capitalism, pp. 11-35

Thursday, January 28 (week 3)

- *reading summary #2 due by 10AM Wednesday via email*
- *news/blog items #2*

Readings:

Wainwright, J., and Mann, G. (2013). Climate leviathan. *Antipode*, 45(1), 1-22.

Barkan, J. (2013) Liberalism, Sovereignty and Politics: A Response to 'Climate Leviathan' *Antipode*, 1-6

Bigger, P. (2013) Red Terror in the Atmosphere: A Response to 'Climate Leviathan' *Antipode*, 1-4

Labban, M. (2013) Beyond Behemoth: A Response to 'Climate Leviathan' *Antipode*, 1-10

Lohmann, L. (2013) A Response to 'Climate Leviathan' *Antipode*, 1-4

Wainwright, J. and Mann, G. (2013) Solving for X: A Reply to Our Critics *Antipode*, 1-11

Thursday, February 4 (week 4)

- *reading summary #3 due by 10AM Wednesday via email*
- *news/blog items #3*

Readings:

Stripple, J. and Bulkeley, H. [eds] (2013) *Governing the Climate: New Approaches to Rationality, Power and Politics* Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK, Introduction, pp. 1-26

Lovbrand, E. and Stripple, J. (2013) Bringing Governmentality to the Study of Global Climate Governance, in *Governing the Climate: New Approaches to Rationality, Power and Politics* Stripple, J. and Bulkeley, H. [eds], Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK, pp. 27-41

Stephan, B., Rothe, D. and Methmann, C. (2013) Third Side of the Coin: Hegemony and Governmentality in Global Climate Politics, in *Governing the Climate: New Approaches to Rationality, Power and Politics* Stripple, J. and Bulkeley, H. [eds], Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK, pp. 59-76

Thursday, February 11 (week 5)

- *reading summary #4 due by 10AM Wednesday via email*
- *news/blog items #4*
- ***public talk review assignment due, brief discussions***

Readings:

Death, C. (2013) The Limits of Climate Governmentality, in *Governing the Climate: New Approaches to Rationality, Power and Politics* Stripple, J. and Bulkeley, H. [eds], Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK, pp. 77-91.

Eden, S. (2013) Making Carbon Calculations, in *Governing the Climate: New Approaches to Rationality, Power and Politics* Stripple, J. and Bulkeley, H. [eds], Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK, pp. 111-126

Oels, A. (2013) Climate Security as Governmentality: From Precaution to Preparedness, in *Governing the Climate: New Approaches to Rationality, Power and Politics* Stripple, J. and Bulkeley, H. [eds], Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK, pp. 197-216

Thursday, February 18 (week 6)

- *reading summary #5 due by 10AM Wednesday via email*
- *news/blog items #5*

Readings:

Boyd, E., Boykoff, M., & Newell, P. (2011). The “New” Carbon Economy: What's New? *Antipode*, 43(3), 601-611.

Bumpus, A.G. (2011). The matter of carbon: understanding the materiality of tCO₂e in carbon offsets. *Antipode*, 43(3), 612-638.

Heede, R. (2013). Tracing anthropogenic carbon dioxide and methane emissions to fossil fuel and cement producers, 1854–2010. *Climatic Change*, 1-13.

Paterson, M., and Stripple, J. (2012). Virtuous carbon. *Environmental Politics*, 21(4), 563-582.

Thursday, February 25 (week 7)

- *reading summary #6 due by 10AM Wednesday via email*
- *news/blog items #6*
- *individual project proposal due in class*

Readings:

Krauss, W. Schafer, M.S., and von Storch, H. (2012) Introduction: Post-Normal Climate Science, *Nature + Culture*, 7(2), 121-132

Ravetz, J. (2012) The Significance of the Hamburg Workshop: Post-Normal Science and the Maturing of Science, *Nature + Culture*, 7(2), 133-150

Van der Sluijs, J.P. (2012) Uncertainty and Dissent in Climate Risk Assessment: A Post-Normal Perspective, *Nature + Culture*, 7(2), 174-195

Pielke Jr, R. (2012) Post-normal Science in a German Landscape, *Nature + Culture*, 7(2), 196-212

COMPONENT II: ENGAGEMENTS (THROUGH SCALE)

Thursday, March 4 (week 8)

- reading summary #7 due by 10AM Wednesday via email
- news/blog items #7

Readings:

Bumpus, A.G., Liverman, D.M. (2008). Accumulation by decarbonization and the governance of carbon offsets. *Economic Geography*, 84(2), 127-155.

Goodman, M. K., and Boyd, E. (2011). A social life for carbon? Commodification, markets and care. *The Geographical Journal*, 177(2), 102-109.

Frame, D.J. (2011). The problems of markets: Science, norms and the commodification of carbon. *The Geographical Journal*, 177(2), 138-148.

Starkey, R. (2011). Assessing common (s) arguments for an equal per capita allocation. *The Geographical Journal*, 177(2), 112-126.

Thursday, March 11 (week 9)

- reading summary #8 due by 10AM Wednesday via email
- news/blog items #8

Readings:

Gupta, J. (2012). Negotiating challenges and climate change. *Climate Policy*, 12(5), 630-644.

Bailer, S. (2012). Strategy in the climate change negotiations: do democracies negotiate differently? *Climate Policy*, 12(5), 534-551.

Geck, M., Weng, X., Bent, C., Okereke, C., Murray, T., & Wilson, K. (2013). Breaking the impasse: towards a new regime for international climate governance. *Climate Policy*, 13(6), 777-784.

Derman, B.B. (2013) Climate Governance, Justice, and Transnational Civil Society. *Climate Policy*, 10.1080/14693062.2014.849492, 1-19

Thursday, March 18 (week 10)

- reading summary #9 due by 10AM Wednesday via email
- news/blog items #9

Readings:

Moser, S.C. and Boykoff, M. (2013) Climate Change and Adaptation Success: The Scope of the Challenge, in *Successful Adaptation to Climate Change: Linking Science and Policy in a Rapidly Changing World* Moser, S.C. and Boykoff, M. [eds], pp. 1-33

Barnett, J., O'Neill, S., Waller, S. and Rogers, S. (2013) Reducing the Risk of Maladaptation in Response to Sea-level Rise and Urban Water Security, in *Successful Adaptation to Climate Change: Linking Science and Policy in a Rapidly Changing World* Moser, S.C. and Boykoff, M. [eds], pp. 37-49

Schroeder, H. and Okereke, C. (2013) REDD+ and Social Justice: Adaptation by way of Mitigation?, in *Successful Adaptation to Climate Change: Linking Science and Policy in a Rapidly Changing World* Moser, S.C. and Boykoff, M. [eds], pp. 81-93

Khan, M.R. and Roberts, J.T. (2013) Towards a Binding Adaptation Regime: Three Levers and Two Instruments, in *Successful Adaptation to Climate Change: Linking Science and Policy in a Rapidly Changing World* Moser, S.C. and Boykoff, M. [eds], pp. 132-148

WEEK ELEVEN SPRING BREAK 2014!

Thursday, April 1 (week 12)

- reading summary #10 due by 10AM Wednesday via email
- news/blog items #10

Readings:

Kelman, I. (2013) No Change from Climate Change: Vulnerability and Small Island Developing States *The Geographical Journal* doi: 10.1111/geoj.12019, 1-10

Johnstone, S. and Mazo, J. (2013) Global Warming and the Arab Spring, in *The Arab Spring and Climate Change: A Climate and Security Correlations Series* Werrell, C.E. and Femia, F. [eds], Center for American Progress/Center for Climate & Security/Stimson Center, pp. 15-22

Romero-Lankao, P., Hughes, S., Rosas-Huerta, A. Borquez, R. and Gnatz, D.M. (2013) Institutional Capacity for Climate Change Responses: An Examination of Construction and Pathways in Mexico City and Santiago, *Environment and Planning C: Government and Policy* 31(5) 785-805

Boyd, E.M, and Ghosh, A. (2013) Innovations for Enabling Urban Climate Governance: Evidence from Mumbai, *Environment and Planning C: Government and Policy* 31(5) 926 – 945

Thursday, April 8 (week 13)

- reading summary #11 due by 10AM Wednesday via email
- news/blog items #11

Readings:

Tuana, N., Sriver, R. L., Svoboda, T., Olson, R., Irvine, P. J., Haqq-Misra, J., & Keller, K. (2012). Towards integrated ethical and scientific analysis of geoengineering: a research agenda. *Ethics, Policy & Environment*, 15(2), 136-157.

Moreno-Cruz, J. B., & Keith, D. W. (2012). Climate Policy under Uncertainty: A Case for Solar Geoengineering. *Climatic Change*, 121(3), 431-444

Jamieson, D. (2013) Some Whats, Whys and Worries of Geoengineering *Climatic Change*, 121(3), 527-537

Dilling, L., & Hauser, R. (2013). Governing Geoengineering Research: Why, When and How? *Climatic Change*, 121(3), 553-565

Thursday, April 15 (week 14)

- reading summary #12 due by 10AM Wednesday via email
- news/blog items #12

Readings:

Fisher, D.R. (2013) Understanding the Relationship between Subnational and National Climate Change Politics in the United States: Toward a Theory of Boomerang Federalism, *Environment and Planning C: Government and Policy* 31(5) 769-784

Kincaid, G., and Roberts, J.T. (2013). No Talk, Some Walk: Obama Administration First-Term Rhetoric on Climate Change and US International Climate Budget Commitments *Global Environmental Politics*, 13(4), 41-60

Swingedouw, E. (2013) The Non-political Politics of Climate Change, *ACME: An International E-Journal for Critical Geographies* 12(1), 1-8

Mert, A. (2013) Discursive Interplay and Co-constitution: Carbonification of Environmental Discourses in *Interpretive Approaches to Global Climate Governance: (De)constructing the Greenhouse Methman*, Roth and Stephan (eds), Routledge, London, pp. 23-42.

Thursday, April 22 (week 15)

- *reading summary #13 due by 10AM Wednesday via email*
- *news/blog items #13*

Readings:

Randalls, S. (2013) Climate Change Multiple, in *Governing the Climate: New Approaches to Rationality, Power and Politics* Stripple, J. and Bulkeley, H. [eds], Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK, pp. 235-242

Wainwright, J. (2010) Climate Change, Capitalism, and the Challenge of Transdisciplinarity *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 100(4) 983-991

Stripple, J. and Bulkeley, H. (2013) Conclusion: Towards a Critical Social Science of Climate Change, in *Governing the Climate: New Approaches to Rationality, Power and Politics* Stripple, J. and Bulkeley, H. [eds], Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK, pp. 243-259

Newell, P. and Paterson, M. (2010) *Climate Capitalism: Global Warming and the Transformation of the Global Economy* Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK, Chapter 10: What Futures for Climate Capitalism? pp. 161-180

Thursday, April 29 (week 16)

Individual project term paper presentations

FINAL EXAM MONDAY, MAY 5TH AT 4:30PM