

Dr. Brad Martins
bmapesma@uwsp.edu
715.346.4119

Office Hours: CCC 472
Tues./Wed. 1:00pm-3:00pm
or by appointment

Course Description

This course covers the formal and informal processes involved in environmental politics. We will study how different members of the U.S. public view environmental problems, how political actors influence the policy process, and how a federal system impacts the ability to coordinate environmental policy. The course concludes with an in-depth case study of a single area of environmental policymaking.

Learning Objectives

Students will ...

- describe features of environmental problems that generate political disagreements
 - explain how political actors influence and are influenced by environmental policy.
 - interpret measurements of environmental policy effectiveness.
-

Grade Allocation

Participation/Homework	20%
Exams	30% + 30%
Policy Memo	20%

A	100-93	B+	89.9-87	C+	79.9-77	D+	69.9-65
A-	92.9-90	B	86.9-83	C	76.9-73	D	64.9-60
		B-	82.9-80	C-	72.9-70	F	59.9-0

Required Materials

Text Rental. [OHEP] Sheldon Kamieniecki and Michael Kraft. *The Oxford Handbook of U.S. Environmental Policy*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2013.

For Purchase. [WPPAS] John Hoornbeek, *Water Pollution Policies and the American States: Runaway Bureaucracies or Congressional Control?* New York: State University of New York Press, 2012.

Supplemental Materials. [D2L] All other materials will be provided as a handout during class meetings or electronically via UWSP's learning management software.

WEEK	TOPICS	ASSIGNMENTS
UNIT 1: INFORMAL POLITICS		
09/06-09/09	Informal Dynamics of Environmental Politics	Video: "Earth Days" (PBS/American Experience, 2010) Text: OHEP, Ch. 20
09/12-09/16	Environmental Frames	D2L: Sellers, "'The Environment' as Suburban Place," p. 243-285. D2L: 1960 US Census, Tables No. 244-255.
09/19-09/23	Public Opinion	Text: OHEP, Ch. 21 D2L: public opinion and media coverage data
09/26-09/30	Partisan Polarization	D2L: Turner, "The Polarization of Environmental Politics," p. 183-224. D2L: polarization data
10/03-10/07	Interest Groups	Text: OHEP, Ch. 23 D2L: Kamieniecki and Kraft - business data
10/10-10/14	Interest Groups	D2L: Bosso, "Filling Advocacy Niches"
10/17-10/21		<i>Unit 1 Exam</i> Extra Credit: Response to "Climate of Doubt" (PBS/Frontline, 2012)
UNIT 2: FORMAL POLITICS		
10/24-10/28	Formal Dynamics: Governance Capacity	Text: OHEP, Ch. 7
10/31-11/04	Formal Dynamics: Federalism	Text: OHEP, Ch. 18
11/07-11/11	Legislative 'Gridlock'	Text: OHEP, Ch. 2
11/14-11/18	Effects of 'Gridlock'	Text: OHEP, Ch. 12 & 17
11/21-11/23	Scientific and Economic Influences	Text: OHEP, Ch. 25 D2L: Keller's Model of Science in Environmental Policymaking
11/28-12/02		<i>Unit 2 Exam</i>
UNIT 3: CASE STUDY		
12/05-12/09	Water Policy	D2L: Milazzo, "Drafting the Clean Water Act," 191-223. WPPAS: see <i>Policy Memo</i> assignment sheet
12/12-12/15	Water Policy	Video: "Poisoned Waters" (PBS/Frontline, 2008) WPPAS: see <i>Policy Memo</i> assignment sheet
12/16-12/22		<i>Policy Memo Due: 12:00pm on Monday, December 19 (D2L)</i>

POLICIES

Academic Misconduct: All UWSP policies regarding academic misconduct (e.g., plagiarism) are defined in [Chapter 14](#) of *UWSP Community Bill of Rights and Responsibilities*. Violations may result in a failing grade for the course or disciplinary sanctions by the University.

Equal Access: If you have a challenge requiring classroom accommodation, please contact UWSP [Disability Services Office](#) with your documentation as early as possible in the semester. They will notify me confidentially of the accommodations.