ENTS / Political Science 262

Environmental Policy and Politics

Winter 1998

Prof. Norm Vig

PURPOSE

This course focuses on the development of the environmental movement and of federal environmental law and policies since the 1960s. It is designed both as an intermediate-level public policy course in political science and as an STPP-track course in the ENTS concentration. It emphasizes the governmental institutions, processes, and regulatory policies for controlling pollution (in air, water, and soil), with some attention also to the recent controversy over public lands policies and natural resource issues. Students are expected to become familiar with the major environmental statutes and are required to write a 10-12 pp. policy analysis paper on implementation and/or reform of one specific piece of legislation (due March 9). There will also be a mid-term exam and final exam.

REQUIREMENTS

The course will be lecture/discussion format, with class participation expected. Grading will be weighted as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<td>Paper</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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TEXTS AND READINGS

The following are required texts (available in bookstore or on closed reserve):

- Bullard, *Dumping in Dixie*
- Kraft, *Environmental Policy and Politics*
- Switzer, *Green Backlash*
- Vig & Kraft, *Environmental Policy in the 1990s*, 3d ed.

These books are on open reserve in the library:

- Botkin & Keller, *Environmental Science*
- *Selected Environmental Law Statutes*, 1994-95
READING ASSIGNMENTS FOR CLASS

I. Introduction and Overview

Jan 5 M Introduction to course

Jan 7 W Studying environmental policy
   Kraft, chap. 1

Jan 9 F Trends in environmental quality
   Kraft, chap. 2

Jan 12 M Environmental policy processes
   Vig & Kraft {VK}, chap. 1; Kraft, chap. 3

Jan 14 W Federalism and the role of the states
   VK, chap. 2; findley, ch. 2

Jan 16 F The environmental movement
   VK, chaps. 3-4

II. Environmental Politics and Social Justice

M Jan 19 Conflicts over public lands and resources
   Switzer, pp. 1-99

W Jan 21 Opposition from business and industry
   Switzer, chaps 4-6

F Jan 23 The war at the grassroots (Guest lecturer: Prof. Harvey Jacobs)
   Switzer, chaps. 7-10 (esp. 8 and 10)

M Jan 26 Environmental politics and racial justice
   Bullard, chaps 1-4

W Jan 28 The environmental justice movement
   Bullar, chaps. 5-7

F Jan 30 Analysis of environmental justice claims
   VK, chap. 11

III. Political Institutions and Environmental Policymaking

M Feb 2 The environment and the presidency
   VK, chap. 5
W Feb 4 Environment and Congress
   VK, chap. 6

F Feb 6 The role of the cours
   VK, chap. 8; findley, 1-24

M Feb 9 MID-TERM BREAK

W Feb 11 The Environmental Protection Agency
   VK, chap. 7

F Feb 13 (!!!) MID-TERM EXAM
   all of above

IV. Major environmental Laws and Policies

M Feb 16 The National Environmental Policy Act
   Findley, 24-56

W Feb 18 The Clean Air Act
   Kraft, 82-88; Findley, 88-127

F Feb 20 The Clean Water Act
   Kraft, 88-92; Findley, 127-145

M Feb 23 Toxic substances and hazardous waste
   Kraft, 92-97; Findley, 182-222

W Feb 25 The Superfund mess
   Kraft, 97-99; Findley, 222-245

F Feb 27 Natural resource preservation
   Kraft, 131-156; Findley, 255-59, 294-310

V. Economics, Risk Analysis, and Regulatory Reform

M Mar 2 The economics of the environment
   VK, chap. 9; Kraft, chap. 6

W Mar 4 Comparative risk analysis
   VK, chap. 10

F Mar 6 The "greening" of business
   VK, chap. 12
VI. The agenda for the future

M Mar 9 Sustainable development
   Kraft, chap. 7

W Mar 11 Issues and instruments
   VK, chap. 17