In this course, we will examine environmental politics and policy. We will pay particular attention to the political forces that cause environmental policy and theories that are useful in explaining environmental policy making. That is, this is a course about the politics of environmental policy making; it is not a course on environmental policy.

The course requirements are: (1) a short paper (3-5 pages)—due roughly in the middle of the quarter (no later than May 22)—which may be (a) an examination of a policy case using the ideas developed in Ostrom's *Governing the Commons*, or (b) a comparison of cost-benefit analysis and the precautionary principle (i.e., Sunstein vs. Whiteside); (2) a term paper, which may be: (a) a critical review and synthesis of the literature, (b) a full-length research proposal or dissertation prospectus, or (c) an original research paper; (3) class participation. The research design paper will each be worth 20% of the grade; the term paper will be worth 60%; participation will be worth 20%. You are expected to come to class having completed all the assigned readings for that meeting.

All of the required reading should be on JSTOR (http://eres.library.ucsb.edu/) or on reserve at the library. In addition, the books are available at the UCSB Bookstore. The required books are:

**Required Texts:**

- Frank Baumgartner and Bryan Jones, *Agendas and Instability in American Politics*
- Ted Nordhaus and Michael Shellenberger, *Break Through*
- Elinor Ostrom, *Governing the Commons*
- Eric Smith, *Energy, the Environment, and Public Opinion*
- Cass Sunstein, *Risk and Reason*
- Spencer Weart, *The Discovery of Global Warming*
- Kerry Whiteside, *Precautionary Politics*

**Web Pages:**

- Prof. Smith http://www.polsci.ucsb.edu/faculty/smith/
- PS 175 http://www.polsci.ucsb.edu/faculty/smith/courses/ps175.html
- Dave Robertson (U. of Missouri-St. Louis), Environmental Politics and Policy: a Bibliography for Teaching and Research: http://www.umsl.edu/~robertsondb/248/sy248bib.html
COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS

April 3. Introduction

April 10. Science vs. Politics

Chris Mooney, *The Republican War on Science*, chap 1-2
* Wildavsky
* Bjørn Lomborg, *The Skeptical Environmentalist*
* Paul Ehrlich and Anne Ehrlich, *The Betrayal of Science and Reason*
* Seth Shulman, *Undermining Science*
* Greg Easterbrook, *A Moment on Earth*
* Jay Lehr, ed., *Rational Readings on Environmental Concerns*

April 17. Public Opinion about Environmental Issues

Judith Layzer, *The Environmental Case*, chap 1
* Davis and Wurth, "Voting preferences and the environment in the American electorate: the discussion extended."
* Christopher Bosso, *Environment, Inc. From Grassroots to Beltway.* (2005)

April 24. Risk Perception and NIMBYs


May 1. Agenda Setting

* Shanto Iyengar and Donald Kinder, *News That Matters*


Elinor Ostrom, *Governing the Commons*

May15. Comparative Risk Analysis

Cass Sunstein, *Risk and Reason*
Norman Vig & Michael Kraft, *Environmental Policy*, chaps 10-11
* Mary O'Brien, *Making Better Environmental Decisions*
* K. S. Shrader-Frechette, *Risk and Rationality*

May 22. The Precautionary Principle

* Joel Tickner, ed., *Environmental Science and the Precautionary Principle*
* Nancy Myers and Carolyn Raffensperger, *Precautionary Tools for Reshaping Environmental Policy*

May 29. Environmental Justice

Manuel Pastor, Jr., et al., “Environmental Inequity in Metropolitan Los Angeles.” In Robert Bullard, ed., *The Quest for Environmental Justice*
* David Schlosberg, *Defining Environmental Justice*
* Edwardo Rhodes, *Environmental Justice in America: A New Paradigm*

June 5. Sustainability and the Future

Ted Nordhaus and Michael Shellenberger, *Break Through*

* Recommended additional reading