

**IRL4590 Undergraduate Seminar in International Relations**

**Theme: Environmental Politics, Development and Global Governance**

Course Code and Title: IRL4590 Environmental Politics, Development and Global Governance	Course credits: 5 ECTS
Semester: Fall 2021	Time and Place of the Lecture: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:30~12:45 pm Via zoom: <a href="https://zoom.us/j/94446165735">https://zoom.us/j/94446165735</a> Meeting ID: 944 4616 5735

Instructor: JeongWon Bourdais Park	Office phone:
Office: #304 Valikhanov Building	Office hours: Anytime by appointment
Email: <a href="mailto:jwpark@kimep.kz">jwpark@kimep.kz</a>	Teaching assistant's learning support hours:

**Main virtual platform**

The main virtual platform for this course will be Zoom and Moodle (**NOT** L:Drive). Students are required to familiarise with access to the platforms and prepare technical equipment such as a computer, microphone, web camera, etc. Moodle is the main repository for submissions, announcements, and discussions. In addition, you are required to check regularly (daily) your **KIMEP email** for any extra information or changes in the schedule.

Zoom meeting link:

<https://zoom.us/j/94446165735>

Meeting ID: 944 4616 5735

Please read the netiquette below:

[Zoom meeting etiquette: 15 tips and best practices for online video conference meetings](#)



Note that the university offers academic support through Learning Labs, Maths Labs, Legal Clinic, as well as the Library. Contact the CSS college administrator for further information.

If you face any technical difficulties concerning online learning, please contact the programme administrators immediately;

mailto: [css\\_coordinator@kimep.kz](mailto:css_coordinator@kimep.kz)

### **Interactive and active learning methods**

For this course, an interactive and active (as opposed to passive learning) teaching and learning approach will be practiced. To do so, the following methods will be implemented throughout the course.

*Forums and discussions*

*Feedback*

*Role play exercises*

*Debates*

*Peer evaluation*

*Student presentations*

### **Course description**

This course is designed for students to learn how to present their own thoughts and interpretations on selected IR issues within the scope of the theme, environmental politics and global governance, demonstrating the ability to employ major IR theories and key concepts for prominent environment-related problems in contemporary world politics. This course studies how environmental issues are interconnected with international affairs and globalisation, and how they contribute to creating a new domain in global politics. Through examining the most pressing global environmental challenges that the international community is facing, the course intends to help students develop theoretical visions and practical insights to better understand prominent global environmental issues, and to discuss solutions and alternatives to the current situation. The course will be run in a seminar format consisting of student presentation followed by discussions. This course requires students' active participation in raising questions, role play, discussions, presentations, peer commenting, etc.

## **Learning objectives**

*Aims of the course:*

The main aims of this course are to address key regional and global environmental problems and to examine core concepts and various approaches, theories and perspectives dealing with environmental issues, using inter-disciplinary methodology in social sciences, including public policy on science and technology. The objective is to help students understand the interactions between the ecosystem and human system; develop conceptual and analytical tools to understand and examine the environment-politics-development nexus; and enable them to evaluate different environmental decisions and public policy options to solve prominent domestic, regional and global environmental problems (e.g. climate mitigation and adaptation, loss of biodiversity, the shortage and uneven distribution of natural resources, natural disasters, environmental health).

## **Intended learning outcomes**

*At the end of the course students should be able:*

1. to identify and have an overall understanding about the main environmental problems at all levels, national, regional and global;
2. to understand the main actors and their embedded interests in the environmental scene and how they generate and influence environmental politics and development;
3. to review how environmental issues, as well as the solutions concerned, are intertwined with politics and international relations;
4. to discuss what individual citizens can do in response to the increasing deterioration of the environment.

## **Assessment scheme\***

Participation in classroom discussions: 20% (10% by mid-term + 10% by final exam) (*Only those who comply with the zoom etiquette including camera-on during all classes will receive the full mark.*)

Presentation(s) on required reading (combined with a review essay: 15%): 30%

First time-set written exam on **Oct 5, 2021**: 20%

Final assessment (group project submission due by **Dec 9, 2021**): 30%

Total: 100%

- \* Note that there will be no transfer of marks between assessment criteria.
- \* Prior to presentations, students should submit a review essay or a background paper (700–800 words) at least 24 hours before the date of presentation.
- \* No show-up to the exams or presentation will receive a zero mark for the respective category of the assignment. No make-up exams will be arranged.
- \* Penalty scores of minus 5 will be applied to changing presentation dates without prior approval and to late submission of any written assignments and exam papers.

**Attendance:** Students should attend classes regularly. The attendance record will be kept for quantitative evaluation (10%). Attendance is very important to follow the topics being discussed and to understand how they are interrelated. KIMEP-confirmed sickness and KIMEP-approved activities are the only acceptable reasons for missing the class. Any other reason needs to be communicated prior to the class in order to take the necessary procedure.

**Reading and Participation:** Weekly readings will be available on the L-Drive, and students are responsible for reading and commenting on these materials. The normal reading load per week will be one academic journal article or one book chapter. Everyone is expected to read the assigned materials for the class and to actively contribute to the discussion for the quality-based evaluation (10%).

**Mid Term Exams:** It will include short answer questions and essay questions based on the course materials used in class. Exams are held only on the fixed dates as indicated, and no make-up exams will be arranged.

### Grading scale

90-100	Highest grade	A+	63-66	Satisfactory	C
85-89	Excellent	A	60-62	Satisfactory	C-
80-84	Very good	A-	57-59	Pass	D+
77-79	good	B+	53-56	Pass	D
73-76	good	B	50-52	Pass	D-
70-72	good	B-	Below 50	Failure	F
67-69	Satisfactory	C+		Incomplete	I

**Class Ethics:** Switch off your mobile telephones during lessons, be in the classroom on time, and have appropriate behavior during class time. Non-compliance with these requirements will lead to penalizations

in terms of losses of points, and in extreme cases, to course failure in accordance to KIMEP disciplinary rules as described in the KIMEP catalogue.

**Information:** You are required to check regularly (daily) both the L-DRIVE and your KIMEP email for any extra information or changes in the schedule.

**Exams Ethics:** Plagiarism and cheating in any form are not accepted and will be strictly punished according to KIMEP disciplinary rules as described in KIMEP catalogue.

### **Text(s) and Reference Material(s)**

**(a) Text(s):** Weekly required and recommended reading will be assigned, pertaining to selected book chapters and/or relevant articles from the academic journals. In addition, students are encouraged to follow current international affairs and global issues by reading major quality newspapers and using other media sources.

### **(b) Reference Material(s):**

See the list of further reading.

### **Course schedule and indicative topics:**

*\*The required reading is subject to change depending on students' needs.*

### **Main topics and schedule** (*indicative and subject to change if necessary*):

#### Part I: Environment, politics, and public policy

Topic 1: Introduction to Environmental studies: key concepts, actors and approaches

Topic 2: Environmental Politics: political systems and environmentalism

Topic 3: Main environmental issues and environmental policy

#### **5 Oct.: First written exam**

*10~17 Oct.: first mid-term score (20%) submission deadline (for instructors)*

*(18~24 Oct.: study break)*

#### Part II: Global Environmental Politics

Topic 4: Main issues and concepts: security, disputes, trade, justice

Topic 4: Global environmental regimes and governance

Topic 5: Climate change and diplomacy

22-28 Nov.: 2nd mid-term score (40%) submission deadline (for instructors)

Topic 6: Transboundary water resources and ocean environment

Topic 7: International politics of biodiversity and biosafety

**9 Dec.: Final assessment (Submission due for the group project)**

### **Main textbooks:**

*\*The reading below is an extended list for students to gain a sense of the scope of environmental studies in IR; you do not have to read all of them. You will be guided to read selected materials as required reading, usually one academic paper (or one book chapter) per week.*

JOHN S . DRYZEK, BONNIE HONIG, and ANNE PHILLIPS eds. (2008) *The oxford handbook of POLITICAL THEORY* (Oxford: OUP) Ch. 42. Political Theory and the Environment 773 John M. Meyer

CHASEK, Pamela S., David Leonard Downie, and Janet Welsh Brown. 2017. (7<sup>th</sup> ed.) *Global Environmental Politics* (Boulder, CO: Westview Press): Ch. 3 'The Development of Environmental Regimes: Stratospheric Ozone, Hazardous Waste, Toxic Chemicals, and Climate Change'

Harper, Charles L. in Harper, Charles (6<sup>th</sup> ed.). 2017. *Environment and Society: Human Perspectives on Environmental Issues*. London: Routledge.

Dryzek, John S (2012). *The Politics of the Earth: Environmental Discourses*. (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.) New York: Oxford

Carter, Neil (2007) *The Politics of the Environment*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1-3. 'Introduction', pp.1-12; 'Environmental Philosophy', pp. 13-40; 'Green Political Thoughts', pp. 41-76.

Keller, David R. (ed.) (2010). *Environmental Ethics: the big questions* (West Sussex: Blackwell) 'Socio-economic Environmental Justice' pp.491-508.

Humphreys, David (2006). *Log Jam: Deforestation and the Crisis of Global Governance*. London: Earthscan, Ch.1 'Forests as Public Goods' pp.1-21.

University Press. Ch.1 'Making Sense of Earth's Politics: A Discourse Approach' pp. 1-24.

## Further reading (recommended reading):

### Concepts and theories

- Peter Newell (2012) Ch. 35 “Climate Change” pp.475-486. In Richard Devetak, Anthony Burke, and Jim George eds. *An Introduction to International Relations* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press)
- PURDON, Mark (2015) ‘Advancing Comparative Climate Change Politics: Theory and Method’ *Global Environmental Politics* 15(3): 1-26
- RODRIGUEZ DE FRANCISCO, Jean Carlo and Rutgerd BOELENS (2015) ‘Payment for Environmental Services: mobilizing an epistemic community to construct dominant policy’ *Environmental Politics* Vol. 24, No. 3, 481–500
- Barrya, John, Arthur P.J. Molb & Anthony R. Zitoc (2013) ‘Climate change ethics, rights, and policies: an introduction’ *Environmental Politics* 22(3), pp. 361-376.
- EKINS, Paul (2010) ‘Eco-innovation for environmental sustainability: concepts, progress and policies’ *International Economy and Economic Policy* 7: 267–290
- Ekins, Paul et al. (2003) ‘A framework for the practical application of the concepts of critical natural capital and strong sustainability’ *Ecological Economics* 44 (2003) pp. 165-185.
- Ekins, Paul (2003) Trade and Environment, Internet Encyclopaedia of Ecological Economics (International Society for Ecological Environment)
- Peter J. Jacques (2009) *Environmental Skepticism: Ecology, Power and Public Life*. Farnham: Ashgate.
- Bjørn Lomborg (2001) *The Skeptical Environmentalist*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Shlomi (2011) ‘Sustainable Skepticism and Sustainable Development’.
- Gardiner, Stephen M. et al. (2010) *Climate Ethics: Essential Readings* (Oxford, New York: OUP) Chapter 1 & 3. ‘Ethics and Global Environmental Change’ pp.1-38; ‘Global Environment and International Inequality’ pp. 101-111.
- Roche. P. and F. X. Perrez (2005) ‘International Environmental Governance: The Strive Towards a Comprehensive, Effective and Efficient International Environmental Regime’ *Colorado Journal of International Environmental Law and Policy* 38(5), pp. 253-261.
- Baughen, Simon (2007) *International Trade and Protection of Environment* Chs.I & II: ‘Trade and the Environment within the GATT’ pp.16-76; ‘Alternative Approach to Transboundary Pollution’ pp.554-601.
- Bruce A. McKenney and Joseph M. Kiesecker (2010) ‘Policy Development for Biodiversity Offsets: A Review of Offset Frameworks’ *Environmental Management* 45. pp.165–176.
- GARNASJORDET, Per Arild et al. (2012) ‘Sustainable Development Indicators: From Statistics to Policy’ *Environmental Policy and Governance* 22: 322–336

- VANDYCKA, Toon, KERAMIDASA, Kimon, SAVEYNA, Bert, KITOUA, Alban, VRONTISIB, Zoi (2016) 'A global stocktake of the Paris pledges: Implications for energy systems and economy' *Global Environmental Change* 41: 46-63.
- Purnendra Jain (2014) Ch.28. "Energy Security in Asia" pp.547-568. In Saadia M. Pekkanen, John Ravenhill and Rosemary Foot eds. *Oxford Handbook of the International Relations of Asia* (Oxford: Oxford University Press)
- Daniel Yergin. 2006. Ensuring Energy Security, *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 85, No. 2 (Mar. - Apr., 2006), pp. 69-82
- Kimberly R. Marion Suiseeya (2014) 'Negotiating the Nagoya Protocol: Indigenous Demands for Justice' *Global Environmental Politics* 14(3) pp. 102-121.
- Klinke, Andreas (2012) 'Democratizing Regional Environmental Governance: Public Deliberation and Participation in Transboundary Ecoregions' *Global Environmental Politics* 12(3) pp.79-99.
- Kütting, Gabriela ed. (2011) *Global Environmental Politics*. New York, NY: Routledge. Ch.4 'Environmental Security' pp.56-71.; Ch.10 'Biodiversity' pp. 151-163.

### Cases

- Florian Kern and Caroline Kuzemko, 2014. 'Measuring and Explaining Policy Paradigm Change: the case of UK energy policy.' *Policy & Politics* • vol 42 • no 4 • pp. 513-30.
- JOHNSON, Thomas (2013) 'The Politics of Waste Incineration in Beijing: The Limits of a Top-Down Approach?' *Journal of Environmental Policy and Planning* 15(1): 109-128
- THOMAS, Marzhan (2015) 'Social, environmental and economic sustainability of Kazakhstan: a long-term perspective' *Central Asian Survey* 34(4): pp. 456-483.
- FRANKE, Anja, Andrea GAWRICHA, Gurban ALAKBAROVA (2009) 'Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan as Post-Soviet Rentier States: Resource Incomes and Autocracy as a Double 'Curse' in Post-Soviet Regimes' *Europe-Asia Studies* 61(1): 109-140
- Hayes, Jarrod and Janelle Knox-Hayes (2014) 'Security in Climate Change Discourse: Analyzing the Divergence between US and EU Approaches to Policy' *Global Environmental Politics* 14(2): pp.82-101.
- Gabriela Kutting (2003) 'Globalization, Poverty and the Environment in West Africa: Too Poor to Pollute?' *Global Environmental Politics* 3(4): 42-60.
- Linnerooth-Bayer, Joanne, Ragnar E. Lofstedt, and Gunnar Sjostedt (eds.) (2001) *Transboundary Risk Management* (Sterling VA: Earthscan Publication) Ch.6 'A Transborder Environmental Controversy on the Danube' pp.155-182.

- Bourdais Park, JeongWon and Brian Bridges. 2021. 'Ecology, Security and International Action: Beyond Sanctions on North Korea' *Third World Quarterly*. DOI:10.1080/01436597.2021.1951202.
- GULSRUD, Natalie M. et al. (2013) 'Green space branding in Denmark in an era of neoliberal governance' *Urban Forestry & Urban Greening* 12: 330–337
- Alex Y. Lo and Michael Howes (2015) 'Power and Carbon Sovereignty in a Non-Traditional Capitalist State: Discourses of Carbon Trading in China' *Global Environmental Politics* 15(1)
- SHEUREUR, Miranda (2016) 'The Paris Climate Agreement and the Three Largest Emitters: China, the United States, and the European Union', *Politics and Governance* 4(3): 219-223
- MUNSLOW, Barry and Tim O'DEMPSEY (2010) 'Globalisation and Climate Change in Asia: the urban health impact' *Third World Quarterly* 31(8): 1339-1356
- BITHAS, Kostas Bithas (2008) 'The sustainable residential water use: Sustainability, efficiency and social equity. The European experience' *Ecological Economics* 68: 221-229
- ZAKHIROVA, Leila (2013) "The International Politics of Water Security in Central Asia" *EUROPE-ASIA STUDIES* 65(10): 1994–2013
- Bourdais Park, Aigul Adibayeva and Danial Saari (2020) "Contestation and collaboration for water resources: comparing the emerging regional water governance of the Aral Sea, Irtysh River, and Mekong River." *Journal of Asian and African Studies* [Sage Publications].
- WIECZOREK, Iris (2019) 'Energy Transition in Japan: From Consensus to Controversy' *GIGA Focus* No. 1
- BERNARDI, Luca, MORALES, Laura, LUHISTE, Maarja, and BISCHOF, Daniel (2017) 'The effects of the Fukushima disaster on nuclear energy debates and policies: a two-step comparative examination' *Environmental Politics* 27 (1): 42-68.
- Puppim de Oliveira, Jose Antonio (2008) 'Property rights, land conflicts and deforestation in the Eastern Amazon' *Forest Policy and Economics* 10: pp. 303–315.
- Tessa Morris-Suzuki. 2015. 'Re-animating a radioactive landscape: informal life politics in the wake of the Fukushima nuclear disaster' *Japan Forum*, 27 (2): 167-188.
- OECD (2017) *Urban Policy Reviews: Kazakhstan* (Paris: OECD).
- OECD (2019) *Promoting Clean Urban Public Transportation in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Moldova* (Paris: OECD)