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 primarily a course about the politics of environmental policy-making, rather than a course on environmental policy.

The course requirements are: (1) two short papers (3-5 pages) commenting on the readings — one discussing the readings in April, and the other on the readings in May; (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 short papers will each be worth 15% of the grade; the term paper will be worth 60%; participation will be worth 10%. The term paper is expected to be 20-25 pages. Finally, I should note that the course content and readings are flexible. I may change topics and readings in response to student requests to cover other relevant topics.

The required articles and chapters should be on the Library’s electronic reserve (http://eres.library.ucsb.edu/) and the books should be on reserve at the library. In addition, the books are available at the UCSB Bookstore and on the web. The required books are:

**Required Texts:**

- Bryan Jones and Frank Baumgartner, *The Politics of Attention*
- Max Boykoff, *Who Speaks for the Climate? Making Sense of Media Reporting on Climate Change*
- Thomas Heberlein, *Navigating Environmental Attitudes*
- Elinor Ostrom, *Governing the Commons*
- Cass Sunstein, *Risk and Reason**
- Kerry Whiteside, *Precautionary Politics**

**I have not ordered Sunstein or Whiteside at the bookstore because we are only reading a portion of each book. You can get them very cheaply on the web.**

**Recommended Additional Reading:** marked with an asterisk below.

**Web Pages:**

- Prof. Smith: [http://www.polsci.ucsb.edu/faculty/smith/](http://www.polsci.ucsb.edu/faculty/smith/)
- PS 175: [http://www.polsci.ucsb.edu/faculty/smith/courses/ps175.html](http://www.polsci.ucsb.edu/faculty/smith/courses/ps175.html)
COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS

April 1. Introduction

April 8. Public Opinion about Environmental Issues

Judith Layzer, *The Environmental Case*, chap 1

* Recommended readings:
* Davis and Wurth, "Voting preferences and the environment in the American electorate: the discussion extended."
* Timothy O’Riordan, “Frameworks for Choice: Core Beliefs and the Environment,” *Environment* vol. 37, no. 8 (October 1995)

April 15. Public Opinion and Climate Change

Thomas Heberlein, *Navigating Environmental Attitudes*
Lawrence Hamilton and Mary Stampone, “‘Blowin’ in the wind: Short-term weather and belief in anthropogenic climate change.” *Weather, Climate, and Society*


April 22. Science vs. Politics

Max Boykoff, *Who Speaks for the Climate? Making Sense of Media Reporting on Climate Change*

* Chris Mooney, *The Republican War on Science*
* Naomi Oreskes and Erik Conway, *Merchants of Doubt*
* Aaron Wildavsky, *But is it True?*
* Bjørn Lomborg, *The Skeptical Environmentalist*
* Paul Ehrlich and Anne Ehrlich, *The Betrayal of Science and Reason*

**April 29. Risk Perception and NIMBYs**


**May 6. Agenda Setting and the Environment**


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

**May 13. Common-Pool Resource Problems**

Elinor Ostrom, *Governing the Commons* (1990)

May 20. Cost-Benefit Analysis vs. the Precautionary Principle

Cass Sunstein, *Risk and Reason*, chap 1-5
Kerry Whiteside, *Precautionary Politics* (2006), chap 1-3
* Joel Tickner, ed., *Environmental Science and the Precautionary Principle*
* Nancy Myers and Carolyn Raffensperger, *Precautionary Tools for Reshaping Environmental Policy*
* Nancy Myers and Carolyn Raffensperger, *Precautionary Tools for Reshaping Environmental Policy*
* Nancy Myers and Carolyn Raffensperger, *Precautionary Tools for Reshaping Environmental Policy*

June 3. 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*

**ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS WEBSITES:**

**On-line Bibliography:**
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