Course Name: Environmental Political and Policy  
Course Number: PS 475  
Credits: 4

Course Content  
Environmental and natural resource issues and policies in national and regional context, emphasizing public attitudes, elections, Congress, public policy, and relevant national and state agencies. Prerequisites: PS 201 or instructor approval required. This is a web-based course, which examines the politics of environmental and natural resource environmental policy issues, with an emphasis on Western public lands. Many of the materials required for the course are located on Ecampus. There are also various web sites with links to many environmental research organizations and interest groups.

The Ecampus version of the Environmental Politics and Policy course at OSU will begin with a discussion of environmental politics in general, and then proceed to discuss issues of great concern to the Pacific Northwest—especially those involving the management of public lands and waters (e.g., forests, rangelands, and salmon restoration efforts).

Throughout the term your readings and assignments will have you consider:

- Values concerning the environment and people's interaction with the natural world.
- Properties of policy-formulating systems—particularly concerning the environment.
- Distinguishing characteristics of natural resource and environmental issues.

Over the term fundamental features of policy processes will be developed (e.g., incrementalism, interest groups, governmental structures, regulatory capture, symbolic politics, etc.). In addition, distinguishing characteristics of natural resource and environmental issues will be developed (e.g., common pool resource or public good features, complexity and uncertainty, long feedback loops, exponentially escalating effects, etc.). Understanding of the political and value origins of environmental problems will emerge as we try to integrate these topics.

Communication  
*Please post all course-related questions in the General Discussion Forum so that the whole class may benefit from our conversation. Please email your instructor for matters of a personal nature. I will reply to course-related questions and email within 24-72 hours. I will strive to return your assignments and grades for course activities to you the week following the due date.*

This course is offered through Oregon State University Extended Campus. For more information, contact:  
Web: ecampus.oregonstate.edu  
Email: ecampus@oregonstate.edu  
Tel: 800-667-1465
Course Credits
This course combines approximately 120 hours of instruction, online activities, and assignments for 4 credits.

Technical Assistance
If you experience any errors or problems while in your online course, contact 24-7 Canvas Support via chat, phone, or e-mail through the Help link within Canvas. If you experience computer difficulties, need help downloading a browser or plug-in, or need assistance logging into a course, contact the OSU Help Desk for assistance. You can call (541) 737-3474, email osuhelpdesk@oregonstate.edu or visit the OSU Computer Helpdesk online.

Learning Resources
Required Textbooks
- Vig, Norman and Michael Kraft, Environmental Policy: New Directions for the Twenty-First Century, 9th ed. (CQ Press).
- Davis, Charles ed., Western Public Lands and Environmental Politics (Westview Press).
- Salzman, James and Thompson, Barton H., Environmental Law and Policy (Foundation Press).

On occasion other texts/materials may be made available online. Stay tuned, don’t miss out on any readings!

Note to students: Please check with the OSU Bookstore for up-to-date information for the term you enroll (OSU Bookstore Website or 800-595-0357). If you purchase course materials from other sources, be very careful to obtain the correct ISBN.

Canvas
This course will be delivered via Canvas where you will interact with your classmates and with your instructor. Within the course Canvas site, you will access the learning materials, such as the syllabus, class discussions, assignments, projects, and quizzes. To preview how an online course works, visit the Ecampus Course Demo. For technical assistance, please visit Ecampus Technical Help.

Measurable Student Learning Outcomes
Students will be able to:
- Describe and contrast major eras in the development of environmentalism in the United States.
- Recognize the role of formal actors (the President, Congress, the bureaucracy, the Courts, states) and informal actors (e.g., interest groups, and public opinion) in the making of environmental policies in the United States.
- Explain and assess how policymakers use scientific evidence in the making of policy, including risk assessment procedures.
- Analyze the development, implementation, and impact of selected environmental policies.
• Describe environmental issues and policies on Western Public Lands such as forestry, ranching, mining, energy development and endangered species.

Evaluation of Student Performance
• You are expected to participate in 9 course Discussions. Each discussion is worth up to 15 points [135 points total].
• There are three Think Piece assignments, which will have you discuss and analyze course materials. Failure to turn in all three assignments will result in a failing of the course; regardless of the cumulative grade [TP 1 = 100 points; TP2 = 100 points; TP3 = 100 points].

Grading Criteria
• Presentation / Technical Quality - Correct Spelling/Grammar, Effective/Clear Writing Style, Correct Document / Citation Formatting - [20% of the grade]
• Content - Accuracy, Level of Detail, Appropriate Use of Citations and Assigned/Outside Material - [30% of the grade]
• Discussion - Critical Analysis of Material, Reflection, Creativity - [50% of the grade]

Late Assignment Policy
Contact your instructor in advance if you will be unable to complete your assignment on time. The penalty for late assignments is 5 points each day. Assignments more than three days late will not be accepted or graded.

Grading Scale

Course Content

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading Assignments</th>
<th>Learning Activities</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Required:</td>
<td>Discussion Board</td>
<td>Initial Post Due Wednesday by 11:59 pm; Responses Due Sunday by 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1. Lecture Overview 1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2. Web Reading #1 – An Introduction to</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3. Natural Resource Policy and the Environment:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Changing Paradigms and Values</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4. Web Reading #2 – Social Assessment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Manual for Natural Resource Managers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5. Vig and Kraft Chapter 1 – U.S.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Environmental Policy: Achievements and New Directions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirement</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Discussion Board</td>
<td>Notes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 6. Salzmann and Thompson  
Chapter 1 – An Introduction to Environmental Law and Policy  
7. Salzmann and Thompson  
Chapter 2 – Perspectives on Environmental Law and Policy |                                                                                        |                                                                        |                                                                      |
| 2. Emergence of Environmentalism and Institutions                           | Required:  
1. Lecture Overview 1  
2. Web Reading #3 – Environmental Values and Behavior: Hypocrisy or Consistency?  
3. Web Reading #4 – Rural Versus Urban Differences in Natural Resource Management  
4. Recommended:  
5. Reynolds, A. A Brief History of Environmentalism.  
Initial Post Due Wednesday by 11:59 pm; Responses Due Sunday by 11:59pm |                                                                      |
| 3. The Environmental Policy Institutions, Processes, and Participants       | Required:  
1. Lecture Overview 2  
2. States - Vig & Kraft Chapter 2  
3. The Public - Vig & Kraft Chapter 3  
4. Interest Groups & Industry- Web Reading #5  
5. Congress - Vig & Kraft Chapter 5 | Discussion Board Environmental Justice Movement  
Think Piece # 1 Due Sunday by 11:59pm |                                                                      |

This course is offered through Oregon State University Extended Campus. For more information, contact:  
Web: ecampus.oregonstate.edu  
Email: ecampus@oregonstate.edu  
Tel: 800-667-1465
<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6. President - Vig &amp; Kraft</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Courts - Vig &amp; Kraft</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recommended:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. PBS video: How will environmental policy change under the next Congress?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Knowledge at Wharton video Ripple Effects of Environmental Policy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4</th>
<th>Science, Politics and Policy</th>
<th>Required:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lecture Overview 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recommended:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Why We Should Trust Scientists (TED Talk)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Discussion Board Climate Change Politics and Scientific Evidence

Initial Post Due Wednesday by 11:59 pm; Responses Due Sunday by 11:59pm
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Discussion Board</th>
<th>Initial Post Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 5    | Conflict, Cooperation and the Market | 1. Lecture Overview 3  
2. Vig and Kraft Chapter 10 – Applying Market Principles to Environmental Policy  
7. Blog post in the New York Times: When the Choice is Jobs or the Environment | NYT's "Toxic Waters" and Policy Implementation | Wednesday by 11:59 pm; Responses Due Sunday by 11:59pm |
2. Vig & Kraft Chapter 12 – Taking Sustainable | Sustainable Production and Consumption | Wednesday by 11:59 pm; Responses Due Sunday by 11:59pm |
| 7 | Western Public Lands | **Cities Seriously: What Cities Are Doing**  
**Recommended:**  
<p>| | | <strong>Think Piece # 2</strong> | <strong>Due Sunday by 11:59pm</strong> |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Policy</th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Discussion Board</th>
<th>Initial Post Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Land Policy</td>
<td>1. Davis Chapter 5 – Politics and Public Rangeland Policy</td>
<td>Fracking: Opportunity or Danger</td>
<td>Wednesday by 11:59 pm; Responses Due Sunday by 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2. Davis Chapter 6 – Reform at a Geological Pace: Mining Policy on Federal Lands</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3. Davis Chapter 7 – Energy on Federal Lands</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Wilderness Policy</td>
<td>1. Davis Chapter 8 – National Parks Policy</td>
<td>Managing the Klamath Basin</td>
<td>Wednesday by 11:59 pm; Responses Due Sunday by 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2. Davis Chapter 9 – Wilderness Policy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3. Web reading #6 – Salmon Policy in Oregon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4. Web reading #8 – Common</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This course is offered through Oregon State University Extended Campus. For more information, contact:
Web: ecampus.oregonstate.edu   Email: ecampus@oregonstate.edu   Tel: 800-667-1465
5. Saving Wild Salmon PowerPoint

10 | Policy Change | Required: | Think Piece # 3 | Due Sunday by 11:59pm
---|---|---|---|---
1. Davis Chapter 11 – Conclusion: Public Lands and Policy Change

**Discussion Participation**

Students are expected to participate in all graded discussions. While there is great flexibility in online courses, this is not a self-paced course.

**Course Policies**

**Incomplete**

Incomplete (I) grades will be granted only in emergency cases (usually only for a death in the family, major illness or injury, or birth of your child), and if the student has turned in 80% of the points possible (in other words, usually everything but the final paper). If you are having any difficulty that might prevent you completing the coursework, please don't wait until the end of the term; let me know right away.

**Guidelines for a Productive and Effective Online Classroom**

Students are expected to conduct themselves in the course (e.g., on discussion boards, email) in compliance with the university’s regulations regarding civility.

Civility is an essential ingredient for academic discourse. All communications for this course should be conducted constructively, civilly, and respectfully. Differences in beliefs, opinions, and approaches are to be expected. In all you say and do for this course, be professional. Please bring any communications you believe to be in violation of this class policy to the attention of your instructor.

Active interaction with peers and your instructor is essential to success in this online course, paying particular attention to the following:

- Unless indicated otherwise, please complete the readings and view other instructional materials for each week before participating in the discussion board.
- Read your posts carefully before submitting them.
- Be respectful of others and their opinions, valuing diversity in backgrounds, abilities, and experiences.
- Challenging the ideas held by others is an integral aspect of critical thinking and the academic process. Please word your responses carefully, and recognize that others are expected to challenge your ideas. A positive atmosphere of healthy debate is encouraged.
Statement Regarding Students with Disabilities
Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty, and Disability Access Services (DAS). Students with accommodations approved through DAS are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through DAS should contact DAS immediately at 541-737-4098.

Accessibility of Course Materials
All materials used in this course are accessible. If you require accommodations please contact Disability Access Services (DAS).

Additionally, Canvas, the learning management system through which this course is offered, provides a vendor statement certifying how the platform is accessible to students with disabilities.

Expectations for Student Conduct
Student conduct is governed by the university’s policies, as explained in the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards.

Academic Integrity
Students are expected to comply with all regulations pertaining to academic honesty. For further information, visit Avoiding Academic Dishonesty, or contact the office of Student Conduct and Mediation at 541-737-3656.

OAR 576-015-0020 (2) Academic or Scholarly Dishonesty:

a) Academic or Scholarly Dishonesty is defined as an act of deception in which a Student seeks to claim credit for the work or effort of another person, or uses unauthorized materials or fabricated information in any academic work or research, either through the Student's own efforts or the efforts of another.

b) It includes:

(i) CHEATING - use or attempted use of unauthorized materials, information or study aids, or an act of deceit by which a Student attempts to misrepresent mastery of academic effort or information. This includes but is not limited to unauthorized copying or collaboration on a test or assignment, using prohibited materials and texts, any misuse of an electronic device, or using any deceptive means to gain academic credit.

(ii) FABRICATION - falsification or invention of any information including but not limited to falsifying research, inventing or exaggerating data, or listing incorrect or fictitious references.

(iii) ASSISTING - helping another commit an act of academic dishonesty. This includes but is not limited to paying or bribing someone to acquire a test or assignment, changing someone's grades or academic records, taking a test/doing an assignment for someone else by any means, including misuse of an electronic device. It is a violation of Oregon state law to create and offer to sell part or all of an educational assignment to another person (ORS 165.114).

(iv) TAMPERING - altering or interfering with evaluation instruments or documents.
(v) PLAGIARISM - representing the words or ideas of another person or presenting someone else's words, ideas, artistry or data as one's own, or using one's own previously submitted work. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to copying another person's work (including unpublished material) without appropriate referencing, presenting someone else's opinions and theories as one's own, or working jointly on a project and then submitting it as one's own.

Plagiarism on any assignment in this class will result in a failed grade and may result in official reporting through the university.

c) Academic Dishonesty cases are handled initially by the academic units, following the process outlined in the University's Academic Dishonesty Report Form, and will also be referred to SCCS for action under these rules.

**Turnitin Plagiarism Prevention**

Your instructor may ask you to submit one or more of your writings to Turnitin, a plagiarism prevention service. Your assignment content will be checked for potential plagiarism against Internet sources, academic journal articles, and the papers of other OSU students, for common or borrowed content. Turnitin generates a report that highlights any potentially unoriginal text in your paper. The report may be submitted directly to your instructor or your instructor may elect to have you submit initial drafts through Turnitin and you will receive the report allowing you the opportunity to make adjustments and ensure that all source material has been properly cited. Papers you submit through Turnitin for this or any class will be added to the OSU Turnitin database and may be checked against other OSU paper submissions. You will retain all rights to your written work. For further information, visit Academic Integrity for Students: Turnitin – What is it?

**Tutoring**

NetTutor is a leading provider of online tutoring and learner support services fully staffed by experienced, trained and monitored tutors. Students connect to live tutors from any computer that has Internet access. NetTutor provides a virtual whiteboard that allows tutors and students to work on problems in a real time environment. They also have an online writing lab where tutors critique and return essays within 24 to 48 hours. Access NetTutor from within your Canvas class by clicking on the NetTutor button in your course menu.

**Conduct in this Online Classroom**

Students are expected to conduct themselves in the course (e.g., on discussion boards, email postings) in compliance with the university's regulations regarding civility.

**OSU Student Evaluation of Teaching**

Course evaluation results are extremely important and are used to help me improve this course and the learning experience of future students. Results from the 19 multiple choice questions are tabulated anonymously and go directly to instructors and department heads. Student comments on the open-ended questions are compiled and confidentially forwarded to each instructor, per OSU procedures. The online Student Evaluation of Teaching form will be available toward the end of each term, and you will be sent instructions via ONID by the Office of Academic Programs, Assessment, and Accreditation. You will log in to “Student Online Services” to respond to the online questionnaire. The results on the form are anonymous and are not tabulated until after grades are posted.