NOTE to prospective students: This syllabus is intended to provide students who are considering taking this course an idea of what they will be learning. A more detailed syllabus will be available on the course site for enrolled students and may be more current than this sample syllabus. Summer term courses may be accelerated – please check the Ecampus Schedule of Classes for more information.

PS 455/555
The Politics Of Climate Change– 4 credits

COURSE CREDIT:
(4) This course combines approximately 120 hours of instruction, online activities, and assignments for 4 credits.

PREREQUISITES, CO-REQUISITES AND ENFORCED PREREQUISITES:
There are no prerequisites for this course.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

PS 455. THE POLITICS OF CLIMATE CHANGE (4).
Covers domestic and international political aspects of global climate change. Topics include local, state, and national activity as well as roles played by presidents, Congress, the Supreme Court, corporations and media. International focus on conventions and treaties, tensions between developed and developing nations and possible national security impacts. (Bacc Core Course)

PS 555. THE POLITICS OF CLIMATE CHANGE (4).
Covers domestic and international political aspects of global climate change. Topics include local, state, and national activity as well as roles played by presidents, Congress, the Supreme Court, corporations and media. International focus on conventions and treaties, tensions between developed and developing nations and possible national security impacts.

This course will focus on the politics of climate change both domestic and international. We will examine the various legal, ethical, economic and technical aspects as well as look at international treaties and conventions that seek to build consensus toward mitigation. Climate change is possibly the most important environmental issue in the 21st century. Yet, some would say we are no closer to finding a policy solution now than we were over a decade ago. This course will explore the reasons for policy conflict and the challenges to finding policy solutions.
CONTACT INFORMATION:

For more information, contact: Dr. Erika Allen Wolters, Erika.wolters@oregonstate.edu

Sample syllabi may not have the most up-to-date information. For accuracy, please check the ECampus Schedule of Classes to see the most current instructor information. You can search for contact information by name from the OSU Home Page.

LEARNING RESOURCES:

Required textbooks:
Schneider et al. (Eds.) Climate Change Science and Policy (Washington, DC: Island Press, 2010)

Additional readings will be available via Blackboard.

NOTE: For textbook accuracy, please always check the textbook list at the OSU Bookstore website. Sample syllabi may not have the most up-to-date information.

Students can also click the ‘OSU Beaver Store’ link associated with the course information in the Ecampus schedule of classes for course textbook information and ordering.

COURSE SPECIFIC MEASURABLE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

At the end of this course, students will be able to…

- Demonstrate a clear understanding of US and international climate change politics and policy and appraise past and present political policymaking processes (measured in all writing assignments).
- Explain the complex nature and interdependence of climate change policy from a political, economic, ethical and legal approach (measured in all writing assignments).
- Articulate in writing critical perspectives on climate change politics using evidence as support (measured through all writing assignments).

COURSE CONTENT AND POLICIES:

TOPICS AND READINGS
WEEK 1 – Overview

WEEK 2 – Risks, Skeptics, Uncertainty and the Precautionary Principle

WEEK 3– Corporations & The Media

WEEK 4 – U.S. Policy Options

WEEK 5– The Commodification of the Planet

WEEK 6 – State & Local Mitigation

WEEK 7 – International Policy

WEEK 8 – Developing Nations

WEEK 9 – National Security and Climate Change

WEEK 10 – Looking Ahead…

EVALUATION OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE:
The following criteria will be used for evaluating written assignments and exams: [Poor; Average; Good; Very Good; Excellent]

- COMMITMENT—did you cover all relevant materials/questions?
- AMBITION—did you take each issue to task?
- ENGAGEMENT—did you make connections between issues?
- CLARITY—was the paper readable and well organized?
- READINGS/COURSE MATERIALS—did you use appropriate reading and other course materials in your work? [Note: cite everything appropriately] You are also strongly encouraged to use additional resources: see "External Links" at this site.
- COMPARISON—in general, how did your work compare to the rest of the class?
- DIRECTIONS—Did you follow directions?

FINAL GRADE DISTRIBUTION
Letter Grade Percent of point’s possible:
COURSE SITE LOGIN INFORMATION
Information on how to login to your course site can be found HERE.

STATEMENT REGARDING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
Oregon State University is committed to student success; however, we do not require students to use accommodations nor will we provide them unless they are requested by the student. The student, as a legal adult, is responsible to request appropriate accommodations. The student must take the lead in applying to Disability Access Services (DAS) and submit requests for accommodations each term through DAS Online. OSU students apply to DAS and request accommodations at our Getting Started with DAS page.

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.

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.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND STUDENT CONDUCT (OSU POLICY)
Students are expected to be honest and ethical in their academic work. Intentional acts of academic dishonesty such as cheating or plagiarism may be penalized by imposing an “F” grade in the course.

Student conduct is governed by the universities policies, as explained in the Office of the Dean of Student Life: Student Conduct and Community Standards. In an academic community, students and faculty, and staff each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment, whether online or in the classroom. Students, faculty, and staff have the responsibility to treat each other with understanding, dignity, and respect.

Students are expected to conduct themselves in the course (e.g. on discussion boards, email postings, etc.) in compliance with the university’s regulations regarding civility. Students will be expected to treat all others with the same respect as they would want afforded to
themselves. Disrespectful behavior (such as harassing behavior, personal insults, inappropriate language) or disruptive behaviors are unacceptable and can result in sanctions as defined by Student Conduct and Community Standards.

For more info on these topics please see:
- Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct
- Student Conduct and Community Standards - Offenses
- Policy On Disruptive Behavior

PLAGIARISM
You are expected to submit your own work in all your assignments, postings to the discussion board, and other communications, and to clearly give credit to the work of others when you use it. Academic dishonesty will result in a grade of “F.”
- Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct
- Avoiding Academic Dishonesty

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
If you experience computer difficulties, need help downloading a browser or plug-in, assistance logging into the course, or if you experience any errors or problems while in your online 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.
- COURSE DEMO
- GETTING STARTED

TUTORING
For information about possible tutoring for this course, please visit our Ecampus NetTutor page. Other resources include:
- Writing Center
- Online Writing Lab

STUDENT EVALUATION OF TEACHING
The online Student Evaluation of Teaching form will be available in week 9 and close at the end of finals week. Students will be sent instructions via ONID by the Office of Academic Programs, Assessment, and Accreditation. Students 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. Course evaluation results are very important and are used to help improve courses and the learning experience of future students. Results from questions are tabulated anonymously and go directly to instructors and unit heads/supervisors. Unless a comment is “signed,” which will associate a name with a
comment, student comments on the open-ended questions are anonymous and forwarded to each instructor. “Signed” comments are forwarded to the unit head/supervisor.

**REFUND POLICY INFORMATION**

Please see the [Ecampus website](http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu) for policy information on refunds and late fees.