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 449
Topics In Comparative Politics– 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:
Please see below

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

PS 449. TOPICS IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS (4).
Topics in comparative politics not covered in other courses. May be repeated for credit when topic varies. (Writing Intensive Course) This course is repeatable for a maximum of 16 credits.

PS 449 - Baccalaureate Core course Attributes: Core, Skills, WIC

CONTACT INFORMATION:
For more information, contact: ANDREW EDWARDS, GILK 313. For appointments, see http://oregonstate.edu/cla/polisci/advisors

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:
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:

1. To develop an understanding of environmental policy processes in developing, post-communist and postindustrial nations, including the various governmental and non-governmental actors involved in these processes.

2. To gain knowledge of the various "driving factors" of environmental policy including population change, economic development, changing attitudes and beliefs, political culture, and globalization.

3. To understand how various religious (e.g., Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, etc.) and secular (Marxism, Capitalism, etc.) perspectives shape individual attitudes toward consumption, population, and environment.

4. To apply various policy-making models to environmental policy decision-making in nations with differing socioeconomic and political conditions.

5. To synthesize various socioeconomic and political factors that influence environmental policy processes, and then apply this synthesis to develop a long-term plan for sustainable development in a developing country.

6. To evaluate various perspectives and analyze how they might affect or influence the policy process.

COURSE CONTENT AND POLICIES:
Course content:

1. INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE, THE WEB, AND SOCIAL SCIENCE--The emergence of global environmental politics; macrotrends; environmental terms and concepts; paradigm shift; international regimes.

2. SCIENCE AND SCIENTISTS IN ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS AND POLICY--The scientific process; science and environmental policy; democracy-technocracy quandary; the science of ecology.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS IN POSTINDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES--What are Postindustrial Nations?; Driving Forces of Environmental Politics and Policy; Actors, Institutions, and the Environmental Policy Process in Postindustrial Democracies; Environmental Politics and Policy in the European Union; EU Institutions and Environmental Policy; EU Environmental Programs and Policies; Environmental policy and politics in the United States.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES--Brief Overview of Current Environmental Conditions; What are the Least Developed and Industrializing Countries?; Driving Forces of Environmental Politics and Policy; Africa; Latin America; Asia; Lessons Learned.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS IN POSTCOMMUNIST COUNTRIES--The Environmental Legacy of Communism; Brief Overview of Current Environmental Conditions; Driving Forces; Actors; Environmental Policy Process; Environmental Policy in Russia.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS, CULTURE, AND RELIGION: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

7. ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY IN SELECTED ASIAN/SOUTH PACIFIC COUNTRIES

8. THE FUTURE: INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND EMERGING ISSUES IN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY
Course policies:

1. Advanced notice before the assignment is due is required for late assignments. There will be a 5-point daily penalty for late assignments; one week past due is the latest assignments will be accepted. Late final paper will not be accepted.

2. Extra credit will not be allowed in this course.

3. All OS academic regulations will be followed in the course. Academic regulations are available at: [http://oregonstate.edu/admin/stucon/](http://oregonstate.edu/admin/stucon/) (Links to an external site.)

4. You are expected to do all required reading.

5. Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated in this course. Engaging in such behaviors will result in a failing course grade. You are to do ALL of your own work. Plagiarism is defined as representing (and using) another person’s ideas, writings, and work as one’s own. Appropriate citation must be used for all materials incorporated into you work.

6. Proper spelling, grammar, and citation should be used in all assignments. We all make typos, but try to catch them as best you can.

7. Students are required to communicate in professional and polite manner. Inappropriate language and attacks on instructors and other students will not be tolerated.

**EVALUATION OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE:**

There are six graded discussion board assignments. Discussion board entries are due on Wednesday each week they are assigned. This includes both an original entry, as well as a response to one other person’s entry.

You will write three thinkpieces during this course.

You will write and submit a final paper at the end of the course.
This is a WIC (Writing Intensive Course), and the university has developed rigorous objectives for us:

1. Develop and articulate content knowledge and critical thinking in the discipline through frequent practice of informal and formal writing.
2. Demonstrate knowledge/understanding of audience expectations, genres, and conventions appropriate to communicating in the discipline.
3. Demonstrate the ability to compose a document of at least 2000 words through multiple aspects of writing, including brainstorming, drafting, using sources appropriately, and revising.

You will be expected to REVISE and RESUBMIT at least one of your thinkpieces (final paper is not included) as part of Objective 3. After you receive your graded essay back, you have a week to make changes and e-mail me a second version. The amount of points that could be received for the revision will be determined by how much effort is put into the revision. Your discussion board is also a part of the 3rd objective, especially as you brainstorm with others and help each other with drafts.

**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 for policy information on refunds and late fees.