

PSC 405T International Environmental Politics

We 4:00—6:45p WRI C237

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Office Hours: T-Th 1pm-2pm & W 2:30p-3:30pm, or by appointment.

Course statements:

The largest growing concern of the 21st century is Global Environmental Change (GEC). The scientific data is irrefutable. In order to solve or mitigate the problems causing GEC it will take a global effort. That effort, thus far, has proven difficult. Why? Mostly because there is no global government, there is merely governance. That governance is made up of states and Intergovernmental Organizations (IGO), and increasingly Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs), corporations, and Global Civil Society. Each group is trying to balance altruism, self-interest, and strategic short-term and long-term planning. It is how these groups work together, and sometimes do not work together, we will examine in this class so as to better understand how International Environmental Policy (IEP) is created and enforced.

Text:

O'Neill, Kate, 2009, *The Environment and International Relations*, Cambridge University Press: Cambridge (Referred to in the syllabus as O'Neill and the chapter number to read.)

*Several scholarly articles are also assigned. These can be found at the class Webcampus page.

*Not all readings match the section listed. Some readings are given early to distribute them throughout the semester. Do not wait on the readings. Take notes so you can reference them later in the section they belong.

*All readings contain testable material.

*Additional readings may be added throughout the semester as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Grades:

30 points for homeworks, 3 homeworks worth 10 points each.

30 points for test, 2 test 15 points each

30 points for comprehensive final.

10 points for class participation and attendance.

Homeworks to be due midmonth Sep, Oct, Nov.

Test on Sep 28th and Nov 2st. Final during finals week.

Requirements:

1. Attendance: Attendance is mandatory (duh). It is difficult to earn a passing grade in this class if you are not present for the lectures. Students are responsible for all information taught and provided in class, whether they are present or not. Attendance will be taken at random, **but I guarantee you attendance will be taken on the days we have a guest speaker. Unexcused absences on days we have a guest speaker will count double. Do not be absent when we have a guest speaker. Guest speakers are marked in the syllabus. Three (3) absences will result in 0% given for class participation and attendance.** Any additional absences will result in a half letter grade reduction per absence. Valid absences for scholastic reasons, religious reasons or medical reasons will be allowed and will not count against overall attendance. Scholastic and religious absences need to be preapproved. Medical absences need to be proven with medical paperwork from a medical professional concerning the date missed.

2. Tardiness: I loathe tardiness. Constant tardiness will not be tolerated. It is disrespectful to your fellow students, and much more importantly, it is disrespectful to me. **Continued tardiness will results in a lowering of your class participation grade, and could also result in a lowering of your overall final grade.** I reserve the right to restrict access to the class if tardiness by any student(s) becomes an issue. If

you have extenuating circumstances that will cause you to be consistently tardy, please contact me at the beginning of the semester about the situation. I am willing to make allowances for valid reasons.

3. Examinations: There will be three examinations this semester. Two class exams covering the information between each testing period, and one final comprehensive exam. **One class period will be devoted to exam time, meaning that one class period per exam will be used for the testing period. You will not need to come to class on that day. If you chose you may use that period to complete your exam, but you can take the test at any time in multiday window. DO NOT COME TO THE CLASS ROOM FOR TEST DAY. THERE WILL BE NO CLASS HELD AT A PHYSICAL LOCATION ON TEST DAY. THAT IS THE ALOTTED TESTING PERIOD. The same goes for the final. The final will be open all week during finals week.**

4. Communications: Email communications must be via RebelMail and Webcampus. Do not send an email via Google, Yahoo, or other commercial providers. For all communications send me an email via RebelMail or Webcampus, or come see me directly. I will not answer emails sent in any medium other than RebelMail. I have no dedicated phone line so use email for all communication. Please avail yourself of my office hours. I am here to help you and teach you. I am thrilled by visits from students (honestly) who are seeking to learn and understand. My email address is bradl132@unlv.nevada.edu

5) Grading:

30 points for homeworks, 3 homeworks worth 10 points each assigned for September, October, and November.

30 points for test, 2 test 15 points each

30 points for comprehensive final.

10 points for class participation and attendance.

100% - 93% = A, 92.9%-90% = A-, 89.9%-87% = B+, 86.9%-83% = B, 82.9%-80% = B-, 79.9%-77% = C+, 76.9%-72% = C, 71.9% -70% = C-, 69% - 60% = D below 60% = F

Check your Grades: Your grades will be posted on the class Webcampus site after each exam and homework. If you have a question about your exam, or if the grade is entered incorrectly in Webcampus, you must contact me within 72 hours after the posting of the grade to rectify the issue. You must check your grades at the very least once a week. For the final exam, this time period is 48 hours. After these 48 hours, your final grade as shown in Webcampus will be submitted formally to the university's grading system. Final grades will not be curved. Final grades will be figured by hand because Webcampus' mathematic calculations have proven to be less than reliable. **DO NOT RELY ON WEBCAMPUS FOR YOUR FINAL GRADE.**

Classroom Behavior: Every student is entitled to a distraction-free classroom. Students may not behave in any manner that interferes with the learning of another student or my teaching. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1) You must arrive and be prepared to begin class on time. **I loathe tardiness.** Let me say that again "I loathe tardiness." If late arrivals become a problem, the doors will be locked once class has started. If you have a valid reason to be tardy please inform me at the beginning of the semester. Don't be continually tardy and then try to explain to me at the end of the semester about the reasons. I am willing to be lenient on limited tardiness if there are extenuating circumstances and I am made aware of them before they happen.

2) **Cell phones must be turned off and stored out of sight.** Texting, accessing the internet, or reading email during class is absolutely prohibited and will result in your being asked to leave the classroom. Continual cell phone use during the class will result in a lowering of your class participation grade. I have no tolerance for cell phones in class. We have survived in various forms of society for 8,000 years without cell phones. You can survive for a few hours without yours. I don't even want to see them out. If they are out I will assume you are using it and I will ask you to put it away. Unless you are a brain surgeon on call or in possession of the nuclear launch codes there is absolutely no reason you need to be talking or texting on your cell phone in our class.

3) Lap tops and tablets are allowed in class **ONLY** to take notes. You are not to access the internet (unless I request you to do so), check email or perform any other function on your computer that is not class

related. I reserve the right to discontinue the use of all or individual electronic devices in class if they disrupt the learning environment.

4) No “side-bar” conversations or passing notes. Ignoring this rule will result in your being asked to leave the classroom. I do not tolerate students who are disruptive or inconsiderate of other students.

5) Do not do another class’ homework in this class. I can’t believe I have to say this, but I had a student who didn’t understand why and was upset when I told the student to stop. Because I say so that’s why.

6) Recording devices are allowed in class to record the lecture, but each recording must be converted into an mp3 or some easily playable file and emailed to me before the next class.

7) No food or beverages (except water in a sealable container) are allowed in the classroom.

8) Classroom behavior should always be courteous, respectful of others, and consistent with the expectations set forth by the university.

Schedule:

August 31: Introduction

Read: O’Neil Preface and Chapter 1

Sep 2 last day to drop with 100% refund

Sep 7: Common Language

Read: *Kathryn Hochstetler, and Manjana Milkoreit, 2015, “Responsibilities in transition: emerging powers in the climate change negotiations,” Global Governance,

*Heike Schroeder and Heather Lovell, 2012, “The role of non-nation-state actors,” Climate Policy, For the actors section

Homework Assigned

Sep 14: The Issues

Read: *Chapter 2 O’Neill

*Sprinz, 2012, “Long-Term Environmental Policy...”

Homework Due via Webcampus at start of class

Sep 21: The Issues Part II & The Problems of Solutions

Read: *Guth et al. 1995, “Faith and the Environment:...”

*Falkner, 2003, “Private Environmental Government...” For Tools Section

Sep 28: Test day. Test is on Webcampus, do not come to class.

Oct 5: The History of Global Environmental Policy

Read: White. 1967. “Historical Roots of Our Ecological Crises...”

Paterson. 2009. “Post Hegemonic Climate...” For Realism in Theory

Oct 12: It Ain’t IR Without Theory

Read: Castree. 2008. “Neoliberalism Nature:...”

Vant. 2005. “Rationality, Institutions...” (Constructivism)

Oct 14 Last day to drop with 50% refund

Oct 19 **NO CLASS: Debate Homework. Watch the debate and do homework assigned.**

(In case the debate is cancelled [I bet it is] we will have class and lecture.)

Oct 26 Brookings Scholar Adele Morris. Climate change and Energy and natural resources

Double Attendance Day! So be there!

Catch-up on lectures

Nov 2: Test Day: Test is on Webcampus, do not come to class.
Nov 4 Last day to drop with no refund

Nov 9: TOOLS of IEP

Read: O'Neill Chapters 4 & 5. For Theory and Tools
Bechtel and Urpelainen 2014. "All Policies are Glocal..."
Swainson et al. 2011. "Water Use in Australia..."

Nov 11th Veterans' Day (I'm a Veteran and every day is my day.)

Nov 16 Brookings Scholar Devashree Saha: Transition to a clean energy economy.

Double Attendance Day! So be there!
Catch-up on lectures
Homework assigned

Nov 23 Homework Day: No class, use the time to complete your homework. Homework due via Webcampus by end of class (homework can be turned in early and you are strongly encouraged to turn it in early).

Nov 24-25 Thanksgiving Holiday

Nov 30: TOOLS of IEP Part II

Study Week Dec 5-10

Dec 7: Global Economics in Relation to the IEP (It's always about the money (but should it be?))

And a look at the future of IEP

Read: O'Neill Chapters 6 & 8

Bernhagen. 2008. "Business and International Environmental Agreements..."

Dec 10-17: Finals Week. Final test will be comprehensive and conducted on line through finals week.

More details when the end of the semester gets closer.

The Minutia

Academic Misconduct – Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the campus community; all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and are encouraged when faced with choices to always take the ethical path. Students enrolling in UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV's function as an educational institution.

An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another, from the Internet or any source, without proper citation of the sources. See the Student Academic Misconduct Policy (approved December 9, 2005) located at:

<http://studentconduct.unlv.edu/misconduct/policy.html>.

Copyright – The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves with and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The university will neither protect nor defend you nor assume any responsibility for employee or student violations of fair use laws. Violations of copyright laws could subject you

to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies. Additional information can be found at: <http://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright>.

Disability Resource Center (DRC) – The UNLV Disability Resource Center (SSC-A 143,

<http://drc.unlv.edu/>, 702-895-0866) provides resources for students with disabilities. If you feel that you

have a disability, please make an appointment with a Disabilities Specialist at the DRC to discuss what options may be available to you.

If you are registered with the UNLV Disability Resource Center, bring your Academic Accommodation Plan from the DRC to the instructor during office hours so that you may work together to develop strategies for implementing the accommodations to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. Any information you provide is private and will be treated as such. To maintain the confidentiality of your request, please do not approach the instructor before or after class to discuss your accommodation needs.

Religious Holidays Policy – Any student missing class quizzes, examinations, or any other class or lab work because of observance of religious holidays shall be given an opportunity during that semester to make up missed work. The make-up will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It shall be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor no later than the end of the first two weeks of classes, January 30, 2015, of his or her intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional information, please visit:

<http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531>.

Incomplete Grades - The grade of I – Incomplete – can be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed three-fourths of course work for that semester/session but for reason(s) beyond the student's control, and acceptable to the instructor, cannot complete the last part of the course, and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. The incomplete work must be made up before the end of the following regular semester. If course requirements are not completed within the time indicated, a grade of F will be recorded and the GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete do not register for the course but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the I grade.

Tutoring – The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring and academic assistance for all UNLV students taking UNLV courses. Students are encouraged to stop by the ASC to learn more about subjects offered, tutoring times and other academic resources. The ASC is located across from the Student Services Complex (SSC). Students may learn more about tutoring services by calling 702-895-3177 or visiting the tutoring web site at: <http://academicsuccess.unlv.edu/tutoring/>.

UNLV Writing Center – One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, located in CDC-3-301. Although walk-in consultations are sometimes available, students with appointments will receive priority assistance. Appointments may be made in person or by calling 702-895-3908. The student's Rebel ID Card, a copy of the assignment (if possible), and two copies of any writing to be reviewed are requested for the consultation. More information can be found at: <http://writingcenter.unlv.edu/>

Rebelmail – By policy, faculty and staff should e-mail students' Rebelmail accounts only. Rebelmail is UNLV's official e-mail system for students. It is one of the primary ways students receive official university communication such as information about deadlines, major campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the university. Students' e-mail prefixes are listed on class rosters. The suffix is always @unlv.nevada.edu. Emailing within WebCampus is acceptable.

Final Examinations – The University requires that final exams given at the end of a course occur at the time and on the day specified in the final exam schedule. See the schedule at: <http://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars>.