

ENV 202 - Strategies of Environmental Administration and Management

Winter Quarter, 2019

Tuesdays (Wickson 2120B) and Thursdays (Wickson 2124), 10-11:50

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Course Overview

This class will be an end-to-end overview of environmental policy development including legislation, regulation, and implementation. It will focus on California but also include some local, federal and international policy topics. Classes will be a mix of theory, applied study, discussion with guest experts, and practical skills such as how to write for a policy audience.

Course Goals

- Understand the spectrum of the environmental policy process;
- Explore key issues and challenges in sound environmental policymaking;
- Develop a working knowledge of key environmental laws, regulations, and goals;
- Improve analytical skills for interpreting information, thinking and writing.

Weekly Summary

Week 1: Policy Overview

- Policy goals and principles
- What makes good policy?
- Governance overview – who does what? How do federal, state, and local efforts interact?
- Review and reflect: Externalities and economics principles

Weeks 2-3: Legislation

- How a bill becomes a law in California (practical guide)
- History of key environmental laws (clean air act, clean water act, AB32, etc.)

- Recent and upcoming bills

Weeks 4-5(first half): Regulation – federal and state

- The regulatory process
- Key federal and state regulations
- Private sector compliance
- Role of courts and enforcement

Weeks 5(second half)-6: Local policy

- What a city / region can do
- Local sustainability goals
- Special districts (AQMDs, water districts)

Week 7: Business sustainability policy

- History of business and environmentalism
- Review of recent business pledges
- Impact or greenwashing?

Week 8: International perspectives

- International processes (UNEP, IPCC, ICAO, IMO...)
- Historical (montreal protocol,
- Comparing selected policies globally
- Focus on China

Week 9: Policy engagement and writing

- Writing for policy audiences
- Workshop: the policy brief

Week 10: Summary and wrap up

- How does this all work together? What makes legislation and regulation work well together?

Course Activities and Assignments

- **Legislative Analysis:** each student will review a prominent piece of recent environmental legislation. They will track the introduction, process, and amendments of the bill and analyze: how the end bill differs from the starting bill, why it did or didn't become law, and what is happening now for implementation.
- **Legislative Presentation:** each student will give a short presentation on their bill and research findings.
- **Sustainability Plan analysis:** each student will review a city or business sustainability strategy and associated planning documents. They will analyze how the plan performs in

terms of ambition, what is included, degree to which it is data-driven and actionable, and how they are tracking progress.

- **Quizzes:** two quizzes will assess working knowledge of the key policies discussed in class and in the readings.
- **Policy Brief:** the final assignment will be to write a short policy brief on the topic of your choice. This will combine the policy analysis and writing skills developed in class.
- **Policy Presentation:** each student will present the findings that informed their brief in class.

Readings:

Reading is assigned by the topic. Each unit, students will be responsible for a short (1/2 to 1 page) reading response, graded credit / no credit. This is to provide a ‘low stakes writing’ opportunity and can include a student summary of the reading content, personal connections (like a journal), or analysis of the credibility and findings of the content.

Each student will also co-lead one discussion of reading for a topic.

Readings may be updated as the class goes on, and will be posted to canvas.

Week(s)	Topic	Short Reading	Long Reading
1	Overview	Eggert and Sperling	California Environmental Law & Policy, Chapter 1
2-3	Legislative	ABC News: Top 5 Pieces of Environmental Legislation	Ashford and Caldart, Environmental Protection Laws
4-5	Regulatory	CityLab: If you Want Clean Water Don't Be Black in America	CARB: 2017 Scoping Plan
5-6	Local	Mayor's Commission on Climate Change Process	City of Sacramento Climate Action Plan, Appendix B
7	Business	Forbes: "Shallow" And "Deep" Decarbonization: Amazon's Climate Pledge	Accelerating America's Pledge
8	International	We're almost out of time: The alarming IPCC climate report and what to do next	How are cities planning to respond to climate change? Assessment of local climate plans from 885 cities in the EU-28
9	Engagement	Safford and Brown, Communicating science to policymakers: six strategies for success	Words that Work, Chapter 8
10	Wrap up	TBD	TBD

Grading

- Reading responses 10%
- In-class reading discussion (the week you lead it): 5%
- Quiz 1: 10%
- Legislative analysis: 15%
- Legislative presentation: 5%
- Quiz 2: 10%
- Sustainability plan (local or business) analysis: 20%
- Policy presentation: 5%
- Policy brief: 20%

Important Information about Academic Honesty and Code of Conduct

Now as students and later as practicing engineers, policymakers, planners and scholars, you will frequently consult the analyses, research, and ideas produced by others. Indeed, we often count on using others' findings to inform our own work for a given assignment or task. This is expected and desirable; it means knowledge is being shared and applied. However, a very bright line separates the appropriate use and acknowledgement of another's work from plagiarism – the inappropriate presentation of another's work or ideas as one's own. With the availability of full text reports, articles, presentations, and more on the internet, it is increasingly easy to borrow another's words and ideas inappropriately. Be aware that the same technology that makes such inappropriate borrowing easy also makes it easy to detect.

The UC Davis Code of Academic Conduct exists to support high standards of behavior and to ensure fair evaluation of student learning. Students who violate the Code of Academic Conduct are subject to disciplinary sanctions that include censure, probation, suspension, deferred separation or dismissal from the University of California. Unless specifically authorized by the instructor in writing, misconduct includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Academic misconduct on exams or other coursework
- Plagiarism
- Unauthorized collaboration
- Misuse of an instructor's course materials or the materials of others
- Lying or fraud
- Intimidation or disruption

Please review the detailed UC Davis Code of Academic Conduct online:

<https://ossja.ucdavis.edu/code-academic-conduct>