

ENCS 473
Environmental and Conservation Policy
Lec B1 8:00-9:20 BUS 1-9

Fall 2011

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Teaching Assistants: TBA

University of Alberta policy about course outlines can be found in section 23.4(2) of the University Calendar

ENCS 473 has an ECLASS website that is updated regularly. The website contains information on the course, as well as links to frequently asked questions, and links to other related environmental policy web pages.
**** Some of the pages on the site may be PASSWORD PROTECTED – the information required to view these pages will be provided in class**

Objectives: This course provides an introduction to environmental policy analysis including: 1) Examination of approaches to policy formation and policy evaluation; 2) An overview of selected provincial, national and international environmental policies; and 3) A more detailed examination of some environmental policies as they relate to agriculture, forest, water, wildlife, and natural environments within the province of Alberta.

Methods: The first part of this course will be primarily lectures by the instructor. Class participation is encouraged. Group work and discussion will be required. The second part of the course will include a set of case studies, presentations by various experts in the environmental policy arena, and group presentations intended to analyze particular policies and principles. Throughout the course there may be guest lectures by experts from government, industry or non-governmental organizations. Material presented by these guest lectures and group projects will be covered in the examinations.

Examinations, Evaluations, Etc.: Each student will write the midterm and final examination. The final exam may cover the material from the entire course. Each student will also be required to complete one assignment early in the course. The midterm examination will be TBA. The final examination will be held on Friday December 16th at 9:00 am.

Participation in group projects. Each student will be assigned to a group (a Policy “Morph”) by the instructor. These groups will form the basis for in-class discussion, debate and dialogue on various policy topics and issues. These groups will also be utilized to complete two group projects. The minor group project will involve a specific lecture topic provided by the instructor to the group. The group will research this topic and when called upon in class, will conduct a brief discussion of the topic provided. The major group project element of the course requires a team of individuals to research and summarize a topic in environmental policy, or a specific environmental policy. Each group will prepare a “policy backgrounder” or a “brief” that summarizes the issue, history of attention and current policy. These documents will be presented to the class and may be available on the course website as study tools. Details on the group projects will be provided in a separate handout.

Final grades in this class will be based on the grades achieved for the various activities. The percentages will be assigned letter grades based upon the distribution of percentages in the class.

The weights for the required course elements are as follows:

Assignment 1	15%
Minor group project	5%
Major group project	20%
Midterm Examination	25%
Final Examination	35%

Textbooks: There is no required textbook for this course. The material is based on book chapters, articles and reports listed below. The important readings are available in a **Course Pack**. These readings are also available in the Reserve Room in Cameron Library. Many of the readings are also available in the Rural Economy Reading Room (5th Floor, General Services Building). Two texts have been ordered as recommended texts. One is van den Doel, H. and van Velthoven, B., 1993,

Democracy and Welfare Economics, Cambridge University Press, New York. This is a useful book for the introductory theory sections of the course. A second text, Field, B and Olewiler, N., 2002, *Environmental Economics: Second Canadian Edition*, McGraw Hill, Toronto, will be very useful for students looking for a text that covers environmental economics as well as an overview of Canadian environmental policy. However, only 5-6 chapters in the book will be used in this course. *I will place copies of these on reserve in the Rural Economy reading Room on the 5th floor GSB.*

Please Note that: The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour, and in particular the *Don't Cheatsheet* found online at:

<http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/en/StudentAppeals/DontCheatsheet.aspx>

Student should avoid any behaviour that could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University. Please note the following from the "*Don't Cheatsheet*" that appears on the web link mentioned above:

30.3.2(1) Plagiarism

No Student shall submit the words, ideas, images or data of another person as the Student's own in any academic writing, essay, thesis, project, assignment, presentation or poster in a course or program of study.

30.3.2(2) Cheating

30.3.2(2)a No Student shall in the course of an examination or other similar activity, obtain or attempt to obtain information from another Student or other unauthorized source, give or attempt to give information to another Student, or use, attempt to use or possess for the purposes of use any unauthorized material.

30.3.2(2)b No Student shall represent or attempt to represent him or herself as another or have or attempt to have himself or herself represented by another in the taking of an examination, preparation of a paper or other similar activity. See also misrepresentation in 30.3.6(4).

30.3.2(2)c No Student shall represent another's substantial editorial or compositional assistance on an assignment as the Student's own work.

30.3.2(2)d No Student shall submit in any course or program of study, without the written approval of the course Instructor, all or a substantial portion of any academic writing, essay, thesis, research report, project, assignment, presentation or poster for which credit has previously been obtained by the Student or which has been or is being submitted by the Student in another course or program of study in the University or elsewhere.

30.3.2(2)e No Student shall submit in any course or program of study any academic writing, essay, thesis, report, project, assignment, presentation or poster containing a statement of fact known by the Student to be false or a reference to a source the Student knows to contain fabricated claims (unless acknowledged by the Student), or a fabricated reference to a source.

30.3.6(4) Misrepresentation of Facts

No Student shall misrepresent pertinent facts to any member of the University community for the purpose of obtaining academic or other advantage. See also 30.3.2(2) b, c, d and e.

30.3.6(5) Participation in an Offence

No Student shall counsel or encourage or knowingly aid or assist, directly or indirectly, another person in the commission of any offence under this Code.

Electronic Devices: No electronic devices, including calculators, active cell phones or personal data devices will be permitted during examinations in this course.

Policy on Late Assignments: Assignments and papers that are required to be submitted for grading during the year will be given specific due dates. This due date is firm - all papers and assignments must be submitted by 5:00 PM on the requested date.

Outline of Topics in the Course

1. Introduction, Definitions, Objectives
2. Social and Environmental Justice: The Goals of Policy
 - Normative Policy Analysis
 - Values
 - Efficiency, Distribution, and Sustainability
3. Jurisdictional Issues in Environmental Policy
4. Evaluation of Environmental Policy
5. Political Economy of Environmental Policy: Public Choice Theory, Economic Models, some Political Science Models, Rational Politician Models, Rent Seeking, Interest Groups, and Lobbying.

Applications

6. Forestry Policy: The Alberta Forest Act and the Alberta Forest Conservation Strategy
 - Topics: Property Rights & Tenure, Public Participation
7. A digression on Reclamation Policy: The Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act
 - Topics: Property versus Liability Rules
8. International Policy: Environmental Agreements/Protocols
 - Kyoto Protocol and climate change
 - Biodiversity Convention
 - Montreal Protocol on Ozone
9. Pollution: The Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act
 - Topics: Property Rights and Pollution Control, Market Based Instruments, Voluntary or Self-regulation, Enforcement
10. Endangered Species and Spaces: Special Places 2000, Federal Endangered Species Proposals, Wetlands Policy
 - Topics: Jurisdictional Issues, Compensation and Takings, Property and Tenure

READINGS

Some of the readings below are held in the Rutherford or the Science and Technology library system or can be found on-line. Some of the readings are also available in the Rural Economy library (Room 504 GSB) but these cannot be borrowed by undergraduate students (but there is a photocopier available). Additional readings may be announced and/or placed on reserve as the term goes on. **Required readings are included in the Course Pack and are labeled (CP).**

Theory

Introduction, Definitions, Objectives

(CP) Doern, G.B. 1990. Canadian Environmental Policy: Why Process is Almost Everything. C.D. Howe Institute, Toronto.

Social Justice, Environmental Justice, and the Goals of Policy (Normative Policy Analysis)

Brennan, A. 1992. Moral Pluralism and the Environment. *Environmental Values* 1:15-34.

(CP) Hargreaves-Heap, S., M. Hollis, B. Lyons, R. Sugden, A. Weale. 1992. *The Theory of Choice: A Critical Guide*. Blackwell, Cambridge. (Chapter 18, Social Justice; see also Keywords section).

(CP) Pezzey, J. 1992. Sustainability: An Interdisciplinary Guide. *Environmental Values* 1:321-362.

Policy Formulation, Analysis and Evaluation

Bohm, P. and C. Russell. 1985. Comparative Analysis of Alternative Policy Instruments. in Kneese and Sweeney (eds) *Handbook of Natural Resource and Energy Economics*. Volume 1.

(CP) Cochran, C.L. and E.F. Malone. 1999. *Public Policy: Perspectives and Choices*. Second Edition. McGraw-Hill College (Chapter 2, Pp 39-54).

(CP) Field, B.C. and N. Olewiler. 1994. *Environmental Economics: First Canadian Edition*. McGraw-Hill, Inc. Toronto.

(Chapter 9)

Stavins, R.N. 1990. Innovative Policies for Sustainable Development in the 1990s. Resource for the Future, Quality of the Environment Division, QE90-11, Washington, D.C.

Taylor, C. The ACIDD Test: a framework for policy planning and decision making. *Optimum, The Journal of Public Sector Management* 27(4): 53-62.

Jurisdictional Issues in Environmental Policy

(CP) Lucas, A.R. Natural Resource and Environmental Management: A Jurisdictional Primer. In Tingley, D. 1987. Environmental Protection and the Canadian Constitution, Environmental Law Centre, Edmonton.

(CP) McKenzie, J.I. 2002. The Government Role in Environmental Policy. Chapter 3. *In Environmental Politics*, Oxford University Press.

Political Economy of Environmental Policy: Public Choice Theory

Definitions and Overview

(RR Reading Room) Cochran, C.L. and E.F. Malone. 1999. *Public Policy: Perspectives and Choices*. Second Edition. McGraw-Hill College (Chapter 3).

Negotiations Approaches

(CP) Hahn, R.W. 1990. The Political Economy of Environmental Regulation: Towards a Unifying Framework. *Public Choice* 21-45.

Hargreaves-Heap, S., M. Hollis, B. Lyons, R. Sugden, A. Weale. 1992. *The Theory of Choice: A Critical Guide*. Blackwell, Cambridge. (Part III, see also Keywords section).

(CP) van den Doel, H. and van Velthoven, B. 1993 *Democracy and Welfare Economics*. Cambridge University Press. New York. Chapter 3.

Referendum Approaches

(CP) Stevens, J.B. 1994. *The Economics of Collective Choice*. Westview Press. Boulder, CO. (Chapter 6)

van den Doel, H. and van Velthoven, B. 1993. *Democracy and Welfare Economics*. Cambridge University Press, New York. Chapter 4.

Representative Approaches

(CP) Magee, S.P., W.A. Brock and L. Young. 1989. *Black Hole Tariffs and Endogenous Policy Theory*. Cambridge University Press. (Chapter 1).

van den Doel, H. and van Velthoven, B. 1993. *Democracy and Welfare Economics*. Cambridge University Press, New York. (Chapter 5).

Case Studies

General Papers of Interest

(For Fun) Blake, R.B. 2000. The collapse of the fishery: recrimination and impact. Chapter 7. In: *From Fishermen to Fish: The Evolution of Canadian Fishery Policy*. Contemporary Affairs Series no. 7, Canadian Institute of International Affairs, Irwin Publishing Ltd., Toronto.

(For Fun) Lomborg, B. 2001. Why do we hear so much bad news? Pp. 34-42. In: *The Skeptical Environmentalist: Measuring the Real State of the World*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Forestry

Useful Alberta Forest Policy Documents:

1. The Alberta Forest Legacy: Implementation framework for sustainable forest management. Alberta Department of Sustainable Resource Development. Available on course website and at:
<http://www.assembly.ab.ca/lao/library/egovdocs/alene/1998/47543.pdf>
2. Management of Alberta's Forest Resource. Alberta Department of Sustainable Resource Development. Available at:
<http://srd.alberta.ca/forests/pdf/Forest-Resource-Ftsht.pdf>
3. Alberta Forest Conservation Strategy. May 1997.
<http://www.borealcentre.ca/reports/afcs.html>

Haley, D. and M.K. Luckert. 1990. Forest Tenures in Canada: A Framework for Policy Analysis. Forestry Canada, Economics Directorate, Information Report E-X-43.

Moen, A. 1990. Demystifying Alberta's Forestry Law. Environmental Law Centre, Edmonton, Alberta.

Pearse, P.H. 1988. Property Rights and the Development of Natural Resource Policies in Canada. *Canadian Public Policy* 14:307-320.

(CP) Pearse, P.H. 1993. Forest Tenure, Management Incentives, and the Search for Sustainable Development Policies. in Adamowicz, W.L., W. White and W. Phillips (eds). *Forestry and the Environment: Economic Perspectives*. Commonwealth Abstracts Bureau International, Oxon, U.K.

Pearse, P. H. 2001. Ready for Change: Crisis and Opportunity in the Coast Forest Industry. A Report to the Minister of Forests on British Columbia's Coastal Forest Industry. Available on course website and at:
<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfd/library/documents/phpreport/>

Ross, M.M. 1995. Forest Management in Canada. Canadian Institute for Resources Law, Calgary.

International Policy – Environmental Agreements and Protocols

(CP) Barrett, S. 1990. The Problem of Global Environmental Protection. *Oxford Review of Economic Policy* 6: 68-79.

Barrett, S. 1994. Self Enforcing International Environmental Agreements. *Oxford Economics Papers* 46: 878-894.

(CP) Doern, G.B. 1993 *Green Diplomacy: How Environmental Policy Decisions are Made*. C.D. Howe Institute, Toronto. (Chapter 2).

(RR Reading Room) Field, B.C. and N. Olewiler. 2002. *Environmental Economics: Second Canadian Edition*. McGraw-Hill, Inc. Toronto. (Chapter 20)

Maler, K.-G. 1990. International Environmental Problems. *Oxford Review of Economic Policy* 6: 80-108.

(CP) Pearce, D.W. and J. J. Warford. 1993. Chapter 14, Managing Global Resources. Pp. 367-387, In: *World Without End*. Oxford University Press, Oxford.

Pearce, D.W. 1995. Global environmental value and the tropical forests: Demonstration and capture. in Adamowicz, et al, editors. *Forestry, Economics and the Environment*. CAB International.

Sandler, T. and K. Sargent. 1995. Management of transnational Commons: Coordination, Publicness and Treaty Formation. *Land Economics* 71: 145-162.

(CP) Susskind, L.E. 1994. *Environmental Diplomacy: Negotiating More Effective Global Agreements*. Pp. 30-42. Oxford University Press, New York.

Pollution

(CP) Devlin, R.A. and R.Q. Grafton. 1998. Property rights for pollution. Pp. 37-67, In: *Economic Rights and Environmental Wrongs*. Edward Elgar.

(RR Reading Room) Field, B.C. and N. Olewiler. 2002. *Environmental Economics: Second Canadian Edition*. McGraw-Hill, Inc. Toronto. (Chapters 11, 12, 13, and 16)

(CP) Harrington, W., A.J. Krupnick and H.M. Peskin. 1985. Policies for nonpoint source water pollution control. *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation*. Jan-Feb.: 27-32.

(CP) Harrison, K. 1999. Talking with the Donkey: Cooperative approaches to environmental protection. *Journal of Industrial Ecology* 2(3): 51-72.

(CP) Russell, C.S. 1990. Monitoring and Enforcement. *In Public Policies for Environmental Protection*. P.R. Portney, editor. Resources for the Future Press, Baltimore. Pp 243-274.

Russell, C.S., W. Harrington and W.J. Vaughan. *Enforcing Pollution Control Laws*. Resources for the Future Press. 1986. (Especially Chapter 4)

Weersink, A., J. Livernois, J.F. Shogren and J.S. Shortle. 1998. Economic instruments and environmental policy in agriculture. *Canadian Public Policy* 24: 309-327.

Wetlands

Innes, R. 1995. An Essay on Takings. *Choices* (First Quarter): 4-7.

Miceli, T. and K. Segerson. 1994. Regulatory Takings: When should compensation be paid? *Journal of Legal Studies* 23:749-776.

van Kooten, G.C. 1993. Preservation of Waterfowl Habitat in Western Canada: Is the NAWMP a Success? *Natural Resources Journal* 33: 759-775.

Weibe, K.D. and R.E. Heimlich. 1995. The evolution of federal wetlands policy. *Choices* (First Quarter): 8-13.

Endangered Species, Spaces, and Habitats

Ando, A., J. Camm, S. Polasky and A. Solow. 1998. Species Distributions, Land Values and Efficient Conservation. *Science* 279: 2126-2128.

Austen, C. 1997. Evaluating the Proposed Canadian Endangered Species Act. *Endangered Species Update* Vol. 15. Can be found at: <http://www.umich.edu/~esupdate/library/97.03-04/austen.html>

Brown, G.M. and J.F. Shogren. 1998. Economics of the Endangered Species Act. *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 12:3-20.

Carroll, R., C. Augspurger, A. Dobson, J. Franklin, G. Orians, W. Reid, R. Tract, D. Walcove and J. Wilson. 1996. Strengthening the Use of Science in Achieving the Goals of the Endangered Species Act: An Assessment by the Ecological Society of America. *Ecological Applications* 6:1-11.

Government of Alberta. 1995. Special Places 2000: Alberta's Natural Heritage, Policy and Implementation Plan. March.

Environment Canada (1995a) *The Canadian Endangered Species Protection Act: A Legislative Proposal*, Minister of the Environment, House of Commons, Ottawa.

Environment Canada (1995b) *The Canadian Endangered Species Protection Act: A Legislative Proposal - Report on the National Workshop*, Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada, Ottawa.

Environment Canada (1995c) *Report on Public Consultation: A National Approach to Endangered Species Conservation in Canada*, Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada.

Environment Canada (1999) *The Species at Risk Act (SARA): A Guide*. This report and other information can be found on the Environment Canada website: <http://www.ec.gc.ca>

Fox, G. and W. Adamowicz. 1997. Should Canadian Legislators learn anything from the U.S. Experience with Endangered Species Legislation? *Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics* 45: 403-410.

Girt, J. 1990. Common Ground: recommendations for policy reform to integrate wildlife habitat, environmental and agricultural objectives on the farm. Report to Wildlife Habitat Canada, Environment Canada and Agriculture Canada.

Innes, R., S. Polasky and J. Tschirhart. 1998. Takings, compensation, and endangered species protection on private lands. *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 12:35-52.

(CP) McKenzie, J.I. 2002. The Government Role in Environmental Policy. Chapter 3. *In Environmental Politics*, Oxford University Press. (See the "Anatomy of a Policy – Protecting Species at Risk" in the last few pages of this reading)

Pearse, P.H., 2000. The Species at Risk Act and the compensation issue. Report available from instructor and from Environment Canada, Ottawa (http://www.ec.gc.ca/press/001221_m_e.htm).

Schwindt, R. and S. Gliberman. 1996. Takings of private rights to public natural resources: A policy analysis. *Canadian Public Policy* 22:205-224

Reclamation Policy

Calabresi, G. and D. Melamed. 1972. Property Rules and Inalienability: One View of the Cathedral. *Harvard Law Review* 85:1098-1128.

(CP) Wilman, E.A. 1994. Liability versus Property Rule Protection for Surface Entitlements. *Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics* 42:177-190