

POLITICAL ECONOMY OF GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE
POLSCI 768 / GLOBALST 725
Term 2, Winter 2020

Instructor: Robert O'Brien
Email: obrienr@mcmaster.ca
Seminar: Tuesdays 2:30-5:20
Classroom: KTH 709

Office: KTH 519
Office Hours: Mon and Wed 11:30-12:30 or by appointment

Contents

Course Description.....	3
Course Objectives	3
Required Materials and Texts	3
Class Format.....	4
Course Evaluation – Overview	4
Course Evaluation – Details	4
Seminar Participation (30%), ongoing	4
Critical Review (20%), due February 25, 2020	4
Research Paper Proposal (5%), due March 3, 2020	5
Research Paper (45%), due April 21, 2020	5
Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings	5
Week 1 (Jan 7) Introduction.....	5
Week 2 (Jan 14) Governance, Science, Economics and Morality	5
Week 3 (Jan 21) Climate Change through an Economics Lens	6
Week 4 (Jan 28) Economic Models and Climate Science	7
Week 5 (Feb 4) Pricing and Taxing Carbon.....	7
Week 6 (Feb 11) Lock in and Transition	8
Week 7 (Feb 18) Winter mid-term recess, NO CLASS	9
Week 8 (Feb 25) Consumption	9
Week 9 (Mar 3) Ecological Economics	9
Week 10 (Mar 10) U.S. Climate Politics.....	10
Week 11 (Mar 17) Canadian Climate Politics	11
Week 12 (Mar 24) Developing World Climate Politics	11
Week 13 (Mar 30) Paris Agreement and Beyond	12
Week 14 (Apr 7) Other topics I would like to examine if we had a longer term	13

Course Policies 16

 Submission of Assignments..... 16

 Grades..... 16

 Late Assignments 16

 Absences, Missed Work, Illness 16

 Avenue to Learn 16

 Turnitin.com..... 16

 Academic Accommodation for Religious, Indigenous or Spiritual Observances (RISO)
 17

University Policies 17

 Academic Integrity Statement..... 17

 Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities..... 17

 Faculty of Social Sciences E-mail Communication Policy 18

 Course Modification..... 18

Course Description

This course provides students with an opportunity to investigate the global political economy of climate change. We begin by considering how governance, science, economics and morality intersect on the topic of climate change. The following two weeks are spent looking at the work of two leading climate change economists (Nicolas Stern and William Nordhaus) to get a better understanding of how mainstream economists interpret the problem of climate change. We then investigate economists' chosen policy tool for responding to climate change (carbon pricing) and the politics surrounding its implementation. This is followed by considering the concept of carbon lock in and the difficulty of transitioning to another energy source. The problem of transition raises the issue of overall consumption levels, so we will spend a week examining the consumption conundrum. Ecological economics (EE) tackles consumption head on, but has made little dent in mainstream economics. We will interrogate EEs primary assumptions. The remainder of the courses looks at climate change in specific contexts – the US, Canada and developing countries. We conclude by considering possibilities for the future. The focus of the course is on how political and economic factors shape responses to climate change. No formal training in economics is required.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course students should be able to:

1. Develop a critical understanding of the interaction of political and economic factors on climate change.
2. Pursue one climate change topic in depth through a research paper.
3. Answer convincingly the following questions:
 - How has climate change become politicized and what are the implications of this?
 - What are the political obstacles to taking significant action on climate change?
 - What are the economics of climate change?

Required Materials and Texts

This course presumes you are familiar with the basic science of climate change. If you are not, you should read:

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, (2018) ['Summary for Policy Makers' Special Report: Warming of 1.5° C](#)

In addition to weekly articles we will be reading large portions of one book which you may wish to purchase:

Nicolas Stern, *Why Are We Waiting?: The Logic, Urgency, and Promise of Tackling Climate Change* (Cambridge: MIT Press, 2015).

Class Format

Students will be assigned to lead a discussion of particular weeks.

All students will be expected to come to class with a one page 'summary notes' document on the texts they have read. This document will contain:

1. A list of key concepts and terms.
2. A summary of statement (four sentences maximum) of each author's main argument. This statement should be written in your own words as far as possible. It should not be borrowed directly from the text of the reading.
3. Three or four issues or questions in the readings that are important and merit some discussion and that you would like to be addressed in the seminar. Formulate these in the form of a question.

Summaries will be handed in at the end of class.

Students will be expected to be active participants in class discussions. This involves leading discussions, highlighting points from the readings, engaging with the arguments of the texts, offering criticism of what you have read and asking questions about the text. Talking for the sake of talking or making irrelevant points does not contribute to your participation grade.

Course Evaluation – Overview

1. Seminar Participation – 30%
2. Critical Review – 20%, due February 25, 2020
3. Research Paper Proposal – 5%, March 3, 2020
4. Research Paper – 45%, April 21, 2020

Course Evaluation – Details

Seminar Participation (30%), ongoing

The participation grade covers seminar attendance and participation. I will take notes on the seminar discussions. General seminar participation is out of 15. In addition, summary notes are graded as $10 \times 1 = 10$; leading a discussion is marked out of 5.

Critical Review (20%), due February 25, 2020

Students will write a critical review of Nicolas Stern's book. The review is due on February 25th. Class discussion and other readings should feed into your review. The

review will evaluate the central arguments made of the book. It should be **no longer than 1,200 words**.

Research Paper Proposal (5%), due March 3, 2020

This paper is **due in class in week nine, March 3rd**. It should be three pages long and include:

- primary research question
- explanation of how it fits into course
- topics that will be addressed
- questions that need to be answered
- preliminary bibliography

Research Paper (45%), due April 21, 2020

The final research paper is **due two weeks after the final class, April 21st**. The paper should be no longer than 4,000 words, excluding bibliography. It must be based upon your paper outline and material beyond the course readings.

Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings

Week 1 (Jan 7) Introduction

No readings

Week 2 (Jan 14) Governance, Science, Economics and Morality

Before we launch into the political economy of climate change it is useful to consider how areas of governance, science, economics and morality can intersect and set the stage for our discussion.

Readings:

- Steven Bernstein, 'Liberal Environmentalism and Global Environmental Governance' *Global Environmental Politics* Vol. 2:3 (August, 2002), pp. 1-16.
- Stephan Lewandowsky, et.al, 'Science and the Public: Debate, Denial, and Skepticism' *Journal of Social and Political Psychology* Vol. 4:2 (January, 2016), pp. 537-553.
- Andrew J Oswald and Nicholas Stern (2019) '[Why does the economics of climate change matter so much, and why has the engagement of economists been so weak?](#)' *Royal Economic Society Newsletter* forthcoming.
- Stephen M. Gardiner, 'A Perfect Moral Storm: Climate Change, Intergenerational Ethics and the Problem of Moral Corruption,' *Environmental Values* Vol. 15:3 (August 2006), pp. 397-413.

Other Readings:

- Rolf Lidskog and Göran Sundqvist, 'When Does Science Matter? International Relations Meets Science and Technology Studies, *Global Environmental Politics* Vol. 15:1 (February, 2015), pp.1-20.

- Marcel J. Dorsch and Christian Flachsland 'A Polycentric Approach to Global Climate Governance' *Global Environmental Politics* Vol. 17:2 (May, 2017), pp. 45-64.
- Robert O. Keohane and David G. Victor, 'The Regime Complex for Climate Change' *Perspectives on Politics* Vol. 9:1 (March, 2011), pp. 7-23.
- Razmig Keucheyan, 'Environmental Racism' *Nature is a Battlefield: Towards a Political Ecology* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 2016), pp.8-54.
- Thomas Hale, "All Hands on Deck": The Paris Agreement and Nonstate Climate Action' *Global Environmental Politics* Vol.16:3 (August, 2016), pp. 12-22.
- Thomas Bernauer, 'Climate Change Politics' *Annual Review of Political Science* Vol. 16 (2013), pp. 421-48.
- Hamish van der Ven, Steven Bernstein, and Matthew Hoffmann, 'Valuing the Contributions of Nonstate and Subnational Actors to Climate Governance' *Global Environmental Politics* Vol. 17:1 (February, 2017), pp. 1-20.
- Marcel Hanegraaff, 'Transnational Advocacy over Time: Business and NGO Mobilization at UN Climate Summits' *Global Environmental Politics* Vol. 15:1 (March, 2015), pp. 83-104.
- Hannah Hughes, 'Bourdieu and the IPCC's Symbolic Power' *Global Environmental Politics* Vol. 15:4 (November, 2015), pp. 85-104.
- Peter J. Jacques and Claire Connolly Knox, 'Hurricanes and hegemony: A qualitative analysis of micro-level climate change denial discourses' *Environmental Politics* Vol. 25:5 (May, 2016), pp. 831-852.
- Jeremiah Bohr 'The 'climatism' cartel: why climate change deniers oppose market-based mitigation policy' *Environmental Politics* Vol. 25:5, (March, 2016), pp. 812-830.
- Lisa Vanhala and Cecilie Hestbaek, Framing Climate Change Loss and Damage in UNFCCC Negotiations *Global Environmental Politics* Vol. 16:2 (October, 2016), pp.111-129.

Week 3 (Jan 21) Climate Change through an Economics Lens

We begin our consideration of how the field of economics engages with climate change by examining the work of Nicolas Stern. Stern is chair of the Grantham Research Institute on Climate and the Environment at the LSE. He was formerly Chief Economist at the World Bank and Permanent Secretary of HM Treasury (UK). His 2006 government report *The Economics of Climate Change* was a landmark call to action on climate change. However, Stern's work was criticized for its modification of key economic approaches (e.g. discounting the future) by economists such as Yale's Nobel Prize winning William Nordhaus. This week our goal is to understand how Stern views the problem of climate change and the solutions he proposes.

Readings:

- Nicolas Stern, 'Chapters 2-5', *Why Are We Waiting?: The Logic, Urgency and Promise of Tackling Climate Change* (Cambridge: MIT Press, 2015), pp. 33-185.

Other Readings:

- Terry Barker, 'The Economics of Avoiding Dangerous Climate Change' *Green Economy Reader* (Springer, Online, 2017), pp. 237-63.
- Nicholas Stern, *The Economics of Climate Change: The Stern Review* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press 2007).

Week 4 (Jan 28) Economic Models and Climate Science

This week we will continue our consideration of economic approaches to climate change by examining the work of William Nordhaus who won a 2018 Noble Economics Prize for his work on economic modeling and climate change. Similar to Stern, Nordhaus is concerned about climate change and has dedicated considerable effort to the topic. However, his analysis is much more conservative in the sense that he believes that less drastic action is required. We will contrast Nordhaus's position with Stern and with another author who argues that using economic modeling for climate change policy is a mistake.

Readings:

- William Nordhaus 'Climate Change: The Ultimate Challenge for Economics' *American Economic Review* Vol. 109:6 (Jun 2019), pp. 1991-2014.
- Robert S. Pindyck 'The Use and Misuse of Models for Climate Policy,' *Review of Environmental Economics and Policy* Vol. 11:1 (Winter 2017), pp. 100–114.

Other Readings:

- Nicolas Stern, 'Economics: Current climate models are grossly misleading' *Nature* Vol. 530:7591 (2016), pp. 407–409.
- William Nordhaus, *The Climate Casino: Risk, Uncertainty and Economics for a Warming World* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2013).

Week 5 (Feb 4) Pricing and Taxing Carbon

Economists tend to agree that the best way to deal with climate change is to put a price on carbon. Climate change is seen as a market failure that can be resolved with the correct pricing mechanism. While it is debatable whether pricing carbon is sufficient to deal with climate change, even this modest step has proved to be politically difficult to implement. This week we want to get a better understanding of the politics around carbon pricing.

Readings:

- Joseph E. Aldy and Robert N. Stavins, 'The Promise and Problems of Pricing Carbon: Theory and Experience', *Journal of Environment & Development* Vol. 21:2 (2012), pp. 152–180.

- Matthew Paterson, 'Who and what are carbon markets for? Politics and the development of climate policy' *Climate Policy* Vol. 12:1 (August, 2011), pp. 82-97.
- Robert MacNeil, 'Death and Environmental Taxes: Why Market Environmentalism Fails in Liberal Market Economies' *Global Environmental Politics* Vol 16:1 (February, 2016), pp. 21-37.
- Jonas Meckling & Steffen Jenner, 'Varieties of market-based policy: Instrument choice in climate policy' *Environmental Politics* Vol. 25:5 (May, 2016), pp. 853-874.

Other Readings:

- Denny Ellerman, Claudio Marcantonini and Aleksandar Zahlan, 'The European Union Emissions Trading System: Ten Years and Counting' *Review of Environmental Economics and Policy* Vol. 10:1 (Winter, 2016), pp.89-107.
- Katja Biedenkopf, Patrick Müller, Peter Slominski, and Jørgen Wettestad, 'A Global Turn to Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading? Experiments, Actors, and Diffusion' *Global Environmental Politics* Vol. 17:3 (August, 2017), pp. 1-11.
- Romain Felli, 'Environment, not planning: the neoliberal depoliticisation of environmental policy by means of emissions trading' *Environmental Politics* Vol. 24:5 (June, 2015), pp. 641-660.
- Razmig Keucheyan, 'Financializing Nature: Insuring Climatic Risk' *Nature is a Battlefield: Towards a Political Ecology* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 2016), pp. 55-103.

Week 6 (Feb 11) Lock in and Transition

It is extremely difficult to change human civilization's primary energy source. One of the concepts developed to capture the complexity of this task is 'carbon lock in'. This week we have a few short readings that throw a light onto the problem.

Readings:

- Unruh, Gregory C. "Understanding Carbon Lock-in." *Energy Policy* Vol. 28:12 (2000), pp. 817-830.
- Vacla Smil. 'Examining Energy Transitions: A dozen insights based on performance' *Energy Research and Social Science* Vol. 22: 194-197.
- Unruh, Gregory C. "Escaping Carbon Lock-in." *Energy Policy* Vol. 30:4 (2002), pp. 317-325.
- Unruh, G. C. and J. Carrillo-Hermosilla. "Globalizing Carbon Lock-in." *Energy Policy* Vol. 34:10 (2006), pp.1185-1197.
- Thomas Spencer et.al., 'The 1.5°C target and coal sector transition: at the limits of societal feasibility' *Climate Policy* Vol. 18:3 (December, 2017), pp. 335-351.
- Sean Sweeney and John Treat, 'Energy Transition: Are we winning?' *TUED Working Paper No. 9* (New York: Trade Unions for Energy Democracy, 2017). Skim.

Other Readings:

- S. Jacobsson and V. Lauber, 'The politics and policy of energy system transformation-explaining the German diffusion of renewable energy technology' *Energy Policy* Vol. 34:3 (February, 2006), pp. 256-276.
- Kacper Szulecki, 'Conceptualizing energy democracy' *Environmental Politics* Vol. 27:1 (2018), pp. 21-41.
- Christian Downie, 'Fighting for King Coal's Crown: Business Actors in the US Coal and Utility Industries' *Global Environmental Politics* Vol. 17:1 (2017), pp. 21-39.
- Oksan Bayulgen & Jeffrey W. Ladewig 'Vetoing the future: political constraints and renewable energy' *Environmental Politics* Vol. 26:1, (2017), pp. 49-70.

Week 7 (Feb 18) Winter mid-term recess, NO CLASS

Week 8 (Feb 25) Consumption

Some observers have argued that environmental problems cannot be seriously addressed until we examine consumption issues. Begin by reading what the International Energy Agency (IEA) has to say about present levels of CO2 emissions in the energy sector. Then read a series of short book chapters about the issue of consumption and the environment.

Readings:

- IEA 2019. ['Emissions' Global Energy and CO2 Status Report](#) International Energy Agency.
- Thomans Princen, Michael Miniates, Ken Conca, eds., "Conclusion: to confront consumption" *Confronting Consumption* (MIT Press), pp. 317-328.
- Peter Dauvergne, "Conclusion: The Allure and Illusion of Riches" *Environmentalism of the Rich* (Cambridge; MIT Press, 2016), pp. 139-152.
- Peter Dauvergne, "An Unbalanced Global Political Economy" *The Shadows of Consumption: Consequences for the Global Environment* (Cambridge: MIT Press, 2010), pp. 3-17.

Other Readings:

- E. C. Alfredsson, "Green Consumption no solution for climate change" *Energy* Vol 29:4 (2004), pp. 513-524.
- P.G. Harris and T. Lee, "Compliance with climate change agreements: the constraints of consumption" *International Environmental Agreements: Politics, Law and Economics* Vol. 17: (December, 2017), pp. 779-794.

Notes: Critical Review due in class.

Week 9 (Mar 3) Ecological Economics

Ecological economics and the no growth approach is a radical response to the issue of climate change and consumption. What does it entail? Is it feasible? Is ignoring the growth problem feasible?

Readings:

- Stig Ingebrigtsen, Ove Jakobsen, “Utopias and realism in ecological economics — Knowledge, understanding and improvisation” *Ecological Economics*, Vol. 84:C (2012), pp. 84-90.
- Blake Anderson and Michael M’Gonigle “Does ecological economics have a future?: Contradiction and reinvention in the age of climate change” *Ecological Economics* Vol. 84 (December, 2012), pp. 37-48.
- Armon Rezai, Lance Taylor, Reinhard Mechler, “Ecological macroeconomics: An application to climate change” *Ecological Economics*, Vol. 85:C (2013), pp. 69-76.
- S. Şerban Scriciu, Terry Barker, Frank Ackerman, “Pushing the boundaries of climate economics: critical issues to consider in climate policy analysis” *Ecological Economics* Vol. 85:C (2013), pp. 155-165.
- Patricia E. (Ellie) Perkins, “Climate justice, commons, and degrowth” *Ecological Economics*, Vol. 160:C (2019), pp. 183-190.

Notes: Research Paper Proposal due

Week 10 (Mar 10) U.S. Climate Politics

With the election of US President Donald Trump, the US stands alone as the only country to not support the Paris Agreement on climate change. What accounts for the distinctive nature of climate change politics in the country that is the second largest emitter of CO₂ and has historically been the largest emitter?

Readings:

- Elizabeth Bomberg “Environmental politics in the Trump era: an early assessment” *Environmental Politics* Vol. 26:5 (May, 2017), pp. 956-963.
- James Everett Hein & J. Craig Jenkins, “Why does the United States lack a global warming policy? The corporate inner circle versus public interest sector elites” *Environmental Politics* Vol. 26:1 (October, 2016), pp. 97-117.
- Laura Pulido, Tianna Bruno, Cristina Faiver-Serna & Cassandra Galentine, “Environmental Deregulation, Spectacular Racism, and White Nationalism in the Trump Era” *Annals of the American Association of Geographers* Vol. 109:2 (2019), pp. 520-532.
- Wanyun Shao, ‘Weather, climate, politics, or God? Determinants of American public opinions toward global warming’ *Environmental Politics* Vol. 26:1 (2017), pp. 71-96.
- Lockwood, Matthew. “Right-wing populism and the climate change agenda: exploring the linkages” *Environmental Politics* Vol. 27:4 (2018), pp. 712-732.

Other Readings:

- Doug McAdam, “Social Movement Theory and the Prospect for Climate Change Activism in the United States” *Annual Review of Political Science* Vol. 20 (May, 2017), pp. 189-208.

- Patrick J. Egan and Megan Mullin, "Climate Change: US Public Opinion" *Annual Review of Political Science* Vol. 20 (May, 2017), pp. 209-227.

Week 11 (Mar 17) Canadian Climate Politics

Canadians like to portray themselves as good international citizens, but on the climate front their actions lag far behind their rhetoric. Canadians are amongst the worst emitters of carbon on a per capita basis. What explains Canada's lack of action on the climate change front?

Readings:

- Robert MacNeil & Matthew Paterson, "Trudeau's Canada and the challenge of decarbonisation" *Environmental Politics* Vol. 27:2 (2018), pp. 379-84.
- Brendan Haley, "From Staples Trap to Carbon Trap: Canada's Peculiar form of carbon lock-in" *Studies in Political Economy* Vol. 88:1 (2011), pp. 97-132.
- Brian Murray and Nicholas Rivers, "British Columbia's revenue-neutral carbon tax: A review of the latest "grand experiment" in environmental policy" *Energy Policy* Vol. 86:C (November, 2015), pp. 674-683.
- Eric Lachapelle and Simon Kiss "Opposition to carbon pricing and right wing populism: Ontario's 2018 general election" *Environmental Politics* Vol. 28:5 (2019), pp. 970-976.
- Shane Gunster and Robert J Neubauer 'Deligitimating extractivism the shifting politics of social liscence' *Environmental Politics* Vol. 28:4 (2019), pp. 707-726.

Other Readings:

- Leah C. Stokes 'The politics of renewable energy policies: The case of feed-in tariffs in Ontario, Canada' *Energy Policy* Vol. 56 (May, 2013), pp. 490-500.

Week 12 (Mar 24) Developing World Climate Politics

Climate change poses a particular set of challenges and threats to developing countries. This week we are interested in discovering how climate change is playing out in some key developing countries and how it impacts their international position.

Readings:

- Timmons Roberts and Bradley C. Parks, 'Inequality and the global climate regime: breaking the north-south impasse' *Cambridge Review of International Affairs* Vol. 21:4 (2008), pp. 621-648.
- Aniruddh Mohan & Timon Wehnert, "Is India pulling its weight? India's nationally determined contribution and future energy plans in global climate policy" *Climate Policy* Vol. 19:3 (2019), pp. 275-282.
- Isabel Hilton & Oliver Kerr, 'The Paris Agreement: China's 'New Normal' role in international climate negotiations' *Climate Policy* Vol. 17:1 (2017), pp. 48-58.
- Patrick Bond, 'Who Wins From "Climate Apartheid"?: African Climate Justice Narratives About the Paris COP21' *New Politics* Vol. 15:4 (2016), pp. 83-90.

- Corinna Dengler, Lisa Marie Seebacher, 'What About the Global South? Towards a Feminist Decolonial Degrowth Approach,' *Ecological Economics* Vol. 157 (2019), pp. 246-252.

Other Readings:

- Beatriz Rodríguez-Labajos, Ivonne Yáñez, Patrick Bond, Lucie Greyl, Serah Munguti, Godwin Uyi Ojo, Winfridus Overbeek, 'Not So Natural an Alliance? Degrowth and Environmental Justice Movements in the Global South,' *Ecological Economics*, Volume 157, 2019, Pages 175-184.
- Kathryn Hochstetler and Genia Kostka 'Wind and Solar Power in Brazil and China: Interests, State–Business Relations, and Policy Outcomes' *Global Environmental Politics* Vol. 15:3 (2015), p. 74-94.
- Alex Y. Lo and Michael Howes 'Power and Carbon Sovereignty in a Non-Traditional Capitalist State: Discourses of Carbon Trading in China' *Global Environmental Politics* Vol. 15:1 (2015), p. 60-82.
- Leah C. Stokes, Amanda Giang, and Noelle E. Selin, 'Splitting the South: China and India's Divergence in International Environmental Negotiations' *Global Environmental Politics* Vol. 16:4 (2016), p. 12-31.
- Ben Saul, 'The security risks of climate change displacement in Bangladesh' *Journal of Human Security* Vol. 8:2 (2012), p. 5-35.
- Rikhil R. Bhavnani, & Bethany Lacina, 'The effects of Weather-induced Migration on Sons of the Soil Riots in Indi' *World Politics*, Vol. 67:4 (October, 2015), p. 760-794.

Week 13 (Mar 30) Paris Agreement and Beyond

What are the prospects for climate action following the Paris Agreement and into the near future?

Readings:

- Axel Michaelowa, Myles Allen and Fu Sha, 'Policy instruments for limiting global temperature rise to 1.5°C – can humanity rise to the challenge?' *Climate Policy* Vol. 18:3 (2018), pp. 1-12.
- Jen Iris Allan 'Dangerous Incrementalism of the Paris Agreement' *Global Environmental Politics* Vol. 19:1 (2019), pp. 4-11.
- Mathieu Blondeel, Jeff Colgan and Thijs Van de Graff, "What Drives Norm Success? Evidence from Anti–Fossil Fuel Campaigns Global" *Environmental Politics* Vol. 19:4 (2019), pp. 63-84.
- Robert J. Brulle & Kari Marie Norgaard (2019) 'Avoiding cultural trauma: climate change and social inertia,' *Environmental Politics*, Vol. 28:5 (2019), pp. 886-908,
- Andreas Duit, Peter H. Feindt & James Meadowcroft (2016) 'Greening Leviathan: the rise of the environmental state?' *Environmental Politics*, Vol. 25:1 (2016), pp. 1-23.

Other Readings:

- Radoslav S. Dimitrov, "The Paris Agreement on Climate Change: Behind Closed Doors" *Global Environmental Politics* Vol. 16:3 (2016), pp. 1-11.
- Thomas Hale, "All Hands on Deck": The Paris Agreement and Nonstate Climate Action" *Global Environmental Politics* Vol. 16:3 (2016), pp. 12-22.
- Patrick Bond, "Who Wins From "Climate Apartheid"?: African Climate Justice Narratives About the Paris COP21" *New Politics* Vol. 15:4 (2016), pp. 83-90.
- Kathryn Harrison, "International Carbon Trade and Domestic Climate Politics" *Global Environmental Politics* Vol. 15:3 (2015), pp. 27-48.

Notes: Research Paper due April 18

Week 14 (Apr 7) Other topics I would like to examine if we had a longer term

Spiritual Beliefs, Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change

Readings:

- Julian Brave Noisecat, 'Slaying the Carbon-Consuming Colonial Hydra: Indigenous Contributions to Climate Action' *Development* Vol. 59:3-4 (2016), pp. 199-204.
- Todd A. Eisenstadt and Karleen Jones West 'Indigenous Belief Systems, Science, and Resource Extraction: Climate Change Attitudes in Ecuador' *Global Environmental Politics* Vol. 17:1 (2017), pp. 40-58.
- Gómez-Baggethun, E., E. Corbera, and V. Reyes-García, "Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Global Environmental Change: Research findings and policy implications" *Ecology and Society* Vol.18:4 (2013), pp.72.
- Michael Lowy, 'Laudato Si – the Pope's Anti-Systemic Encyclical' *Monthly Review* Vol. 67:7 (2015), pp. 50-4.
- E. Keith Smith, Lynn M. Hempel and Kelsea MacIroy, 'What's 'evangelical' got to do with it? Disentangling the impact of evangelical Protestantism on environmental outcomes' *Environmental Politics* Vol 27:2 (2018), pp. 292-319. | Pages 1-28 | Published online: 02 Oct 2017
- Stephen Chaudoin, D.T. Smith, & J. Urpelainen, 'American evangelicals and domestic versus international climate policy.' *The Review of International Organizations* Vol. 9:4 (December, 2014), pp. 441-469.

Violent Conflict and Climate Change

Readings:

- Razmig Keucheyan, *Nature is a Battlefield: Towards a Political Ecology* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 2016), pp. 104-150.
- Ken Conca, Joe Thwaites, and Goueon Lee, 'Climate Change and the UN Security Council: Bully Pulpit or Bull in a China Shop?' *Global Environmental Politics* Vol. 17:2 (2017), pp. 1-20.
- Peter F. Nardulli, Buddy Peyton, and Joseph Bajjalieh. 'Climate Change and Civil Unrest: The Impact of Rapid-Onset Disasters' *Journal of Conflict Resolution* Vol. 59.2 (2015), pp. 310-35.

- Dumaine, C., & Mintzer, I. (2015). 'Confronting climate change and reframing security' *SAIS Review of International Affairs* Vol. 35:1 (2015), pp. 5-16.
- Paul J. Smith, 'Climate Change, Weak States and the "War on Terrorism" in South and Southeast Asia' *Contemporary Southeast Asia* Vol. 29:2 (August, 2007), pp. 264-285.
- Margaret Purdy and Leanne Smythe, 'From Obscurity to Action' *International Journal* Vol. 65:2 (2010), pp. 411-433.

Climate change and ecofascism

Readings:

- Jordan Dyett and Cassidy Thomas, 'Overpopulation Discourse: Patriarchy, Racism, and the Specter of Ecofascism' *Perspectives on Global Development and Technology* Vol. 18 (2019):1-2 (January, 2019).
- Jason, Wilson, '[Eco-fascism is undergoing a revival in the fetid culture of the extreme right](#)' *The Guardian* 19 March 2019.
- Rebeca Solnit, '[Why Climate Action is the Antithesis of White Supremacy](#)' *The Guardian* 19 March 2019.
- Graham Lawton, '[The rise of real eco-fascism](#)' *New Scientist* Vol. 243:3243 (August, 2019), pp.24.
- Jeff Sparrow, '[El Paso shooting and the rise of eco-fascism](#)' *Eureka Street* Vol. 29:15 (August, 2019).
- Huq, E., & Mochida, H. (2018). '[The Rise of Environmental Fascism and the Securitization of Climate Change](#)' *Projections*.
- Marco Armiero, '[Introduction: Fascism and nature](#)', *Modern Italy* Vol. 19:3 (2014), pp. 241-245.
- Daniel Aldana Cohen, '[Stop Eco-Apartheid: The Left's Challenge in Bolsonaro's Brazil](#)' *Dissent* Vol. 66:1 (2019), pp. 23-31.
- Benjamin Neimark, John Childs, Andrea J. Nightingale, Connor Joseph Cavanagh, Sian Sullivan, Tor A. Benjaminsen, Simon Batterbury, Stasja Koot & Wendy Harcourt, '[Speaking Power to "Post-Truth": Critical Political Ecology and the New Authoritarianism](#)' *Annals of the American Association of Geographers*, Vol. 109:2 (2019), pp. 613-623.

Books of Interest

Thinking

- George Marshall, *Don't Even Think about it: Why our Brains are Wired to Ignore Climate Change* (London: Bloomsbury, 2014).
- Amitav Gosh, *The Great Derangement: Climate Change and the Unthinkable* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2016).

History

- Andreas Malm, *Fossil Capitalism: the Rise of Steam Power and the Roots of Global Warming* (London: Verso, 2016).
- Brian Fagan, *The Great Warming* (Bloomsbury US, 2009).

- Anthony J. McMichael, *Climate Change and the Health of Nations: Famines, Fevers, and the Fate of Populations* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017).

Violence

- Christian Parenti, *Tropic of Chaos; Climate Change and the New Geography of Violence* (New York: Nation Books, 2012).
- Gwynne Dyer, *Climate Wars: The Fight for Survival as the World Overheats* (Toronto: Vintage, 2009).

Morality

- Stephen M. Gardiner, *A Perfect Moral Storm: The Ethical Tragedy of Climate Change* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011).

Politics

- Michael E. Mann and Tom Toles, *The Madhouse Effect: How Climate Change Denial is Threatening Our Planet, Destroying our Politics and Driving Us Crazy* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2016).
- Michael E. Mann, *The Hockey Stick and the Climate Wars* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2012).
- Harriet Bulkely and Peter Newell *Governing Climate Change* 2nd Edition (London: Routledge 2016).

Environmentalism/Consumption

- Peter Dauvergne, *Environmentalism of the Rich* (Cambridge; MIT Press, 2016).
- Peter Dauvergne, *The Shadows of Consumption: Consequences for the Global Environment* (Cambridge: MIT Press, 2010).

Capitalism

- Peter Newell and Matthew Paterson, *Climate Capitalism: Global Warming and the Transformation of the Global Economy* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010).
- Naomi Klien, *This Changes Everything Climate vs. Capitalism* (Knoph: Toronto, 2014).

North South

- Roberts, Tim and Bradley Parks, *A Climate of Injustice: Global Inequality, North-South Politics, and Climate Policy* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2006).
- Patrick Bond, *Politics of Climate Justice: Paralysis Above, Movement Below* (Kwazulu-Natal: University of KwaZulu-Natal Press, 2012).

Future

- Imre Szeman, [*After Oil*](#) (West Virginia University Press, 2016).

Course Policies

Submission of Assignments

[Insert policy on format of assignments and how to be submitted]

Grades

Grades will be based on the McMaster University grading scale:

MARK	GRADE
90-100	A+
85-90	A
80-84	A-
77-79	B+
73-76	B
70-72	B-
69-0	F

Late Assignments

I expect all work to be handed in on time. Speak to me if you are likely to miss a deadline. Late work will be penalized,

Absences, Missed Work, Illness

Please inform me of any absences or problems with the course.

Avenue to Learn

In this course we will be using Avenue to Learn. Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

Turnitin.com

In this course we will be using a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal authenticity and ownership of student submitted work. Students will be expected to submit their work electronically either directly to Turnitin.com or via Avenue to Learn (A2L) plagiarism detection (a service supported by Turnitin.com) so it can be checked for academic dishonesty. Students who do not wish to submit their work through A2L and/or Turnitin.com must still submit an electronic and/or hardcopy to the instructor. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to Turnitin.com or A2L. All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld (e.g., on-line search, other software, etc.). For more information please refer to the [Turnitin.com Policy](#).

Academic Accommodation for Religious, Indigenous or Spiritual Observances (RISO)

Students requiring academic accommodation based on religious, indigenous or spiritual observances should follow the procedures set out in the RISO policy. Students requiring a RISO accommodation should submit their request to their Faculty Office normally within 10 working days of the beginning of term in which they anticipate a need for accommodation or to the Registrar's Office prior to their examinations. Students should also contact their instructors as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements for classes, assignments, and tests

University Policies

Academic Integrity Statement

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity.

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the [Academic Integrity Policy](#).

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty

- Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained.
- Improper collaboration in group work.
- Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities

Students who require academic accommodation must contact [Student Accessibility Services \(SAS\)](#) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. Academic accommodations must be arranged for each term of study. Student Accessibility Services can be contacted by phone 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or e-mail sas@mcmaster.ca. For further information, consult McMaster University's Policy for [Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities](#).

Faculty of Social Sciences E-mail Communication Policy

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student's own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.

Course Modification

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.