11.169 Global Climate Policy and Sustainability  
Spring 2017  
Tuesday, 2:00 – 5:00pm, Room 9-451

Instructor  
Janelle Knox-Hayes  
jankh@mit.edu

Office Hours  
Can be scheduled at http://dusp.mit.edu/officehours  
Tuesday 1-2pm (in 9-424)

This course examines climate politics both nationally and globally. The course examines factors of sustainability including economic growth, environmental preservation, and social equity that influence climate policy. Various country and regional cases are used to analyze how sociopolitical, economic and environmental values shape climate policy. Students develop recommendations for making climate policy more effective and sustainable. The topics of global climate policy and sustainability are important for the study of environmental policy. Students will gain analytical skills to better understand how policies are made, and how they can be improved.

Course Objectives:  
This is an advanced discussion based seminar. Students are expected to have strong written and oral communication skills. Prior knowledge of aspects of climate policy and sustainability are not necessary. Students in the course will gain:
  1. An understanding of basic theories of social and economic governance.
  2. Improved capabilities in assessing and conducting research related to climate policy
  3. Comprehension of the operation of and actors involved in structuring policy
  4. Increased awareness of current policy issues involving climate change and sustainability.
  5. Ability to apply theory to research of climate policy and practical policy work in a range of disciplines.

Books  
The course book can be easily ordered online is available on reserve at Rotch Library. All other required readings are available on the course Stellar site.

There are also two other books that would be helpful references for you to purchase even if not required:


Participation  
This seminar requires active participation in discussions and critical reflection and assessment of the course material. While quantity matters, this portion of your grade ultimately will be based
on the quality of your participation. Therefore, you should be prepared to discuss the main points of the readings, ask questions, provide constructive feedback, and generate and share critical perspectives. Each week two students will lead discussion of the class topics. Each student will also be responsible for a presentation at the end of the class summarizing their research and policy recommendations. Your performance in these assignments and discussions will be the factors that determine your participation grade.

**Written Assignments**
The assignments are designed to help you apply concepts from the readings and discussions to your research interests. The short assignments give you an opportunity to enhance your written communication skills. The final assignment allows you to delve in depth into the policies a country is implementing to resolve climate change. All assignments should be submitted in 12 point Times Roman font, 8.5 x 11 paper, 1-inch margins all around. The assignments should conform to the page limits specified with all being single-spaced unless otherwise noted. You should submit your work via Stellar via the Homework section of the site. Stellar closes at 10am when class starts on the day the assignment is due.

**Grading**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Essays</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Presentation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film QA Sheets</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Write-up</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Final grades are based on a weighted average for the term. Grade cutoff points are as follows:

- A = 93-100%
- B+ = 87-89%
- B = 80-82%
- C = 73-76%
- D+ = 67-69%
- D = 63-66%
- A- = 90-92%
- B- = 83-86%
- C+ = 77-79%
- C- = 70-72%
- D- = 60-62%
- F = <60

**Course Policies**

**Attendance:** You are required to attend all class sessions. If you will miss a session, be courteous and let me know in advance. Keep in mind that you need to be present to get a good participation grade.

**Class start and finish:** It is disruptive when you arrive late or leave early, so be mindful of the time and the impact your behavior has on your instructor and colleagues.

**Late submissions/non-submissions:** In general, late submissions of assignments will be penalized. I understand that things happen in people’s lives and therefore, exceptions will be made in extraordinary circumstances. If you are granted an extension for any of the assignments, you will be given an alternate deadline for submission. If you need to arrange in advance to receive an incomplete for the semester, you will be given an alternate date by which you will need to submit outstanding work (by email). Work not received by the agreed upon date will receive a zero/ no credit and will be used in computing your final grade for the course.

**Writing:** It is important that you have the ability to effectively communicate your ideas in writing. If you have difficulty writing in English, you should seek assistance at the MIT Writing and Communication Center. If I suggest you visit the writing center, you should do so as my intent is to ensure that you are able to achieve your potential in your written work. You should also be in the habit of revising your work and asking friends and student colleagues to review and comment on your work before making a submission.
The WCC at MIT (Writing and Communication Center) offers free one-on-one professional advice from experts in communication and rhetorical theory (MIT lecturers who all have advanced degrees and who are all are published scholars and writers). The WCC works with undergraduate students, graduate students, post-docs, faculty and staff members.

The WCC helps you strategize about all types of academic, creative, job-related, and professional writing as well as about all aspects of oral presentations (including practicing your presentations & designing slides). No matter what department or discipline you are in, we help you think your way more deeply into your topic, help you see new implications in your data, research and ideas. The WCC also helps with all English as Second Language issues, from writing and grammar to pronunciation and conversation practice, from understanding genre conventions to analyzing what particular journals require.

The WCC is located in Kendall Square (E18-233B, 50 Ames Street). To register with our online scheduler and to make appointments, go to https://mit.mywconline.com/. To access the WCC’s many pages of advice about writing and oral presentations, go to http://cmsw.mit.edu/writing-and-communication-center/. The Center’s core hours are Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.; check the online scheduler for up-to-date hours.

Disabilities: If you have a documented disability or other problem that may affect your ability to perform in class, please see me early in the semester so we can work together to accommodate your needs.

Academic Misconduct: Plagiarism and cheating are both academic crimes. Never turn in an assignment that you did not write yourself or turn in an assignment for this class that you previously turned in for another class or are submitting in whole or in part for another class during the same semester. If you do so, it may result in a failing grade for the class, and possibly even suspension. Please see me if you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism. Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will be reported to the provost in line with recognized university procedures.

Helpful Links:
MIT Libraries productivity page and references page:
https://mit.mywconline.com/
http://libguides.mit.edu/references
http://libraries.mit.edu/research-support/productivity-tools/
Course Schedule

Part I: Climate Change Policy and Science, Understanding Framings and Constructions

Week 1—February 7 | Introduction: Climate Change Policy, Understanding Framings and Constructions

عقوسیم Chapter 1: Introduction Confronting Climate Change (p.3-21)

Week 2—February 14 | Sustainability and Climate Policy Considerations

عقوسیم Chapter 2: Climate Change Governance: Institutions, Values, and the Culture of Markets. (pp.25-40)

The Brundtland Report: Our Common Future, From One Earth to One World
http://www.un-documents.net/ocf-ov.htm

Week 3—February 21 | The Science of Climate Change


Ice and Sky Discussant Sheet Due in Class

Week 4—February 28 | Values, Energy and Market based Governance

عقوسیم Chapter 3: Universal Norms versus Local Practice: Cross-National Comparison of Market Meaning-Making (46-67)

 giấy Stern, Nicholas Herbert. What is the economics of climate change.
 giấy Stern, Nicholas Herbert. The economics of climate change: the Stern review. Cambridge University press, 2007. (Executive Summary)

Additional:

Discussion Essay 1 Due in Class

Part II: Country and Regional Cases

Week 5—March 7 | Country Profile: US
CoM Chapter 4: Europe and the United States: Market Coordination through Contrasting Discourses of Security, Leadership and Economic Opportunity (71-85)


Week 6— March 14 | Regional Profile: EU

CoM Chapter 4: Europe and the United States: Market Coordination through Contrasting Discourses of Security, Leadership and Economic Opportunity (86-102)


Week 7— March 21 | Country Comparison: Australia and South Korea

CoM: Chapter 5: Australia and South Korea: Technocratic Governance (pp.106-136)

McDonald, Matt. “Bourdieu, Environmental NGOs, and Australian Climate Politics.” Environmental Politics (2016): 1058-1078


Discussion Essay 2 Due in Class

Week 8— March 28 (Spring Vacation)

| Week 9— April 4 | (Sustainability and Finance Workshop: 9.451)

CoM Chapter 8: The Fate of Markets: Materiality and the Construction of Values (pp.208-235)


Additional:

Week 10 April 11 | Country Profile: Japan

- CoM: Chapter 6: Japan and China: Cultural Norms Mediated through Crisis and Environmental Context (p.140-159)

Week 11— April 18 | Country Profile: China

- CoM: Chapter 6: Japan and China: Cultural Norms Mediated through Crisis and Environmental Context (p.160-172)

Additional

- Zhang, Lei. “Power politics in the revision of China’s Environmental Protection Law.” Environmental Politics (2013): 1029-1035

Under the Dome

Discussion Essay 3 Due in Class

Week 12— April 25 | Making Policy More Sustainable

- CoM Chapter 7: The Cultures of Markets: Interplay between Economic and Political Governance (pp. 179-205)

- Working group preparation for student cases

Part III: Student Country Cases

Week 13—May 2 | Group Presentations

- TBD

Week 14— May 9 | Group Presentations

- TBD

Week 15— May 16 | Putting together the cases, class wrap up

- CoM Chapter 9: Conclusion: The Path towards Environmental Finance and Sustainable Valuation
Boucher, Oliver et al. “In the wake of the Paris Agreement, scientists must embrace new directions for climate change research.” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences in the United States of America* (2016): 7287-7290


Case Paper Due by 5pm on May 19