

## SYLLABUS

### **PUAF698L *Selected Topics in Public Affairs: International Environmental Agreements* Spring 2004**

**Tuesdays 4:15-6:45 VMH 1101  
University of Maryland School of Public Affairs**

Instructor: Thomas C. Hilde

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Office Hours: TBA or by appointment

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#### **Required Texts:**

- Edith Brown Weiss and Harold Jacobson, eds. *Engaging Countries: Strengthening Compliance with International Environmental Accords*. MIT Press, 2001.
- Pamela Chasek. *Earth Negotiations: Analyzing 30 Years of Environmental Diplomacy*. UN University Press, 2001.
- Peter Haas, Robert Keohane and Marc Levy, eds. *Institutions for the Earth: Sources of Effective International Environmental Protection*. MIT Press, 1993.
- Oran Young. *Institutional Dimensions of Environmental Change*. MIT Press, 2002.
- Handouts.

#### **Recommended Texts:**

- Scott Barrett. *Environment and Statecraft: The Strategy of Environmental Treaty-Making*. Oxford UP, 2003.
- Margaret Keck and Kathryn Sikkink. *Activists Beyond Borders: Advocacy Networks in International Politics*. Cornell UP, 1998.
- Edward Miles, et al., eds. *Environmental Regime Effectiveness*. MIT Press, 2001.
- Mostafa Tolba. *Global Environmental Diplomacy: Negotiating Environmental Agreements for the World*. MIT Press, 1998.

#### **Overview of the Course:**

The basic subject of this course is not new – there now exist some hundreds of international environmental agreements and treaties (multilateral, bilateral, informal). The study of such agreements and international environmental regimes is relatively new. There is no one systematic framework for or unified approach to such study. We will therefore conduct this seminar as a general, critical inquiry into the nature of IEAs and the theoretical and practical contexts through which they are formed and enacted. We will engage in this examination through several general elements of environmental agreements: ideals and values leading to the necessity of IEAs; diplomacy, methods, and shifting roles of actors and institutions in treaty and regime formation; texts and case studies of selected IEAs; and the evaluation of IEAs in regard to effectiveness, compliance, and enforcement. The goal is to come away from this course with a greater understanding of the nature and elements of treaty formation, as well as a firmer grasp of what would be required to have better international environmental agreements for the future.

This seminar will be conducted informally, minimizing lecture and maximizing discussion. Participation in class discussions is therefore crucial to the success of the course.

### **Course Requirements:**

- Participation is essential and is built into the course grade in two ways: A) weekly analytic writing questions (one page, typed) over the readings for that day. I will collect these, without advance notice, eight times during the semester. This will not be announced prior to the class meetings, so you should make a habit of doing these weekly rather than guessing which days they will be taken up. These questions should demonstrate a careful, thoughtful reading of the texts. B) your participation in class discussions. These two elements combined will constitute 50% of the grade.
- The other 50% of the grade will be a 20-page term paper or case study. An abstract of your paper will be due ahead of time for approval by the instructor. It is also suggested that you turn in a draft of your paper prior to the final due date. Students may provide rough drafts of papers to the instructor for comments and suggestions for improvements up to one week prior to the final due date of the paper. Feel free to contact me regarding any questions you may have while working on your papers.

### **Tentative Schedule of Readings (subject to minor changes):**

#### **Introduction**

*27 January*

#### **A Theoretical Context: Realist, Liberal, and Postinternational Paradigms in International Relations**

*3 February:*

- Handout: James Rosenau, *Thinking Theory Thoroughly*. Westview, 2000. Chs. 2-5, and 8 (Case Study: the Politics of the Antarctic Treaty).

#### **Institutional Dimensions of Environmental Change**

*10 February:*

- Oran Young, *The Institutional Dimensions of Environmental Change*. Chs. 1-4.

*17 February:*

- Oran Young, *The Institutional Dimensions of Environmental Change*. Chs. 5-7
- Handout: Joanne Kauffman, "Domestic and International Linkages in Global Environmental Politics: a Case-Study of the Montreal Protocol." In Miranda Schreurs and Elizabeth Economy, eds. *The Internationalization of Environmental Protection*. Cambridge UP, 1997. Skim.

#### **Elements of International Environmental Diplomacy, Negotiation, and Regimes**

*24 February:*

- Mostafa Tolba, *Global Environmental Diplomacy*. Ch. 1.
- Pamela Chasek, *Earth Negotiations*. Chs. 2, 3, and 5. Skim Ch. 4.

*2 March:*

- Scott Barrett, *Environment and Statecraft*. TBA.

## **Multilateral Case Study: The Mediterranean Action Plan**

[[www.unepmap.org](http://www.unepmap.org)]

*9 March:*

- Handout: Mark Sagoff, “Why Save the Seas?” In L. Anatheia Brooks and Stacy VanDeveer, eds. *Saving the Seas: Values, Scientists, and International Governance*. Maryland Sea Grant, 1997.
- Handout: Peter Haas, *Saving the Mediterranean: the Politics of International Environmental Cooperation*. Columbia UP, 1990. Chs. 2-4.

*16 March:*

- Handout: Haas, *Saving the Mediterranean*. Chs. 5-7.
- Handout: Jon Skjaereth, “The Effectiveness of the Mediterranean Action Plan.” In Edward L. Miles, et al, eds. *Environmental Regime Effectiveness*. MIT Press, 2002. Ch. 12. Skim.

### **20 March to 28 March (Spring Break)**

## **Effectiveness and Environmental Institutions**

*30 March:*

- Haas, Keohane, Levy, *Institutions for the Earth*. Chs. 1-3.

*6 April:*

- Haas, Keohane, Levy, *Institutions for the Earth*. Chs. 4-6.

*13 April:*

- Haas, Keohane, Levy, *Institutions for the Earth*. Chs. 7-9.

## **Compliance**

*20 April:*

- Weiss and Jacobsen, *Engaging Countries*. Chs. 2-4. Skim Ch. 5.
  - Handout: Patricia Birnie and Alan Boyle, “Enforcement, Compliance, and Dispute Settlement.” In Birnie and Boyle, *International Law and the Environment*. Oxford, 1992. Ch. 4.
- \*\*\*Abstracts due\*\*\***

## **Transnational Advocacy Networks and Partnerships**

*27 April:*

- Margaret Keck and Kathryn Sikkink, *Activists Beyond Borders*. Chs. 1, 4, and 6.
- Handout: Maria Ivanova, “Partnerships, International Organizations, and Global Environmental Governance.” In Jan Martin Witte, Charlotte Streck, and Thorsten Benner, eds. *Progress or Peril? Partnerships and Networks in Global Environmental Governance*. Global Public Policy Institute, 2003.

## **Universal Case Study: The United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (and Cartagena Protocol)**

[[www.biodiv.org](http://www.biodiv.org)]

*4 May & 11 May:*

- Handout: Kal Raustiala, “The Domestic Politics of Global Biodiversity Protection in the United Kingdom and the United States.” In Miranda Schreurs and Elizabeth Economy, eds. *The Internationalization of Environmental Protection*. Cambridge UP, 1997.
- Tolba, *Global Environmental Diplomacy*. Ch. 8.
- Handouts: Biodiversity Convention documents and commentary (involving issues such as bioprospecting, intellectual property rights, indigenous rights, etc.).

*17 May:*

**\*\*\*Term paper due\*\*\***