

Course Title: Environmental Policy and Planning

Course Code: DVST-852

Credit Hours: 3-0

Pre-requisite Courses: DVST-851

Course Description:

1. Rapid population growth creates and exacerbates environmental problems. Adapting to these challenges using environmental policy depends on our ability to bring together scientific information and analytical thinking with an awareness of local contexts and practices of environmental regulation. This course provides students with a formal structure on how to think about policy formulation and implementation in the context of environmental policy and planning. It takes a critical political ecology angle, with its according emphasis on social justice, and offers in-depth study and analysis of key issues, such as water, climate, agricultural production, biodiversity, and energy. Students will analyze the intersections between environment, governance, and development at local, national, and international scales.

Course Objectives:

- a. To provide students with a critical framework with which to understand environmental governance, policy, and planning.
- b. To provide students with in-depth instruction in past and current regulatory structures, in the context of environmental development and sustainability.
- c. To encourage students to think about and plan for environmental challenges at a variety of spatial scales.

1. Course Outcomes:

At the end of this course, students should be able to,

- a. understand and explain the institutional limits and possibilities for environmental policy formulation and implementation;
- b. synthesize knowledge of governance, policy, and political economy within their analysis of environmental challenges and development programs;
- c. confidently apply their knowledge of environmental problems, and their social, political, and economic dimensions, when proposing alternative strategies for environmental policy and planning.

2. Course Contents:

Students of this course will learn to question the relationships between global environmental challenges and development in many different ways. They will do so by studying topics including, but not limited to, global, regional, and local environmental governance; the 'tragedy of the commons'; INGO and NGO roles in environmental regulation; and the economics of adapting to environmental challenges. Discussions will also consider the role that recent conventions and movements, such as Rio+20, have had in promoting environmental sustainability.

3. Lab work: None.

4. Textbooks or Reference Books:

Brockington, D., D. Duffy and J. Igoe (2008) *Nature Unbound. Conservation, Capitalism and the Future of Protected Areas*. London: Earthscan.

Cohen, S.B. (2014) *Geopolitics: The Geography of International Relations* (3rd Edition).

Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield Publishers.

Dryzek, J.S. (2005) *Politics of the Earth: Environmental Discourses*. Oxford: Oxford

University Press.

Helm, D., and Hepburn, C. (Eds) (2009) *The Economics and Politics of Climate Change*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.

Goldthau, A. and Witte, J.M. (2010) *Global Energy Governance: The New Rules of the Game*. Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institution Press.

Ostrom, E. (1990) *Governing the Commons: The Evolution of Institutions for Collective*

Action. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Roberts, J. (2010) *Environmental Policy*. London, UK: Routledge.

Salzman, J., and Thompson, B. Jr. (2013) *Environmental Law and Policy. Concepts and Insights*. St. Paul, MN: Foundation Press.