



UNSW
SYDNEY

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IEST5500

Understanding Environmental Policy

Term Three // 2019

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Matthew Kearnes	m.kearnes@unsw.edu.au	by appointment	MB317	x51010

School Contact Information

School of Humanities and Languages

Location: School Office, Morven Brown Building, Level 2, 258

Opening Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

Phone: +61 2 9385 1681

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Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

The course encourages a critical analysis of the policy-making and implementation processes within current and neoliberal modes of governing - framed around the notion of interpretive policy analysis and 'policy mobilities'. It utilises several specific environmental issues and natural resources (water, biodiversity, renewables and non-renewables) as well as 'urban environments' from which the class studies their framing in public debate and by policy-makers. The course provides an advanced discussion and critique of policy-making and implementation processes at different scales (local, state, national, global) and in different modes of governing (e.g. including the role of corporations, NGOs, individual citizens and other non-governmental entities). You will gain practical insights into key environmental issues and the capacity to apply this knowledge to environmental policy making and policy implementation.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Assess environmental policy and decision-making processes in government, industry, and community sectors
2. Discuss key streams of thought and action in the environmental arena and their relevance and application in decision-making processes
3. Critically analyse policy development and implementation process
4. Debate in written form a specific environmental case study and its associated policies

Teaching Strategies

The course encourages a critical analysis of the policy-making and implementation processes within different modes of governing in the introductory lectures. It utilises several specific environmental issues/case studies and their framing in public debate and by policy-makers in the latter lectures. Also uses discussions/exercises and tutorials throughout to give hands-on policy making and policy analysis experience. Includes environmental mapping, environmental management and UN model forum tasks in tutorials after the introductory lectures.

Assessment

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Online Posts	20%	Ongoing	2,4
Preliminary Assignment	30%	11/10/2019 11:00 PM	1,2,4
Report	50%	29/11/2019 11:00 PM	1,2,3,4

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Online Posts

Start date: Not Applicable

Details: Participation in an online weekly discussion based around course readings of approximately 200 words per week (total = 2,000). Written feedback will be provided.

Assessment 2: Preliminary Assignment

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 1500 words

Details: Essay reflecting upon policy-making and implementation processes for an environmental issue (approximately 1,500 words). Written feedback will be provided.

Additional details:

Students are to prepare an essay which selects and analyses a recent government environmental policy as well as a non-government environmental policy (can be corporate or NGO). You are required to outline and compare the predominant streams of thought and environmental discourses which underlie the policies. You will be required to outline and critique the main ways the environmental 'problem' are framed, and the proposed outcome of the policy.

Note: policies may include those released by government departments and agencies, or those developed companies or NGOs. Government policies will typically be found through a government department website, or a political party might have detailed information about a policy on their website and in press releases. Try to pick policies that align against an issue (e.g. waste, or climate change, or mining, or biodiversity). Using media surrounding the policies will be useful as there are normally counter arguments about the policies expressed by opposing political parties or interest groups.

Additional information will be provided via the course moodle site.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Assessment 3: Report

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 3000 words

Details: Major piece of original research using an environmental policy case study (approximately 2,500 words). Written feedback with rubric. Final assessment.

Additional details:

The Final Report for IEST5500 should be regarded as a major piece of work that entails a significant body of individual research, in addition to demonstrating your grasp of, and engagement with, course materials. The object of the report is to enable you to bring together your own ideas and conclusions from the whole course. In short, we expect you to apply key theoretical ideas about the underlying social, political and economic processes that shape environmental policy-making in your case study.

For many students your final report will revolve around a case study of a particular policy – or the design of a new policy – connected to some aspect of your professional life, and/or your particular interests. If you are an international student, we encourage you to develop a case study of relevance to your own country.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Attendance Requirements

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 16 September - 20 September	Seminar	Introductory Seminar: Course aims, learning approach, core problems in environmental policy
	Online Activity	A series of online activities will be available on the course Moodle site, for you to complete during the Term.
Week 2: 23 September - 27 September	Seminar	Methods and Discourses for Interpretive Policy Analysis
Week 3: 30 September - 4 October	Seminar	Framing Environmental Policy
Week 4: 7 October - 11 October	Homework	No Classes - Public Holiday
Week 5: 14 October - 18 October	Seminar	The politics of expertise in environmental decision making
Week 6: 21 October - 25 October	Seminar	Participation, deliberation and transparency in environmental decision making
	Online Activity	Water, publics and planning futures
Week 7: 28 October - 1 November	Seminar	Rights-Based Approaches to Environmental Policy
Week 8: 4 November - 8 November	Seminar	Risk, Precaution and Regulation
Week 9: 11 November - 15 November	Seminar	Minerals, Energy and the Environment
Week 10: 18 November - 22 November	Seminar	Native Title and Environmental Policy and Management
Week 11: 25 November - 29 November	Seminar	Bringing it all together – environmental policy futures

Resources

Prescribed Resources

Recommended texts – note these are NOT compulsory
Dovers, S. and Hussey, K. (2013) <i>Environment and Sustainability: A Policy Handbook</i> . Federation Press, Sydney.
Dryzek, J.S. (1997) <i>The Politics of the Earth. Environmental Discourses</i> , Oxford, Melbourne.
Harding, R. Hendriks, C. and Faruqi, M. eds. (2009) <i>Environmental Decision-Making. Exploring Complexity and Context</i> , Federation Press, Sydney.
Journals, Readings and Websites
Readings will be posted into moodle as well as useful websites, so regularly check the moodle page for updates. See also the last pages of this outline for a general bibliography or relevant readings that might be useful for this course.

Recommended Resources

Course readings will be available via moodle

Course Evaluation and Development

Courses are periodically reviewed and students' feedback is used to improve them. Feedback is gathered from students using myExperience. Students are encouraged to complete their surveys by accessing the personalised web link via the Moodle course site

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au . Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

Copying: using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and/or progression of ideas of the original, and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.

Collusion: working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices:

- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre (<http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/>). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library also has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time

- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW.

<http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise>

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- requests for extension;
- late submissions guidelines;
- review of marks;
- UNSW Health and Safety policies;
- examination procedures;
- special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;
- and other essential academic information, see

<https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/>

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