COURSE OVERVIEW

Instructor

Instructor: Dr. Matt Hamilton
Email address: hamilton.1323@osu.edu
Zoom office hours: Fridays from 10-11am and by appointment
Zoom URL: https://osu.zoom.us/j/9821352022?pwd=VDBHMDZLSGxRZ1VmemplMjQ3K1I2QT09

Teaching Associates

For students with family names A-K:
Priya Bhattacharya (bhattacharya.97)
Zoom office hours: By appointment
Zoom URL: https://osu.zoom.us/j/3201209585?pwd=R01GRINIZ0ZwU1BtNtcyVDM2amdhZz09

For students with family names L-Z:
Victoria Abou-Ghalioum (abou-ghalioum.1@osu.edu)
Zoom office hours: By appointment
Zoom URL: https://osu.zoom.us/j/6316336239?pwd=ZHJmU1IRUXhJbmVZdWQdE5OazJXQT09

Course meetings
While ENR 3200 will be offered asynchronously with all lectures and materials available on the course Carmen website, I will offer weekly live lectures via Zoom (which will subsequently be posted to Carmen). Based on my experiences over the past semester, I can appreciate that many students benefit from live lectures. Attendance of these Zoom sessions is not required.

- **Session 1:** Mondays from 10:30am - 12:00pm; Zoom URL: [https://osu.zoom.us/j/91453502081?pwd=TElyUUM5SUZQTzJuQjhYVUZqYTRiUT09](https://osu.zoom.us/j/91453502081?pwd=TElyUUM5SUZQTzJuQjhYVUZqYTRiUT09)

- **Session 2:** Wednesdays from 10:30am - 12:00pm; Zoom URL: [https://osu.zoom.us/j/91453502081?pwd=TElyUUM5SUZQTzJuQjhYVUZqYTRiUT09](https://osu.zoom.us/j/91453502081?pwd=TElyUUM5SUZQTzJuQjhYVUZqYTRiUT09) (same as above)

You should be able to join these sessions directly using the Zoom URLs, but if you prefer to connect by phone or need additional login information, please see the full Zoom invitation in the announcement posted on January 7.

**Course description and goals**

ENR 3200 is designed to provide a broad introduction to the institutions and processes that shape environmental and natural resources policy. At its core, this course focuses on the relationships between societies and their biophysical environments. While you will learn about key environmental laws and the responsibilities of different federal institutions, we will also discuss how policy processes are shaped by values, science, history, and relationships among stakeholder groups. Though perhaps not a learning objective, a key goal of this course is that students appreciate the diverse and dynamic settings in which environmental and natural resources policy processes play out, and consequently understand how these processes are relevant to their daily lives as well as their future careers. More specifically, by the end of the semester, you will be familiar with key concepts in environmental and natural resources policy (and how those concepts relate to one another). You will also gain skills that will enable you to analyze and understand policy processes and outcomes (for example: How are the costs and benefits of an environmental policy distributed among different groups of people? Why were they distributed that way?).

**Credit hours**

3

**GE Expected Learning Outcomes**
This course fulfills GE category Social Science, subcategory Organizations and Polities, with the following expected outcomes:

1. Students understand the theories and methods of social scientific inquiry as they apply to the study of organizations and polities.

2. Students understand the formation and durability of political, economic, and social organizing principles and their differences and similarities across contexts.

3. Students comprehend and assess the nature and values of organizations and polities and their importance in social problem solving and policy making.

Course format

This course will be divided into three parts. The first part will focus on the political context of environmental and natural resources policy, including historical background on environmental policy paradigms as well as an overview of the roles of different government institutions in policy-making. In the second part, students will be exposed to different perspectives for understanding policy processes, as well as overviews of key policies, such as the Endangered Species Act. The third part will be oriented around a case study, which will allow students to apply the knowledge and skills to a real and timely environmental policy dilemma.

COURSE MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGIES

Readings

- There is no textbook for the course. All readings will be posted to Carmen unless otherwise specified.

Course technology

For help with your password, university e-mail, Carmen, or any other technology issues, questions, or requests, contact the OSU IT Service Desk. Standard support hours are available at https://ocio.osu.edu/help/hours, and support for urgent issues is available 24x7.

- **Self-Service and Chat support:** http://ocio.osu.edu/selfservice
GRADING AND FACULTY RESPONSE

How your grade is calculated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSIGNMENT CATEGORY</th>
<th>PERCENT OF GRADE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly reading questions (0.2% each)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written assignments (5% each)</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wikipedia article</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
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</tbody>
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See assignment descriptions, below, for details and due dates.

Assignment descriptions

Weekly reading questions (~0.2% each; 10% collectively). Every Friday, I will provide reading questions for the material to be covered in the following week. These questions will be posted in Carmen. There will be 2-4 questions each week that will be graded. Your answers to the reading questions will be due at 5pm on Friday during the week when readings are assigned. There will be no reading questions for the first week of class.
**Written assignments (5% each; 20% collectively).** Students will also complete four written assignments. Assignments will pertain to an issue of the students choosing, but there are two topics that the assignments CANNOT BE ABOUT: climate change and hydraulic fracturing (fracking). Deadlines for assignments are as follows:

1. Assignment #1 due at 11:55 pm on Tuesday, February 2
2. Assignment #2 due at 11:55 pm on Thursday, February 25
3. Assignment #3 due at 11:55 pm on Thursday, March 11
4. Assignment #4 due at 11:55 pm on Thursday, April 1

**Wikipedia article (25%).** Students will create a Wikipedia article on a topic, concept, or policy-relevant issue to the information-consuming public. This assignment (due April 18 at 11:55pm) will be introduced and discussed in lecture and on Carmen.

**Exams (45%).** There will be two examinations, but no final exam. The two exams will be administered through Carmen, and will consist of a mix of multiple choice, true/false and essay questions designed to test understanding of the readings and lectures. Make-up exams will be scheduled only for medical reasons that can be properly documented.

**Late assignments**

The maximum grade of written assignments will decrease by 5% for each day late, including weekends. Late penalties will not be applied in cases of emergencies or other excused absences if documentation is provided.

**Grading scale**

- 93–100: A
- 90–92.9: A-
- 87–89.9: B+
- 83–86.9: B
- 80–82.9: B-
- 77–79.9: C+
- 73–76.9: C
- 70–72.9: C-
- 67–69.9: D+
- 60–66.9: D
- Below 60: E
Communications, faculty feedback and response time

Notifications and updates will be communicated through Carmen. If you need to communicate with the instructor or TAs, please include “ENR 3200” in the subject. You may also communicate the instructor and TAs by scheduling a meeting (i.e., by appointment office hours).

- **Grading and feedback:** For large weekly assignments, you can generally expect feedback within 10 days.

- **E-mail:** The instructor and TAs will reply to e-mails within 48 hours on school days (and usually within 24 hours).

PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE

Student attendance requirements

- Attendance at live Zoom sessions is not mandatory. Recordings of live Zoom sessions will be posted in the Modules section of the course website for students who are not able to attend the live sessions, or who wish to review a lecture later. Exams will evaluate your understanding of concepts that are discussed in lectures but are not covered in the readings. More importantly, lectures will help you contextualize and more completely understand material, which will enable you to get the most out of this course.
Environmental and Social Sustainability Research Experience Program (ESSREP)

The goal of ESSREP is to enhance student’s understanding of social scientific research methods and help apply class lessons to their lives. As a way to gain extra credit for this class you can get hands-on experience participating in research studies conducted by Faculty and Graduate Students in the Environmental and Social Sustainability (ESS) Lab in SENR. Research studies may take the form of online or in-person surveys, interviews, or focus groups and will be related to a current research in a variety of topics in resource management, environmental science, psychology, and rural sociology.

1. In order to sign up for research opportunities you will first need to create a Sona account using your .osu email address at https://osu-essrep.sona-systems.com. You will then be able to view and sign up for studies and monitor your credit accumulation through Sona Systems. Please see our website https://ess.osu.edu/subject-pool/research-option for more detailed sign-up instructions, credit amounts, policies, and Frequently Asked Questions.

2. If you do not wish to participate in research OR are under the age of 18, a written assignment alternative is also available. Papers will be based on approved research articles and due at set dates throughout the semester. See our website https://ess.osu.edu/subject-pool/papers-option for grading criteria and other information about the ESSREP paper option. If you wish to select the paper option, enroll by emailing the lab manager at Slagle.44@osu.edu by January 22nd.

A total of up to 2 research credits will be possible as extra credit for this course, constituting up to 2% of your final grade. If you have any questions about the research or paper options, or encounter difficulties with Sona systems please contact the lab manager Kristina Slagle at: Slagle.44@osu.edu. Your instructor and TAs do not have access to Sona systems and will not be managing the paper option; please direct all ESSREP-related questions to the lab manager.
OTHER COURSE POLICIES

Academic integrity policy

POLICIES FOR THIS COURSE

- **Quizzes and exams**: You must complete all quizzes and exams yourself, without any external help or communication.

- **Written assignments**: Your written assignments should be your own original work. You are encouraged to ask a trusted person to proofread your assignments before you turn them in, but no one else should revise or rewrite your work.

- **Reusing past work**: In general, you are prohibited in university courses from turning in work from a past class to your current class, even if you modify it. If you wish to build on past research or revisit a topic you explored in previous courses, please discuss the situation with me.

- **Collaboration and informal peer-review**: The course includes many opportunities for formal collaboration with your classmates. While study groups and peer-review of major written projects is encouraged, remember that comparing answers on a quiz or assignment is not permitted. If you are unsure about a particular situation, please ask ahead of time.

OHIO STATE’S ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Academic integrity is essential to maintaining an environment that fosters excellence in teaching, research, and other educational and scholarly activities. Thus, The Ohio State University and the Committee on Academic Misconduct (COAM) expect that all students have read and understand the University’s Code of Student Conduct, and that all students will complete all academic and scholarly assignments with fairness and honesty. Students must recognize that failure to follow the rules and guidelines established in the University’s Code of Student Conduct and this syllabus may constitute “Academic Misconduct.”

The Ohio State University’s Code of Student Conduct (Section 3335-23-04) defines academic misconduct as: “Any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the University, or subvert the educational process.” Examples of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to) plagiarism, collusion (unauthorized collaboration), copying the work of another student, and possession of unauthorized
materials during an examination. Ignorance of the University’s *Code of Student Conduct* is never considered an “excuse” for academic misconduct, so I recommend that you review the *Code of Student Conduct* and, specifically, the sections dealing with academic misconduct.

**If I suspect that a student has committed academic misconduct in this course, I am obligated by University Rules to report my suspicions to the Committee on Academic Misconduct.** If COAM determines that you have violated the University's *Code of Student Conduct* (i.e., committed academic misconduct), the sanctions for the misconduct could include a failing grade in this course and suspension or dismissal from the University.

If you have any questions about the above policy or what constitutes academic misconduct in this course, please contact me.

Other sources of information on academic misconduct (integrity) to which you can refer include:

- The Committee on Academic Misconduct web pages ([COAM Home](http://COAM Home))
- *Ten Suggestions for Preserving Academic Integrity* ([Ten Suggestions](http://Ten Suggestions))
- *Eight Cardinal Rules of Academic Integrity* ([www.northwestern.edu/uacc/8cards.htm](http://www.northwestern.edu/uacc/8cards.htm))

**Copyright disclaimer**

The materials used in connection with this course may be subject to copyright protection and are only for the use of students officially enrolled in the course for the educational purposes associated with the course. Copyright law must be considered before copying, retaining, or disseminating materials outside of the course.

**Title IX**

All students and employees at Ohio State have the right to work and learn in an environment free from harassment and discrimination based on sex or gender, and the university can arrange interim measures, provide support resources, and explain investigation options, including referral to confidential resources.

If you or someone you know has been harassed or discriminated against based on your sex or gender, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, relationship violence, stalking, or sexual exploitation, you may find information about your rights and options
Your mental health

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce a student's ability to participate in daily activities. The Ohio State University offers services to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. If you or someone you know are suffering from any of the aforementioned conditions, you can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the Office of Student Life Counseling and Consultation Services (CCS) by visiting ccs.osu.edu or calling (614) 292-5766. CCS is located on the 4th Floor of the Youkin Success Center and 10th Floor of Lincoln Tower. You can reach an on-call counselor when CCS is closed at 614.292.5766 and 24 hour emergency help is also available through the 24/7 National Prevention Hotline at 1.800.273.TALK or at suicidepreventionlifelife.org.

Diversity

The Ohio State University affirms the importance and value of diversity in the student body. Our programs and curricula reflect our multicultural society and global economy and seek to provide opportunities for students to learn more about persons who are different from them. We are committed to maintaining a community that recognizes and values the inherent worth and dignity of every person; fosters sensitivity, understanding, and mutual respect among each member of our community; and encourages each individual to strive to reach his or her own potential. Discrimination against any individual based upon protected status, which is defined as age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status, is prohibited.

ACCESSIBILITY ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
Requesting accommodations

The University strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. SLDS contact information: slds@osu.edu; 614-292-3307, 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Ave.

COURSE SCHEDULE

(May be updated throughout the semester)

Week 1 (Jan 11 - 15)

Session 1: Introductions; overview of syllabus and course

- No readings

Session 2: Environmental Problems Now and Then


Week 2 (Jan 18 - 22)

No session 1 (Martin Luther King Day)

Session 2: The Value of Institutions


Week 3 (Jan 25 - 29)

Session 1: The U.S. Constitution


Session 2: The Dominant Social Paradigm and Some Environmental History

Week 4 (Feb 1 - 5)

Session 1: Basics of the Policy Making Process in the U.S.


Session 2: Congress

• Klein, Ezra. 2016. The single most important fact about American Politics.

Week 5 (Feb 8 - 12)

Session 1: Courts


Session 2: Agencies


Week 6 (Feb 15 - 19)

Session 1: Review for Exam #1

Session 2: Exam #1

Week 7 (Feb 22 - 26)
Session 1: Theories of the Policy Process (I)

- Cairney, Paul. The Policy Cycle and its Stages.
- Cairney, Paul. Rational Choice and the IAD.

Session 2: Theories of the Policy Process (II)

- Cairney, Paul. Multiple Streams Analysis.
- Cairney, Paul. The Advocacy Coalition Framework.

Week 8 (Mar 1 - 5)

Session 1: NEPA


Session 2: Endangered Species Policy

- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. 40 Years of Conserving Endangered Species.

Week 9 (Mar 8 - 12)

Session 1: Endangered Species Policy


Session 2: Climate Change and Global Governance


**Week 10 (Mar 15 - 19)**

Session 1: Climate Change and Obstacles to Political Action

- Environmental Protection Agency. 2015. “Overview of the Clean Power Plan.”

Session 2: Review Exam #2

**Week 11 (Mar 22 - 26)**

Session 1: Exam #2

Session 2: Introduction to hydraulic fracturing in Eastern Ohio


**Week 12 (Mar 29 - Apr 2)**

Session 1: Hydraulic fracturing in Eastern Ohio: trends and impacts

- Ohio State University Extension – Environmental Impacts (https://shalegas.osu.edu/shale-library/environmental-impacts)

**Week 13 (Apr 5 - 9)**

Session 1: Social-ecological perspectives on hydraulic fracturing: what factors are important?
Mental models of fracking: Students will create models to understand a range of social and biophysical dynamics associated with fracking, using the Mental Modeler software (accessible at http://www.mentalmodeler.org/).

Session 2: Stakeholders and fracking in Eastern Ohio


- Grant, Julie. 2018. “Gearing Up For Fracking Fight, Ohio Residents Turn To Pennsylvania For Advice” (http://radio.wosu.org/post/gearing-fracking-fight-ohio-residents-turn-pennsylvania-advice#stream/0)


Fracking stakeholder policy networks: Students will document relationships among diverse groups of stakeholders involved in fracking in Ohio and will gain insight into how these relationships shape policy as well as environmental and social outcomes. Students will develop these networks using the Mental Modeler software (accessible at http://www.mentalmodeler.org/>).

**Week 14 (Apr 12 - 16)**

Session 1: Policy instruments and tools

- https://epa.ohio.gov/Portals/0/general%20pdfs/OhioRegsShaleGasWellDrilling.pdf

- https://epa.ohio.gov/Portals/0/general%20pdfs/generalshale711.pdf

Session 2: Creating a Wikipedia article

**Week 15 (Apr 19 - 23)**

Session 1: Environmental policy processes in the public and private sectors

- No readings
Session 2: Wikipedia article presentations

- No readings