

Fall 2022
9:40-11:10am
Theater 205

ENVI215: Environmental Politics & Policy

Dr. Roopali Phadke

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TA: Bella Garrioch

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Office hours on Moodle

The American environmental movement has transformed the nature of politics and the politics of nature over the last six decades. Because of seminal laws, like the Clean Air and Clean Water Acts, the U.S. is now party to significant regional and international treaties. While these transformations have been profound, there are many challenges that continue to confront lasting environmental protection and management, including issues of implementation and regulation. As an introduction to the field of Environmental Politics & Policy, we will chart the evolution of the environmental movement in the U.S. and how the U.S. has engaged in international commitments.

Pandemic Statement on Learning Goals

These last two years have taught us that there is no predictability in a pandemic. We will need to be flexible with each other and check in often. I will prioritize community building this semester and focus us on the big picture topics and skills I think you need to contribute to policy making. I need you to come to class prepared, ready to engage and to communicate with me when you need flexibility.

Student Assessment

Attendance
and Participation
(30%)

Attending **class** and engaging in small and full group discussions. Participation includes hosting an enviro news briefing once during the semester.

Writing assignments
(40 %)

Oped Essay (20%)

Intended to develop your public advocacy skills, you will submit a polished, persuasive opinion editorial about a **policy that you would like to propose, see implemented, strengthened or defended** at the regional, national or international level. Drafts will be peer reviewed.

Public Comment (10%)

Intended for an expert audience, your assignment is to write a public comment to the Army Corps of Engineers on the Mississippi River. We will have a comments writing workshop.

Mercury Treaty Role Playing Game (10%)

Intended to develop your collaborative research, writing and presentation skills, we will role play diplomatic negotiation on an important global issue.

Midterm/Final
(each 15%)

Take home exams will help refine your understanding of terms, institutions and events.

My Availability: I can usually meet before and after class. See Moodle for sign up link to my office hours. It may take me 24 hours to respond to email.

Final Grade Scale:

A (95-100); A- (90-94); B+ (87-90); B (83-87); B- (80-83). Similar ranges for C grades (70-79) and D grades (60-69); Below 60 is a failing grade.

Academic Integrity: It is assumed that all members of the class will act with academic integrity and will not engage in behavior such as plagiarism, academic dishonesty, misrepresentation, or cheating. Please refer to the college's policy on academic honesty.

Abilities & Accommodations:

I am committed to helping you be successful in this course. Contact the Disability Services office by emailing disabilityservices@macalester.edu to discuss your individual needs.

Your Health and Wellness:

You are encouraged to make your well-being a priority throughout this semester. If you are sick, please rest and check in with me about how to make up the work you miss. If you are feeling well but in isolation/quarantine, I can try to zoom you into class on an Ipad so you can stay up to date. If you are not feeling well, I do not want to set up the expectation that you need to attend class via zoom.

It is also important to acknowledge any chronic stressors you may be facing, which can be mental, emotional, physical, financial, etc., and how they can have an academic impact. If you are having difficulties maintaining your well-being, please don't hesitate to contact me and I can assist you in seeking support resources at <https://www.macalester.edu/healthandwellness/>

Important Course Dates and Deadlines (subject to change)

Oped Essay:

Sept 13: Pitch due at 9:30am
Sept 20: Draft essay due on Moodle 9:30am & peer review
Sept 27: Final Oped due midnight

Public Comment:

Sept 29: Assignment introduced
Oct 6: Comments workshop in class
Oct 11: Fieldtrip
Oct 13: Final comment due on Moodle

Midterm:

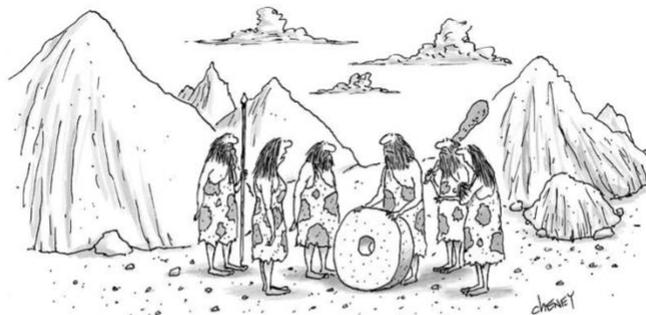
Opens Nov 1 and due Nov 3

Mercury Project:

Dossier due Nov 29 before class, Simulation on Dec 1 in class

Final Exam:

Opens Thurs Dec 8 due Monday Dec 12



"Nice, but we'll need an environmental-impact study, a warranty, recall bulletins, recycling facilities, and twenty-four-hour customer support."

Nice, But We'll Need An Environmental-impact is a drawing by Tom Cheney which was uploaded on August 16th, 2016.