

Hülse/Mbaye

EUSC-Online Class

Summer 2010

European Environmental Policy

Course Description

This course provides an overview of European Environmental Policy (EEP). It explores the historical development of the EEP, analyzes the principle actors involved and inquires into the modes of governance applied. Implementation problems and the EU's role in international environmental policy-making are also discussed. As it includes concrete empirical cases of environmental policy-making in the EU, the course allows students to study EEP in practice. Throughout the modules, emphasis is put on thoroughly analyzing the EEP rather than only describing it. Therefore we draw on theories of European integration, e.g. the neo-functionalism and the multi-level-governance approach. Moreover, we take issue with the legitimacy of the EEP and evaluate its effectiveness.

Course Objectives

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

- describe and understand the historical origins and development of the EEP
- identify the actors and processes of environmental governance in the EU
- have in-depth understanding of at least one concrete case of environmental policy-making in the EU
- understand the external dimension of the EU's environmental policy
- explain and evaluate the "new modes of governance" applied in the EEP
- assess the overall effectiveness of the EEP

Course Outline

Module 1: Introduction and Historical Overview: The Establishment of Environmental Policy on the European Level

Module 2: Environmental Governance: Actors, Institutions, and Processes

Module 3: Making EU Environmental Policy in Practice: Three Case Studies

Module 4: The External Dimension: The EU's Environmental Foreign Policy

Module 5: The Implementation Challenge

Module 6: European-Level Environmental Governance: Assessing the Results

Readings

This class will mainly draw on the following textbook, which is recommended for purchase:

Knill, Christoph/Liefferink, Duncan 2007: Environmental politics in the European Union. Policy-making, implementation and patterns of multi-level governance, Manchester: Manchester University Press.

Also, you will have to read additional scholarly articles, access specified web sites as well as documents and search for further information when necessary.

Except for the textbook, all required readings will be provided in form of PDF-files on GeorgiaView (the class's online-platform).

Grading

Grading decisions are generally made in-country. That is, the US instructor handles US grading issues and the German instructor handles Munich students' grades.

- **Online-Participation (25 % of your final grade)**
 - You are required to participate at least once per module session in the online discussion.
 - The instructors will guide the flow of the discussion; your contributions should demonstrate the depth of your knowledge and the incisiveness of your analysis.
 - Try to engage in a conversation with other participants, i.e. reply to and comment on contributions by others. If you decide to raise a new issue, make sure you create a new thread.
 - Online-discussions are not about exchanging personal opinions about the state of the world in general and the European environmental policy in particular. While there is nothing wrong with normative statements per se, they need to make explicit the normative theory upon which they are based.
 - Note that your grade will depend on the analytical quality of your posts and not on quantity.
 - In modules 2 and 4 we will have discussions in smaller groups with specific tasks. Instructors will assign you to one of the groups.

- **Written Essays (75% of your final grade)**
 - You will have to write a total of *three* essays (25% of final grade each). We provide two essay questions per module. You will have to respond to one of these questions in three modules of your preference.
 - The papers will be 1200-1400 words.
 - Papers have to be based on academic literature. Try to find and use literature beyond the course readings. Be sure to cite all references.
 - Include all relevant information (author, topic, date) in the header.
 - Only online-submission via GeorgiaView is accepted. Do not directly email the instructors. GeorgiaView shows your submitted files, and you can even view them. This is all the proof you need of a successful file submission.
 - Save and upload your essays as PDF files.
 - Essays will not be accepted when submitted after the due date.

Course Schedule

Every week you will be assigned a module on which to work. You should access that module online and read the required literature as well as the material provided online. For each module, make sure you participate in the online-discussion. For three modules, write and submit an essay.

While all modules will be accessible from the very start of the course, you can only post your online-contributions for a particular module during a certain period of time. The same holds true for the submission of essays. Therefore it is essential for you to meet all deadlines.

Note that the course is on Eastern Time. A June 13th deadline, for example, allows Munich students to submit their papers/online-contributions until June 14th, 6 a.m.

Module	Date
Module 1	Online discussion: June 7 - June 13 Deadline essay submission: June 13
Module 2	Online discussion: June 14 - June 20 Deadline essay submission: June 20
Module 3	Online discussion: June 21 - June 27 Deadline essay submission: June 27
Module 4	Online discussion: June 28 - July 4 Deadline essay submission: July 4
Module 5	Online discussion: July 5 - July 11 Deadline essay submission: July 11
Module 6	Online discussion: July 12 - July 18 Deadline essay submission: July 18