



Course title	Environmental Governance and Sustainable Development
Course Code	
Category (core/elective)	Elective
Level	MA in Governance
Duration (semesters)	One (1) semester
Semester when taught (autumn/spring)	Spring
ECTS:	7.5
Access requirements	None
Responsible	Dr. Dionysia-Theodora Avgerinopoulou Dr. Cristina Contartese
Course objectives	
<p>The course aims at introducing students to the basic concepts of sustainable development and global institutional arrangements for the governance of our natural environment. It aims to familiarize students with contemporary environmental issues, including alternative sources of energy and climate change, as well as with the most important global and regional institutions that create the global environmental governance architecture. At the end of the course, students will be able to fully comprehend and critically discuss the contemporary sustainable development agenda.</p>	
Course Description	
<p>Contemporary politics and governance institutions are gradually being influenced by the concept of sustainable development, while environmental considerations permeate almost all sectors of life, ranging from global institutional design and international relations, diplomacy, negotiations, energy management, production and consumption patterns, research and development, business and investments, public health, nutrition, migration, tourism, fishing, agriculture, mining, to the new comprehensive global sustainable agenda, as it has been depicted at the text of the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2030.</p>	

Course Outline

The course will be presented in thirteen (13) lectures and four (4) tutorials as follows;

Lectures

1. Introduction to Environmental Governance and Sustainable Development
2. Terms-of-art and notions of Environmental Governance and Sustainability
3. The right to environment as a human right; indigenous peoples; International Humanitarian Law; animal rights
4. Global Environmental Governance (GEG) architecture
5. The protection of the marine environment – introduction at the global commons
6. Science and Environmental Law; scientific uncertainty; the precautionary principle
7. Climate change science, law, and policy
8. EU Environmental Law, policies and governance
9. Trade and the environment
10. The energy challenge
11. International Water Law and governance
12. Dispute settlement mechanisms; alternative dispute resolution
13. Green investments; innovative green and climate finance.

Tutorials

1. Guided discussion after viewing the environmental documentary film: “Before the Food”;
2. Guided discussion after viewing the environmental documentary film: “Chasing Ice”;
3. Guided discussion and visit at the Headquarters of the UNEP/MAP in Athens;
4. Guided discussion and visit at the Headquarters of the Global Water Partnership/Mediterranean in Athens.
- 5.

Educational Outcomes

Students will familiarize themselves with the institutional setting and the law and decision-making mechanisms of the most important international (global and regional) organizations with environmental competence.

They will be confronted with the most important environmental issues of our times, including issues of energy management and climate change. The course purports to constitute the foundation for a comprehensive understanding of the contemporary notions of sustainable development and the Development Agenda 2030.

The main focus on the analysis will be based on a political science approach. Political science is key to understanding national and organizational responses to environmental, energy and climate challenges by states and other actors. For instance, recent learning about globalization has many applications for political scholarship in the context of global environmental change. However, since our natural environment is a complex subject matter, students will have the opportunity to learn about sustainability and environmental governance from a multi-disciplinary point of view, integrating lessons from -not only the political sciences, but also law, natural sciences and finance disciplines.

Basic Textbook(s)	-D. Hunter, J. Salzman, D. Zaelke, International Environmental Law and Policy, 5 th edition, (University Casebook), Foundation Press, 2015 (format: ebook.)	
Basic Bibliography	-Jeffrey D. Sachs, The Age of Sustainable Development, Columbia University Press, 2015 - D. Th. Avgerinopoulou, Integration of Science in International Environmental Law, Springer Publ. 2018	
Additional Bibliography	<p>-G. Atkinson, S. Dietz, E. Neumayer, M. Aarwala: Handbook of Sustainable Development, 2014, Edward Elgar Publishing.</p> <p>-Peter Diamandis & Steven Kotler, Abundance: The Future is Better than you Think, Free Press, 2012.</p> <p>-Toby Hemenway, The Permaculture City: Regenerative Design for Urban, Suburban, and Town Resilience, 2015</p> <p>- Felix Doods, Negotiating the Sustainable Development Goals: A transformational agenda for an insecure world, Springer, 2016</p> <p>-Environment and Sustainable Development, Editors: Fulekar, M.H., Pathak, Bhawana, Kale, R.K. (Eds.), 2014</p> <p>-Thomas L. Friedman, Hot, Flat, and Crowded: Why We Need a Green Revolution--and How It Can Renew America Hardcover, 2008</p> <p>- James Meadowcroft, The Politics of Sustainable Development: Emergent Arenas and Challenges for Political Science, <i>International Political Science Review / Revue internationale de science politique</i>, Vol. 20, No. 2, 1999.</p>	
Teaching Methodology	Lectures	14 lectures x 2 hours = 28 hours
	Tutorials	4 tutorials x 2 hours = 8 hours
		Total: 36 hours

Evaluation	<table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Final Exam</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">60 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Course Participation</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">20 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Paper(s)</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">20 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">100%</td> </tr> </table>	Final Exam	60 %	Course Participation	20 %	Paper(s)	20 %		100%
Final Exam	60 %								
Course Participation	20 %								
Paper(s)	20 %								
	100%								
Language	English								
Traineeship	No								
Location	Athens								
General note	<p>While the 'Course Objectives' and 'Educational Outcomes' above remain immutable, the 'Course Content' and 'Course Outline' may be altered in order to accommodate student's needs and individual professor's approaches. Bibliography and reading materials may vary accordingly.</p>								