



University
of Victoria

POLI 433: International Political Economy and Environment (Seminar)

Instructor: Dr. Sarah E. Sharma

Course delivery: POLI 433 will be delivered on campus and face-to-face.

Course description: International Political Economy and Environment (IPEE) is a field of study that examines how relations of power in the global political economy shape environmental governance. From an IPEE perspective, global environmental governance is not just a product of climate science or multilateral negotiations. Rather, private authorities, economic considerations, and colonial relations also shape the design and execution of global environmental governance. Moreover, IPEE analyses the motivations and real-life outcomes of environmental policies by asking “who benefits?” This course will equip students with the skills necessary to approach global environmental governance from an IPEE perspective. Students will also be able to analyse how socio-economic and socio-environmental inequalities are produced and reproduced at global, national, and subnational scales.

Prerequisites: None

Course outcomes/objectives:

- Identify the core theories in the field of IPEE and examine topics from a IPEE perspective
- Become familiar with global environmental governance policy tools and various perspectives surrounding them
- Develop an understanding of how intersecting social, economic, political, and environmental inequalities are produced, reinforced, and contested across *and* within the global North and global South
- Develop written and verbal communication through essay writing and discussion
- Develop rigorous critical analytical skills that will be put in practice through reading, in-class discussions, presentations, and written assignments

Topics may include:

Climate change governance
Environmental inequality
Climate adaptation, risk management, and resilience
Global waste governance and food governance
Private authority in global environmental governance
Green consumerism
Urban climate governance

This summary provides an overall sense of the course and is not an official course outline. Detailed course outlines will be available for all registered students on the first day of class.