

Global Climate Governance
Environmental Studies S234 (EVST S234 01)
Political Science S143 (PLSC S143 01)

Yale Summer Sessions 2024

Professor Detlef F. Sprinz, Ph.D.

Purpose and Contents

This seminar provides an overview of global climate governance, incl. overarching conceptual frameworks, a variety of empirical subdomains, interlinkages with other policy fields, and central challenges encountered in global climate governance. Using a portfolio approach to examinations, students will prepare a range of individual and group assignments throughout the semester.

Logistics

Time: Tu, Th: 9:00am – 12:15pm EDT (→Course Overview)

Location: t.b.d.

Contact Details:

detlef.sprinz@yale.edu (include “GCG YSS 2024” in the subject line)

www.sprinz.org

Office Hours: *by appointment*

Zoom: →*Canvas*

Learning Goals

Knowledge

Students will

- gain an overview of theoretical concepts and empirical domains of global climate governance and
- understand the strategic challenges in managing long-term climate policy challenges.

Skills

Students will undertake a range of assignments, both individually and in small groups. In particular, they will broaden their skills basis by

- introducing the class to two mandatory readings and
- responding to a central, yet hitherto unsolved, global climate policy challenge.

Competences

Students will

- apply a range of concepts and methods to generic global climate governance challenges,
- diagnose as well as propose remedies for long-term environmental climate challenges,
- explore new ideas for, e.g., subsequent use in their Bachelor or Master thesis, and
- work individually as well as in groups on a diverse set of assignments.

Code of Conduct

All students are assumed to be familiar with and will abide by the rules of proper academic conduct as specified by Yale University and the Yale Summer Sessions. “Academic integrity is a core university value that ensures respect for the academic reputation of the University, its students, faculty and staff, and the degrees it confers. The University expects that students will conduct themselves in an honest and ethical manner and respect the intellectual work of others. Please ask about my expectations regarding permissible or encouraged forms of student collaboration if they are unclear.

Any work that you submit at any stage of the writing process— ..., outline, draft, bibliography, final submission, presentations, blog posts, and more—must be your own; in addition, any words, ideas, or data that you borrow from other people and include in your work must be properly documented, including work produced by generative AI. Failure to do either of these things is plagiarism. ...

Academic integrity requires that students at Yale acknowledge all of the sources that inform their coursework. Most commonly, this means (a) citing the sources of any text or data that you include in papers and projects, and (b) only collaborating with other students or using tools such as generative AI in ways that are explicitly endorsed by the assignment. Yale’s dedication to academic integrity flows from our two primary commitments: supporting research and educating students to contribute to ongoing scholarship. A safe and ethical climate for research demands that previous authors and artists receive credit for their work. And learning requires that you do your own work. ... [U]ltimately it is the student’s responsibility to act with integrity, and the burden is on you to ask questions if anything about course policies is unclear” (<https://poorvucenter.yale.edu/strategic-resources-digital-publications/academic-integrity-statements>, 27 Feb. 2024). “Any use of AI to complete an

assignment must be acknowledged in a citation that includes the prompt you submitted to the bot, the date of access, and the URL of the program” (<https://poorvucenter.yale.edu/AIguidance>, italics removed). Your contributions to this course, including written work, is expected to sharper, more to the point, and more accurate than artificial intelligence currently is able to deliver.

For helpful sources, please consult →<https://poorvucenter.yale.edu/using-sources>. You are expected to undertake all your *individual* assignments independently. For *group* assignments, resulting products shall be authored exclusively by all group members (with all group members taking responsibility for the whole assignment).

Some students appear to have fallen in love with around-the-clock connectivity and social media. During our seminar sessions, I expect you to concentrate on this course.

All personal information that you encounter in conjunction with this course or on →*Canvas* shall be exclusively used for course-related purposes.

If you have registered with the Student Accessibility Services (→<https://sas.yale.edu>), please inform the instructor, via email, during the first week of classes.

Writing Tutoring is available. Staffed by Yale undergrads and graduate students, the Yale Writing Center offers free, one-on-one writing help to all students enrolled in Yale Summer Session. To reserve an appointment, visit → <https://poorvucenter.yale.edu/undergraduates/writing-center>

In case observation of religious obligations interferes with academic deadlines, please notify the instructor well ahead of deadlines.

Course Requirements and Grading

Students are required to attend all classes (even on public holidays) and read the required readings *before* class so as to allow for informed discussions. Please always bring a laptop or equivalent electronic device with you for interactive components.

This course comprises a portfolio of assignments.

<i>Requirements</i>	<i>Weight</i>
Oral Participation throughout the course	20%
Assignment #1: Memo & oral presentation of one journal article, paper, or chapter (individual)	12.5%
Assignment #2: Memo & oral presentation of one journal article, paper, or chapter (individual)	12.5%
Assignment #3: Parliamentary debate (individual & group)	15%
Assignment #4: Solutions to a Specific Global Climate Policy Challenge (group assignment - presentation, Q&A, and paper)	40%

Course Overview

Module	Date	Time EDT	Topic	Assignment or Remarks
1	28 May 2024	9:00- 10:30am	Course Overview	Register for the Yale Innovation Summit
2	28 May 2024	10:45am - 12:15pm	Core Terminology in Global Climate Governance	Sign-up for Assignment #1 Register for the Yale Innovation Summit
3	30 May 2024	9:00 - 10:30am	The Science of Climate Change	
4	30 May 2024	10:45am - 12:15pm	<i>Excursion:</i> Yale Innovation Summit <i>location:</i> 165 Whitney Ave, New Haven, CT 06511	
5	04 June 2024	9:00 - 10:30am	Climate Change as a Long-Term Policy Challenge I	Assignment #1 Assignment #4: Suggested Topics will be announced
6	04 June 2024	10:45am - 12:15pm	Climate Change as a Long-Term Policy Challenge II	students will play an online (interactive) long-term policy game
7	06 June 2024	9:00 - 10:30am	Global Climate Negotiations: History	Assignment #1 Sign-Up for Assignment #3
8	06 June 2024	10:45am - 12:15pm	Actors I: Countries	Assignment #1
9	11 June 2024	9:00 - 10:30am	Actors II: Non-State Actors	Assignment #1 Sign-up for Assignment #2
10	11 June 2024	10:45am - 12:15pm	Mandatory Group Consultation Sessions with Instructor on Assignment #4	Student Groups Prepare Outline on Assignment #4 (not graded) (in advance of the module; during module: if not in active consultation, work as a group on Assignment #4)
11	13 June 2024	9:00 - 10:30am	Compliance & Implementation	Assignment #2
12	13 June 2024	10:45am - 12:15pm	Preparations for the Parliamentary Debate	Assignment #3
13	18 June 2024	9:00 - 10:30am	Effective Climate Governance?	Assignment #2
14	18 June 2024	10:45am - 12:15pm	Parliamentary Debate on Global Climate Policy	Assignment #3
15	20 June 2024	9:00 - 10:30am	Compensation/Loss & Damage	Assignment #2

16	20 June 2024	10:45am - 12:15pm	Progress Reports on Assignment #4: Q&A	Brief Student Presentations on Assignment #4 (not graded)
17	25 June 2024	9:00 - 10:30am	Modeling Global Climate Negotiations	Assignment #2
18	25 June 2024	10:45am - 12:15pm	Guest Lecture by Wake Smith (Yale and Harvard Universities): Geoengineering	Guest Lecture
19	27 June 2024*	9:00 - 10:30am	Solutions to Long-Term Climate Policy Challenges: Student Presentations and Q&A, Part I	Assignment #4
20	27 June 2024	10:45am - 12:15pm	Solutions to Long-Term Climate Policy Challenges: Student Presentations and Q&A, Part II	Assignment #4

Textbook & Readings

Luterbacher, Urs and Detlef F. Sprinz. 2018. *Global Climate Policy: Actors, Concepts, and Enduring Challenges*. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press →*Yale University Library* (electronic & print copies available, <https://muse.jhu.edu/book/60143>).
The book is also available from the bookstore.

All other readings can be found on →*Canvas*.

Assignments

All Assignments

Assignments will be posted to →*Canvas* well ahead of the deadline. Submission deadlines are indicated in the →*Assignments*.

When composing your individual or group papers, your emphasis is *not* on summarizing the material covered in the required readings; it is assumed that you (and all other course participants) have read it. Read the instructions carefully (!), build on all required readings for the module, and innovate in a way not found in the required readings. Leave the reader with the impression that *your* ideas have been carefully chosen and could be expanded upon in a longer research paper, senior thesis, or bachelor thesis. Please note that keeping it short is the art of structuring one's mind and concentrating on the main points rather than on peripheral considerations. It is more difficult to write a convincing short paper than a long paper!

All papers include your student ID number(s), assignment number (see overview), and word count on the first page. At a minimum, leave one inch margins from all four edges of letter-sized sheets. Footnotes shall be kept to a minimum. All text is 1.5-spaced, 11-12 point font. Paper length will be strictly enforced (the word count includes literally everything). Papers shall be submitted – in PDF format – via →*Canvas* by the due date and time (→*Assignment*). Extensions will be granted only under extraordinary circumstances, following written petition

to the instructor/authorization by the Dean of Summer Session.

For proper citation, please consult <https://poorvucenter.yale.edu/using-sources> . See also the academic integrity statement above.

In case of group assignments, all author names and ID numbers have to be listed. For group assignments, you take shared responsibility for the assignment.

In case you cannot submit assignments due to medical reasons, you must submit a medical doctor's certificate to the Dean of the Summer Session.

The allocation of individual students into groups is at the discretion of the instructor.

All Assignments will be posted to →*Canvas* and are outlined below.

Assignments #1 & #2: Introducing the Readings

Sign up for a specific reading via → *Canvas Sign-Up Sheet for Assignment #1 and for Assignment #2*. Please compose a max. 500 word paper reflecting on the central arguments of the reading, a critique thereof, and conclude with a lead question for the class. There is no need for a cover page. Submit the short paper no later than the day preceding presentation to the class, 2:00pm, to →*Canvas*.

During class, you will introduce the paper and conclude with the lead question. Subsequently, the instructor takes over in guiding the ensuing discussion.

Assignment #3: Parliamentary Debate

Follow the UNFCCC and other global climate negotiations and related side events by way of quality media. Prepare a short memo for a frontbench Parliamentary discussion (Canadian style) on the merits of, e.g., “Does the 2015 Paris Agreement on Climate Change ‘prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system?’”

The discussion will be fact-based and be backed up by relevant academic knowledge. The Speaker (instructor) will maintain the peace of the House, enforce academic standards and procedural rules, and evaluates your scholastic contribution. Every student will prepare a 500 word memo of her or his position and submit it to the instructor and share it with her or his side of the front bench. Each student is entitled to a 2-3 minute statement alternating across the pro and the con front benches, plus rebuttals by the opposite side of the bench.

Assignment to the two groups taking the pro and the con position is at the discretion of the instructor.

**Assignment #4: Solutions for Long-Term Climate Policy Challenges:
Presentation, Q&A, Paper**

A range of indicative enduring challenges will be made available during Module 5, yet you will be free to propose any comparable long-term climate policy challenge you wish to pursue as a group. Please submit a (max.) one-page proposal (ungraded) by 08 June 2022 and book (as a group) a slot for consultation during Module 10 on 10 June 2024 (first come, first served). Module 16 will serve as an (ungraded) intermediate stocktake.

Submit the full paper and presentation file on 26 June 2024 to →*Canvas*.

Modules

Module 1: Course Overview

Course Overview

Register for the Yale Innovation Summit with your Yale Email address, ideally by 13 May 2024, at

https://web.cvent.com/event/3e9d1dab-8d43-4d9c-abfb-cdedbdce994b/regProcessStep1?rt=oivA-qH8EkOJId_0oWdoxQ

Please use code “YIS2024” and your Yale Email for free registration.

Module 2: Core Terminology in Global Climate Governance

Luterbacher, Urs and Detlef F. Sprinz. 2018. *Global Climate Policy: Actors, Concepts, and Enduring Challenges*. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, preface & ch. 1

Module 3: The Science of Climate Change

German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina. 2021. Climate Change: Causes, Consequences and Possible Actions (Factsheet). Halle (Saale), German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina,
https://doi.org/10.26164/leopoldina_03_00409

Module 4: Excursion: Yale Innovation Summit

Attend lectures at 165 Whitney Ave, New Haven, CT 06511.

Module 5: Climate Change as a Long-Term Policy Challenge I

Sprinz, Detlef F. 2009. Long-Term Environmental Policy: Definition, Knowledge, Future Research. *Global Environmental Politics* 9 (3), 1-8.

<https://direct.mit.edu/glep/article-pdf/9/3/1/1819669/glep.2009.9.3.1.pdf>

Sheffer, Lior, Peter J. Loewen, and Jack Lucas. forthcoming. Long-Term Policymaking and Politicians' Beliefs About Voters: Evidence From a 3-Year Panel Study of Politicians. *Governance*.

<https://doi.org/10.1111/gove.12768>

Finnegan, Jared J. 2023. Changing Prices in a Changing Climate: Electoral Competition and Fossil Fuel Taxation. *Comparative Political Studies*, 56(8), 1257-1290.

<https://doi.org/10.1177/00104140221141853>

Module 6: Climate Change as a Long-Term Policy Challenge II

Students will play an online (interactive) long-term policy game in class.

Module 7: Global Climate Negotiations: History

Bodansky, Daniel, and Lavanya Rajamani. 2018. Chapter 2: The Evolution and Governance Architecture of the United Nations Climate Change Regime. *Global Climate Policy: Actors, Concepts, and Enduring Challenges*. U. Luterbacher and D. F. Sprinz. Cambridge, MA, The MIT Press.

Brun, Aslak. 2016. Conference Diplomacy: The Making of the Paris Agreement. *Politics and Governance* 4 (3), 115-123.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.17645/pag.v4i3.649>

Dimitrov, Radoslav S. 2016. The Paris Agreement on Climate Change: Behind Closed Doors. *Global Environmental Politics* 16 (3), 1-11.

doi:10.1162/GLEP_a_00361

Watch the videos:

- Christina Figueres: The Inside Story of the Paris Climate Agreement
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MIA_1xQc7x8
- Obama on 'Terrifying' Threat of Climate Change
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SpzuGfZ7xrY>

Module 8: Actors I: Countries

UNFCCC. n.d. Party Groupings.

<https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/parties-non-party-stakeholders/parties/party-groupings> (last accessed: 18 April 2024).

Sprinz, Detlef F., Guri Bang, Lars Brückner, and Yasuko Kameyama. 2018. Chapter 7: Major Countries. *Global Climate Policy: Actors, Concepts, and Enduring Challenges*. U. Luterbacher and D. F. Sprinz. Cambridge, MA, The MIT Press.

- Michaelowa, Katharina, and Axel Michaelowa. 2018. Chapter 10: Equity and Development - Developing Countries in the International Climate Negotiations. *Global Climate Policy: Actors, Concepts, and Enduring Challenges*. U. Luterbacher and D. F. Sprinz. Cambridge, MA, The MIT Press.
- Tørstad, Vegard, Håkon Sælen, and Live Standal Bøyum. 2020. The Domestic Politics of International Climate Commitments: Which Factors Explain Cross-Country Variation in NDC Ambition? *Environmental Research Letters* 15(2), 024021.
<https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/ab63e0>
- Lockwood, Matthew. 2021. Routes to Credible Climate Commitment: The UK and Denmark Compared. *Climate Policy*, 21(9), 1234-1247.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/14693062.2020.1868391>

Module 9: Actors II: Non-State Actors

- Skodvin, Tora. 2018. Chapter 8: Non-State Actors in International Policy-Making: The Kyoto Protocol and Beyond. *Global Climate Policy: Actors, Concepts, and Enduring Challenges*. U. Luterbacher and D. F. Sprinz. Cambridge, MA, The MIT Press
- Vormedal, Irja, Lars H. Gulbrandsen, and Jon Birger Skjærseth. 2020. Big Oil and Climate Regulation: Business as Usual or a Changing Business? *Global Environmental Politics* 20(4), 143-166. https://doi.org/10.1162/glep_a_00565
- Witte, Daniel. 2020. Business for Climate: A Qualitative Comparative Analysis of Policy Support from Transnational Companies. *Global Environmental Politics* 20(4), 167-191.
https://doi.org/10.1162/glep_a_00560

Module 10 Mandatory Group Consultation Sessions with Instructor on Assignment #4

Students discuss extended outlines of Assignment #4 with the instructor (not graded). If you are not in active consultations with the instructor, work as a group on Assignment #4

Module 11 Compliance & Implementation

- Dai, Xinyuan. 2005. Why Comply? The Domestic Constituency Mechanism. *International Organization* 59(2): 363-398
- Shishlov, Igor, Romain Morel, and Valentin Bellassen. 2016. Compliance of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol in the First Commitment Period. *Climate Policy* 16(6), 768-782.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/14693062.2016.1164658>
- Hovi, Jon, Mads Greker, Cathrine Hagem, and Bjart Holtsmark. 2012. A Credible Compliance Enforcement System for the Climate Regime. *Climate Policy* 12 (6):741-754.
<https://dx.doi.org/10.1080/14693062.2012.692206>

Check www.unfccc.int (more specifically under the rubric of the Kyoto Protocol) for compliance issues.

Module 12: Preparations for the Parliamentary Debate

We will prepare for the Parliamentary Debate (Assignment #3).

Module 13: Effective Climate Governance?

- Dimitrov, Radoslav, Jon Hovi, Detlef F. Sprinz, Håkon Sælen, and Arild Underdal. 2019. Institutional and Environmental Effectiveness: Will the Paris Agreement Work? *WIREs Climate Change* 2019;e583.
<https://doi.org/10.1002/wcc.583>
- Tørstad, Vegard H. 2020. Participation, Ambition and Compliance: Can the Paris Agreement Solve the Effectiveness Trilemma? *Environmental Politics* 29(5), 761-780.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/09644016.2019.1710322>
- Eskander, Shaikh M. S. U., & Sam Fankhauser. 2020. Reduction in Greenhouse Gas Emissions From National Climate Legislation. *Nature Climate Change*.
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41558-020-0831-z>

Module 14: Parliamentary Debate on Global Climate Policy

In-Class Debate (see Assignment #3).

Module 15: Compensation/Loss & Damage

- Broberg, Morten. 2020. Interpreting the UNFCCC's Provisions on 'Mitigation' and 'Adaptation' in Light of the Paris Agreement's Provision on 'Loss and Damage'. *Climate Policy* 20(5), 527-533.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/14693062.2020.1745744>
- Sprinz, Detlef F., and Steffen von Bünau. 2013. The Compensation Fund for Climate Impacts. *Weather, Climate, and Society* 5 (3):210-20.
<https://doi.org/10.1175/WCAS-D-12-00010.1>
- Read <https://www.munichre.com/en/risks/natural-disasters.html> (last accessed: 18 Feb. 2024)
- Swiss Re. 2014. *sigma Natural Catastrophes And Man-Made Disasters in 2013: Large Losses From Floods and Hail; Haiyan Hits the Philippines*, Zurich, Swiss Re, 15-27.
<https://www.swissre.com/institute/research/sigma-research/sigma-2014-01.html>
- Banerjee, Chandan et al. 2023. *sigma - Natural Catastrophes and Inflation in 2022: A Perfect Storm*. Swiss Re Institute, 1-19. <https://www.swissre.com/institute/research/sigma-research/sigma-2023-01.html>

Module 16: Progress Reports on Assignment #4: Q&A

Brief Student Progress Reports on Assignment #4, followed by Q&A (not graded)

Module 17: Modeling Global Climate Negotiations

- Sprinz, Detlef F., Bruce Bueno de Mesquita, Steffen Kallbekken, Frans Stokman, Håkon Sælen, and Robert Thomson. 2016. Predicting Paris: Multi-Method Approaches to Forecast the Outcomes of Global Climate Negotiations. *Politics and Governance* 4 (3), 172-187.
<https://doi.org/10.17645/pag.v4i3.654>
- Sprinz, Detlef. F., Håkon Sælen, Arild Underdal, and Jon Hovi. 2018. The Effectiveness of Climate Clubs under Donald Trump. *Climate Policy* 18(7), 828–838.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/14693062.2017.1410090>
- Victor, David G., Marcel Lumkowsky, and Astrid Dannenberg. 2022. Determining the Credibility of Commitments in International Climate Policy. *Nature Climate Change*, 12(9), 793-800.
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41558-022-01454-x>
- Aklin, Michaël, and Matto Mildemberger. 2020. Prisoners of the Wrong Dilemma: Why Distributive Conflict, Not Collective Action, Characterizes the Politics of Climate Change. *Global Environmental Politics* 20(4), 4-27.
https://doi.org/10.1162/glep_a_00578
- Colgan, Jeff D., Jessica F. Green, and Thomas N. Hale. 2021. Asset Revaluation and the Existential Politics of Climate Change. *International Organization* 75(2), 586-610.
<https://doi.org/10.1017/S0020818320000296>
- Bayer, Patrick, and Frederica Genovese. 2020. Beliefs About Consequences from Climate Action Under Weak Climate Institutions: Sectors, Home Bias, and International Embeddedness. *Global Environmental Politics*, 20(4), 28-50.
https://doi.org/10.1162/glep_a_00577
- Hale, Thomas. 2020. Catalytic Cooperation. *Global Environmental Politics*, 20(4), 73-98.
https://doi.org/10.1162/glep_a_00561

Module 18: Guest Lecture by Wake Smith (Lecturer in Yale College and Senior Fellow, Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government, Harvard Kennedy School): Geoengineering

- Smith, Wake. 2020. The Cost of Stratospheric Aerosol Injection Through 2100. *Environmental Research Letters* 15(11), 114004. doi:10.1088/1748-9326/aba7e7
- Smith, Wake, and Claire Henly. 2021. Updated and Outdated Reservations About Research Into Stratospheric Aerosol Injection. *Climatic Change* 164(3), 39. doi:10.1007/s10584-021-03017-z
- Smith, Wake. 2022. Pandora's Toolbox - The Hopes and Hazards of Climate Intervention. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press [browse the book]

Modules 19 & 20: Solutions to Long-Term Climate Policy Challenges

Student Presentations, Q&A, and Paper Submission.