



SPRING SEMESTER

ENSP 401 -- Environmental Policy

ENSP 401 starts with the idea that institutions of government are not a fixed inheritance but choices that are constantly being revised. The goal of the course is to sort out that assertion, while providing a basic introduction to both American institutions and major environmental policies. We will look at choices shaping the structure of governance and tools of environmental policy. Where are we heading in terms of democratic decision-making, responsibility, and accountability?

In this course, students will explore and discuss:

- o The basic actors in the political process, as it pertains specifically to environmental issues
- o Use of science, public participation, and local decision making in defining and implementing policy
- o Pros and cons of making decisions about the environment collectively via government action, or individual via marketplace transactions
- o Different models of government management and
- o Comparisons of the US policy model to international decision-making processes concerning global resources.

ENSP 414 -- Placemaking

Placemaking focuses on the process of designing urban places where public life and a sense of community can thrive. Many critics of American cities have lamented the fact that they have lost their uniqueness. This course seeks to help students discover for themselves building blocks for great placemaking.

ENSP 421 -- Natural Resource Issues in the American West

This class takes its inspiration from the High Country News, an excellent newspaper covering environmental issues in the American West. But instead of just reading the paper, we will be asking, WHY are these issues so particular to the American West, and how did it get to be this way? How have natural resources affected the transformation of the western landscape over time, and how have those transformations affected the western environment as we know it today? We will take a historical look at the settlement, development, and management of the western landscape, both in terms of natural resources (timber, water, grazing, parks etc.) but also in terms of cultural settlement and use - and will consider how landscape can be used as a tool for understanding the cultural/social/political history of a place. The class will be reading-intensive, meeting once a week in a seminar style. Students can also expect to do some serious writing and thinking about how and why the West has become such a distinctive natural and cultural landscape.

ENSP 425 -- Restoration Seminar

This seminar focuses on the ideas and theories behind environmental restoration work, and asking some critical questions about current challenges in the field: where did the idea of restoration come from? What are the goals of environmental restorations, and how do you know if a project is meeting those goals? What do we really mean by the terms "wilderness," "native," "diversity," and so forth? Do environmental mitigation projects really work? We will also look at several real-world cases of restoration projects through the semester, two from northern California and one on a national scale.

ENSP 451 -- Water Regulation

The regulation of water supply and quality from all points of view including regulators, industries, scientific agencies, nonprofit organizations, and action agencies. The law management economics and technology of water.