

Politics 174: Global Environmental Politics

Winter Quarter 2004, TTH 12-1:45 PM, 101 Natural Sciences Annex

Instructor: Ronnie Lipschutz

Office Hours: M, 2-3; Tu, 2-3, or by appt.

260 Stevenson College, Phone: 459-3275 ,

e-mail: rlipsch@cats.ucsc.edu

TA: Barbara Durward (bdurward@ucsc.edu)

(This page will be updated periodically, and new resources will be added. Last update: March 11, 2004)

The web site for this course is:

<http://ic.ucsc.edu/~rlipsch/Pol174.w04/syllabus.html>

Focus: This is an upper division course focused on the global environmental "problematique" and the ways in which it is being played out in a variety of political and policy arenas. The course is intended to provide students with insights into:

- The political structure and context of transnational environmental issues;
- The ways in which individuals are implicated in these issues;
- The intergovernmental mechanisms established for addressing problems in the atmospheric "global commons," such as waste disposal and climate change;
- The treatment of environmental problems that occur in many different places but are not necessarily linked, such as biodiversity;
- Transnational environmental activity, including that through social movements, non-governmental organizations, and corporate actors;
- Domestic environmental politics in a comparative context in several different countries.

We will approach these matters through a focus on four general aspects of the environmental problematique:

- People and population
- Consumption and its discontents



- The struggle for the world genetic product
- Air and Water

Assignments: In addition to attendance (10% of grade) at lectures (there will be no formal discussion sections), students must read the assigned texts and articles listed on the syllabus below. There are several written requirements:

- **Synthesis essay** (5% of grade): Due January 22. Write a 2 page essay on population. You may take any position you like and write on any aspect of the topic you wish. This should be tightly-argued and well-reasoned, and cite sources. A more extensive assignment will be passed out during the first week of classes.
- **Consumption account** (5%): Due January 29. Keep a record of your consumption for a single day. Be sure to include: energy, food, clothing, and indirect (footprint) items. More information will be provided in class.
- **Midterm** (20%): There will be a take-home midterm, handed out on February 3. It will be based on texts, selected articles from the syllabus, and lecture notes (which will be posted on the web). The mid-term is due in class on February 10.
- **Research paper** (30%): The third writing assignment will be a 10pp. research paper. Topics and details will be discussed in class and posted on the web (http://ic.ucsc.edu/~rlipsch/Pol174.w04/Pol_174_Research_Paper.html). The paper will be due in draft on February 24 and in final form on March 9.
- **Final** (30%): There will be a comprehensive take-home final handed out on March 9 and due at noon on March 17 in 260 Stevenson.

You can find a handout on writing, reading, and speaking by clicking on this sentence.

Required texts (available from Slug Books, and on reserve):

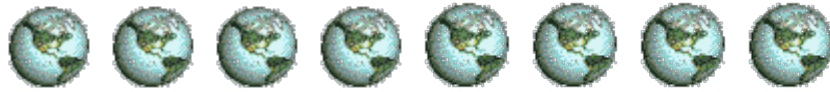
Ronnie D. Lipschutz, *Global Environmental Politics* (Washington, DC: CQ Press, 2003)

Thomas Princen, et al (eds.), *Confronting Consumption* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 2002)

Vandana Shiva, *Tomorrow's Biodiversity* (Thames & Hudson, 2000)

Diane Raines Ward, *Water Wars* (New York: Riverhead Books, 2002)

Jack M. Hollander, *The Real Environmental Crisis* (Berkeley: UC Press, 2003). **This book has not been ordered through Slug Books!** You can buy an electronic version of this book through Amazon for \$10.36 at: <http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/tg/detail/-/B00008Z41Z/qid=1071514730/sr=12-1/104-7573725-1916755?v=glance&s=books>



Useful web resources:

Other readings are hyperlinked to the lecture topics, below. Articles may be added during the quarter; please review this web site periodically.

Course Syllabus:

(click on lecture titles to access lecture notes)

Part I: [Introduction to the course](http://ic.ucsc.edu/~rlipsch/Pol174.w04/Pol174-w04-Part1.html) <http://ic.ucsc.edu/~rlipsch/Pol174.w04/Pol174-w04-Part1.html>

1/6: Soylent Green is People!

For background on the film, see: <http://www.iol.ie/~carrollm/hh/chap-soy.htm>



1/8: How might we think about global environmental politics?

Read: Lipschutz, ch. 1-2

[Part II: How many people?](http://ic.ucsc.edu/~rlipsch/Pol174.w04/Pol174-w04-Part2.html) <http://ic.ucsc.edu/~rlipsch/Pol174.w04/Pol174-w04-Part2.html>

1/13: Demography as science and ideology

[\(click here for slides--in Powerpoint\)](http://ic.ucsc.edu/~rlipsch/Pol174.w04/Population.ppt) <http://ic.ucsc.edu/~rlipsch/Pol174.w04/Population.ppt>

Read: Eric B. Ross, "[The Malthus Factor Poverty, Politics and Population in](#)

[Capitalist Development](#), "The Cornerhouse Briefing #20, 2000, at:

<http://cornerhouse.icaap.org/briefings/20.html>

Hollander, ch. 1-3.

1/15: Malthus and his followers

Read: Thomas Malthus, "[An Essay on the Principle of Population](#)," (1798), ch. 1, 2, 5, 7, 10, at: <http://www.ac.wvu.edu/~stephan/malthus/malthus.0.html>. Skim the rest.

Browse the [Home Page of the International Society of Malthus](#), at:

<http://desip.igc.org/malthus/>

1/20: People as the ultimate resource

Read: Ed Regis, "[The Doomslayer](#)," Wired, Feb. 1997, at: http://www.wired.com/wired/archive/5.02/ffsimon_pr.html;

William O'Keefe, "[Are Resources Finite in a World of Unlimited Intelligence?](#)", at: <http://www.acton.org/ppolicy/environment/population/okeefe.html>

Additional Reading:

Paul Ehrlich, *The Population Bomb* (Sierra Club-Ballantine, 1968).

Julian Simon, *The Ultimate Resource 2* (Princeton, 1996).

[Part III: Consumption and Its Discontents](#)

[Consumption and the Environment](#) <http://www.deh.gov.au/pcepd/economics/consumption/>

[Toward Sustainable Consumption](#) (<http://www.newdream.org/discuss/nas.html>)



1/22: Commodity Chains and Kipple Chains

Read: Princen, et al., ch. 1-3; Hollander, ch. 8, 11; National Academy of Sciences, [*Environmentally Significant Consumption: Research Directions*](#) (1997), ch. 1 (<http://www.nap.edu/books/0309055989/html/index.html>)

See also: [Some commodity chains](#) (<http://www.lclark.edu/~soan221/97/CommodityChain.html>)

[Explaining Kipple culture](#) (<http://totl.net/Kipple/index.html>)

Mark Sagoff, ["Do We Consume too Much?"](#), <http://ic.ucsc.edu/~rlipsch/Pol174.w04/Sagoff>

1/27: Hazardous Capital and the Green Consumer

Read: Lipschutz, ch. 3; Princen, ch. 5-6

See also: Lyuba Zarsky, ["International Investment Rules and the Environment,"](#) (<http://www.foreignpolicy-infocus.org/briefs/vol4/v4n22env.html>)

1/29: Who will rid me of these noisome wastes?

Read: Lipschutz, ch. 5; Princen, et al., ch. 7

See also: Berndt Brickell, ["The Norms of the Basel Convention"](#) (<http://www.arbld.unimelb.edu.au/envjust/papers/allpapers/brikell/home.htm>)

Zada Lipman, ["Trade In Hazardous Waste: Environmental Justice Versus Economic Growth"](#)

(<http://www.arbld.unimelb.edu.au/envjust/papers/allpapers/lipman/home.htm>)

Tony Dias, ["The Disaster and Its aftermath: The Hiroshima of the Chemical Industry"](#)

(<http://www.arbld.unimelb.edu.au/envjust/papers/allpapers/dias/home.htm>)

Tara McGee, ["Justice Dimensions of Environmental Contamination in Industry-Dependent Communities"](#)

(<http://www.arbld.unimelb.edu.au/envjust/papers/allpapers/mcgee/home.htm>)



[Part IV: The Struggle for Nature](#)

2/3: Who owns knowledge? TRIPS and the enclosure of the intellectual commons

Read: Shiva, "Introduction," ch. 1; Hollander, ch. 4; Markku Oksanen, ["Privatising Genetic Resources: Biodiversity Preservation and Intellectual Property Rights"](#) (<http://www.arbld.unimelb.edu.au/envjust/papers/allpapers/oksanen/home.htm>)

Of potential interest: Peter J. Bryant, [Biodiversity and Conservation](http://darwin.bio.uci.edu/~sustain/bio65/Titlepage.htm#Table%20of%20contents) (http://darwin.bio.uci.edu/~sustain/bio65/Titlepage.htm#Table of contents). See chapter 7.

[Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species \(CITES\)](http://www.cites.org/)

http://www.cites.org/

[Convention on Biodiversity \(CBD\)](http://www.biodiv.org/doc/) (http://www.biodiv.org/doc/)

[Codex Alimentarius Commission](http://www.codexalimentarius.net/) www.codexalimentarius.net/

2/5: The valorization of genetic diversity and the GMO problem

Read: Shiva, ch. 3-4; Ross, ch. 6-7; Barbara

Adams, et al, "[The Politics of GM](#)

[Food](#)," at: <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/Units/gec/gecko/gec-gm-f.pdf>



See also:

[Transgenic food articles](http://ic.ucsc.edu/~rlipsch/pol174/Transgenic%20foods.html) (http://ic.ucsc.edu/~rlipsch/pol174/Transgenic%20foods.html)

Martin Teitel, "Unsafe at Any Seed?" *Forum for Applied Research and Public Policy* v15, n3 (Fall, 2000):40.

Les Levidow & Susan Carr, "Sound Science or Ideology?" *Forum for Applied Research and Public Policy* v15, n3 (Fall, 2000):44.

Nigel J. Taylor & Claude M. Fauquet, "Biotechnology's Greatest Challenge." *Forum for Applied Research and Public Policy* v15, n3 (Fall, 2000):51.

2/10: [Fate of the Forests](http://ic.ucsc.edu/~rlipsch/Pol174.w04/Pol174-w04-Part5.html) (http://ic.ucsc.edu/~rlipsch/Pol174.w04/Pol174-w04-Part5.html)

([click here for Powerpoint presentation](#)) <http://ic.ucsc.edu/~rlipsch/Pol174.w04/Forests1.ppt>

Read: Peter J. Bryant, [Biodiversity and Conservation](http://darwin.bio.uci.edu/~sustain/bio65/Titlepage.htm#Table%20of%20contents) ch. 10. <http://darwin.bio.uci.edu/~sustain/bio65/Titlepage.htm#Table of contents>

FAO (Food and Agriculture Organisation). 2001. [State of the World's Forests 2001](http://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/003/y0900e/y0900e00.pdf) at: [ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/003/y0900e/y0900e00.pdf](http://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/003/y0900e/y0900e00.pdf)

World Commission on Forests and Sustainable Development, [Our Forests, Our Future--Summary Report](http://www.iisd.org/pdf/wcfsdsummary.pdf) (1999), at: <http://www.iisd.org/pdf/wcfsdsummary.pdf>

2/12: Is sustainable forestry possible?

Read:

Ronnie D. Lipschutz, "[Environmental Regulation, Certification, and Corporate Standards: A Critique](http://ic.ucsc.edu/~rlipsch/Pol174.w04/Lipschutz%20Forest%20paper.pdf)," at: <http://ic.ucsc.edu/~rlipsch/Pol174.w04/Lipschutz%20Forest%20paper.pdf>

Earl E. Meidinger. 2002. "[Forest Certification as Environmental Law Making](#)

[by Global Civil Society,"](#) pp. 293-329, in: E. Meidinger, C. Elliott and G. Oesten (eds.), *Social and Political Dimensions of Forest Certification*, Remagen-Oberwinter, Germany: www.forstbuch.de , at: <http://law.buffalo.edu/homepage/eemeid/scholarship/FCGCSLaw.pdf>

See also:

Forest Conservation Portal, at: <http://forests.org/>
Rainforest Action Network, at: <http://www.ran.org/>



[Part IVa: Something is in the Air](#) (<http://ic.ucsc.edu/~rlipsch/Pol174.w04/Pol174-w04-Part6.html>)

2/24: The air, the air is everywhere

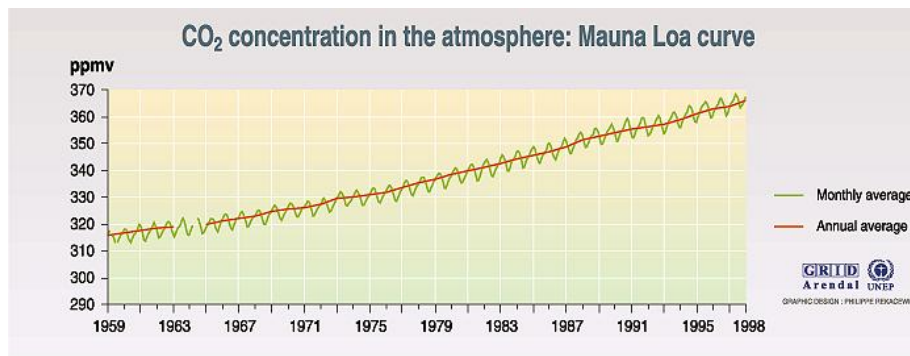
Read: Hollander, ch. 5, 7; IPCC, "[Summary for Policymakers](#)," *Climate Change 2001 Synthesis Report*, at: <http://www.ipcc.ch/pub/un/syrenq/spm.pdf>

Detlef Sprinz and Urs Luterbacher, "[International Relations and Global Climate Change](#)," http://www.pik-potsdam.de/dept/soc/e/reports/pr21_1.htm

See also:

UNEP, "[Vital Climate Graphics](#)," at: <http://www.grida.no/climate/vital/>

Browse the World Resources Institute [Climate Pages](#) at <http://www.wri.org/climate/index.html>



Source : Scripps Institution of oceanography (SIO), University of California, 1998.

2/26: Lukewarm diplomacy (at best)

Read: Hermann E. Ott, "[Climate change: an important foreign policy issue,](http://www.wupperinst.org/download/Int-Affairs-Ott.pdf)" *International Affairs* 77, 2 (2001):277-96, at:<http://www.wupperinst.org/download/Int-Affairs-Ott.pdf>
 Surage Dessai, "[The Climate Regime from the Hague to Marrakech: Saving or Sinking the Kyoto Protocol?](http://www.tyndall.ac.uk/publications/working_papers/wp12.pdf)" Tyndall Center for Climate Change Research, Working Paper 12, at: http://www.tyndall.ac.uk/publications/working_papers/wp12.pdf

See also:

Anil Agarwal, "[Making the Kyoto Protocol Work: Ecological and economic effectiveness, and equity in the climate regime,](http://www.cseindia.org/html/eyou/climate/pdf/cse_stat.pdf)" at: http://www.cseindia.org/html/eyou/climate/pdf/cse_stat.pdf

David G. Victor, "[Enforcing International Law: Implications for an Effective Global Warming Regime,](http://www.law.duke.edu/shell/cite.pl?10+Duke+Envtl.+L.+&+Pol'y+F.+147)" *Duke Environmental Law and Policy Forum* 10, at: <http://www.law.duke.edu/shell/cite.pl?10+Duke+Envtl.+L.+&+Pol'y+F.+147>



[Part IVb: Something is in the Water](http://ic.ucsc.edu/~rlipsch/Pol174.w04/Pol174-w04-Part7.html) <http://ic.ucsc.edu/~rlipsch/Pol174.w04/Pol174-w04-Part7.html>

3/2: Water wars?

Read: Ward, ch 1-4; Hollander, ch. 6; Marq de Villiers, "[Water Wars of the Near Future,](http://www.itt.com/waterbook/Wars.asp)" at: <http://www.itt.com/waterbook/Wars.asp>; Joyce Starr, "[Water Wars,](http://www.ciesin.org/docs/006-304/006-304.html)" *Foreign Policy* 82 (Spring): 17-36, at: <http://www.ciesin.org/docs/006-304/006-304.html>

See also:

Peter Gleick, "[The Changing Water Paradigm: A Look at Twenty-first Century Water Resources Development](#)," *Water International*, Volume 25, Number 1, Pages 127-138, March 2000, at: <http://www.iwra.siu.edu/win/win2000/win03-00/gleick.pdf>

3/4: Water for sale?

(Ben Crow's "[Gender and Water](#)" presentation: <http://ic.ucsc.edu/~rlipsch/Pol174.w04/Gender&WaterTalk.ppt>)

Read: Ward, ch 5-epilogue; Clay Landry & Terry Anderson, "[The Rising Tide of Water Markets](#)," at: <http://www.itt.com/waterbook/tide.asp>;

Jack Moss, Gary Wolff, Graham Gladden & Eric Guttierrez, "[Valuing Water for Better Governance](#)" (10 March 2003), at: http://www.pacinst.org/reports/valuing_water/valuing_water_paper.pdf



3/9: [The Nature & Prospects of the Global Environmental Problematique](#)
<http://ic.ucsc.edu/~rlipsch/Pol174.w04/Pol174-w04-Part%208.html>

Read: Lipschutz, ch. 4,6; Hollander, ch. 9, 10, 12, 13

3/11: [What are we to do?](#) <http://ic.ucsc.edu/~rlipsch/Pol174.w04/Civil%20society%20&%20soc.%20mvmts..doc>



