GEOG 335/GEOG 711.75 - INTERNATIONAL POLLUTION ISSUES
SPRING SEMESTER 2013
Room: HN 1022 MONDAY/ THURSDAY 2:45 to 4:00 PM

Instructor: Professor Karl H. Szekielda
Office: HN 1026
Email: szekielda@aol.com
Telephone: 212-772-5325
Office hours: Wednesday 2:00 to 4:00 PM or by appointment through email.

Course objectives

1. The course is aimed to introduce the students to global implications of anthropogenic activities that lead to high emissions of critical substances resulting in detrimental changes to our environment.
2. The students will study the actions taken by the international community and by international organizations to find appropriate ways for conciliating divergent interests of the major industrialized countries and the developing world.
3. Students will be guided in formulating an independent study on environmental concerns at the international level to enhance the student's perception of the important role of man's responsibility towards a sustainable future.

Course description

Issues related to international trans-boundary pollution are of increasing concern requiring regional and international cooperation. The course therefore will focus on the study of international trans-boundary pollution sources, transport pathways and contamination events that impact beyond a country's borders. The broad field of environmental science will be discussed and will specifically identify areas which are of concern on a global scale as well as on national and local levels. National and international legal instruments to counteract degradation of the environment will also be discussed.

There will be no text book. The course will include assigned readings that are available through the web sites of international organizations and agencies. Students will be guided in accessing the information for the required reading. Students are also encouraged to seek related and current sources beyond cited materials.

The major part of the course will lead to the development of a case study to be worked on independently. The preliminary results of the research, a summary of the work and the final outcome are to be presented during the semester. The students will be guided as well on formatting the results according to international standards of manuscript submission to a journal. At the end of the semester, the study is to be submitted electronically as pdf, and the final results of the study are to be submitted at the end of the semester.

Expected student outcomes

It is anticipated that upon completion of the course, the students will have a better understanding of international pollution issues and be able to suggest or to advise on action plans to abate pollution as deliberated through international organizations. At the end of the semester the students will also have a

general view on important concepts regarding linkages between industrial development and the environmental side effects

Evaluation
The preliminary results from the research project accounts for 30% of the final grade, the summary will be 30% and the submission of the final results of the study will account for 40%. Graduate students are requested to present their studies in a PowerPoint presentation to the class.

A final grade of IN (incomplete) will not be given except under the most extraordinary, and documented, circumstances. Only students who have completed ALL course requirements including all writing/lab assignments and exams will be eligible for a final grade of CR/NC. CR/NC is not available to students enrolled in this course or any other graduate-level course in the Hunter College School of Arts & Sciences.

Attendance
Although class participation does not factor into final grades, attendance is highly desirable.

Lecture outline
Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice.

LECTURE	DATE	DAY	TOPIC
1	Jan 28	M	Introduction To Environmental Studies
2	31	TH	Current Pollution Issues
3	04	M	Earth Conditions For Development
4	Feb 07	TH	Ecosystems I And Pollution Effects
5	11	M	Ecosystems 2and Pollution Effects
6	20	WE	World Population Dynamics And Anthropogenic Emission
7	FEB 21	TH	Chemical By-Products Of Development: Ozone Depletion As A Case Study
8	25	M	Food Production And Byproducts
9	28	TH	The Oceans As An Alternative: The Law Of The Sea And Pollution
10	Mar 04	M	Industrial Production And Release Of Toxic Material: Pest And Pest Control
11	07	TH	Pollution And Global Cycles
12	11	M	The United Nations System And Pollution Control
13	14	TH	**Evaluation Of Students' Research Projects**
14	18	M	Water Cycle And Water Management
15	21	TH	Pollution Of Sediments Nutrients And Eutrophication
16	Apr 04	TH	Sewage And The Nutrient Cycle
17	08	M	UNCED, The Montreal And Kyoto Protocols
19	11	TH	New York As A Case Study

20	15	M	Air Pollution And Its Control
21	18	TH	Intergovernmental Panel On Climate Change
22	22	M	Major Atmospheric Changes
23	25	TH	Prediction/Forecasting Pollution Issues For The Next 50 Years
24	29	M	Energy Resources: The Rise And Fall Of Fossil Fuels
25	May 02	TH	Biodiversity And Ecosystems As Resources
26	06	M	Nuclear Power: Promises And Pollution Problems
27	09	TH	Students Reports PPT 1
28	13	M	Students Reports PPT 2
	16	TH	Round Table Discussion
FINAL EXAM – Monday, May 20th from 1345 to 1545			

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Hunter College regards acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on examinations, obtaining unfair advantage, and falsification of records and official documents) as serious offenses against the values of intellectual honesty. The College is committed to enforcing the CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College Academic Integrity Procedures.

ADA Policy

In compliance with the American Disability Act of 1990 (ADA) and with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Hunter College is committed to ensuring educational parity and accommodations for all students with documented disabilities and/or medical conditions. It is recommended that all students with documented disabilities (Emotional, Medical, Physical, and/or Learning) consult the Office of AccessABILITY, located in Room E1214B, to secure necessary academic accommodations. For further information and assistance, please call: (212) 772- 4857 or (212) 650-3230.