

Global Climate Governance

Summer 2022

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, 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.

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 (and environmental) governance challenges,
- diagnose as well as propose remedies for long-term environmental climate challenges,
- explore new ideas for, e.g., for subsequent use in their Master thesis, and
- work individually as well as in groups on a diverse set of assignments.

Logistics

Time: → *Course Overview*

Location: Griebnitzsee, Building 6 (see Course Overview for rooms)

Should circumstances not permit meeting in person, we will resort to Zoom.
Please check → Moodle for announcements.

Prerequisites: M.A., doctoral student status, or special students in Political Science, Public Administration, MAIB, MPM, Economics, & Business Administration; exceptions at the discretion of the instructor.

Course Registration: → <https://puls.uni-potsdam.de>, Course: 430511

(you will be admitted to the waiting list). Students *without* access to PULS send a brief email to Ms. Lisa Arndt (→ Teaching Assistant) and indicate (1) first & last name, (2) email (University of Potsdam email preferred), (3) field and semester of studies, (4) why they cannot access PULS, and (5) why they wish to take this course.

Deadline for Dropping the Course: 10 May 2022

Credit Points: 5-10 (ECTS)

Course website: Moodle → <https://moodle2.uni-potsdam.de/course/view.php?id=33025>

Capacity: 20

Contact Details:

dsprinz@uni-potsdam.de (include “GCG Summer 2022” in the subject line)

www.sprinz.org

Office Hours: by appointment

Teaching Assistant: Ms. Lisa Arndt (pcpm-whk3@uni-potsdam.de)

Practicalities

This course requires usage of Moodle and Zoom for our communication and interaction. In addition, we may use other digital tools. We will use Moodle for contents management (self-enrollment for students with a University of Potsdam account; other students contact the → teaching assistant by email) and Zoom (for video, as needed).

Code of Conduct

Given the current health circumstances, please regularly update yourself on and follow the policies in force at the University of Potsdam (→ <https://www.uni-potsdam.de>), the City of Potsdam (→ <https://www.potsdam.de>), the State of Brandenburg (→ <https://www.brandenburg.de>), and (in case you commute to the University of Potsdam premises from Berlin) the State of Berlin (→ <https://www.berlin.de>). The instructor reserves the right to impose more stringent health policies, given specific circumstances.

All students are assumed to be familiar with and will abide by the rules of proper academic conduct as specified by the University of Potsdam (→ <https://www.uni-potsdam.de/am-up/2011/ambek-2011-01-037-039.pdf>), and for courses offered jointly with other universities and academic programs, their rules apply in addition.

You are expected to undertake all your individual assignments independently. For group assignments, resulting products shall be authored exclusively by all group members (with individual components clearly marked). Failure to comply with such rules may lead to the consequences stipulated in →<https://www.uni-potsdam.de/am-up/2020/ambek-2020-03-088-112.pdf> (German) (no current translation into English available at the time of writing) (§17).

Each written submission in this course shall include page 2 of →https://www.uni-potsdam.de/fileadmin01/projects/wisofak/Dateien/Studium/informationen_f_r_studierende_plagiatssoftware_april_2014.pdf (in German only; also available on the →Moodle website for this course).

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 solely on this course.

All (personal) information and material that you encounter in conjunction with this course, on →Zoom, or on →Moodle shall be exclusively used for course-related purposes.

Whenever we use outside services, you agree to abide by their respective End User License Agreement or equivalent. You also accept all rules of academic conduct for the entire course by submitting the first written assignment, whether this is a paper, written test, or quiz.

Students are expected to attend all sessions. If you fall ill, please inform the instructor and teaching assistant with as much lead time as possible. In case you cannot submit assignments due to medical reasons, you must submit an appropriate medical certificate. In addition, in case you request accommodations (“Nachteilsausgleich”), please inform the instructors to this effect and provide the necessary documentation during the first three modules of this course. In case observation of religious obligations interferes with academic deadlines, please notify the instructor well ahead of the deadlines.

Course Requirements and Grading

Students are expected to attend *all* classes and read *all* required readings *before* class so as to allow for informed discussions.

This course comprises a portfolio of assignments. Students receiving 5-6 ECTS conduct Assignment #3 as a *group* assignment; students wishing to receive 9-10 ECTS undertake Assignment #3 as an *individual* assignment. Please inform the →teaching assistant how many ECTS you wish to receive by 04 May 2022.

<i>Requirements</i>	<i>Weight</i>
Oral Participation throughout the course (incl. joint thematic management of the session with other students who undertake Assignment #1 & Assignment #2 for the same module as well as reports as rapporteurs)	30%
Assignment #1: Memo on one journal article, paper, or chapter (individual assignment)	10%
Assignment #2: Memo on one journal article, paper, or chapter (individual assignment)	10%
Assignment #3: Solutions to a Specific Global Climate Policy Challenge (individual/group assignment, presentation, Q&A, and paper)	50%

Course Overview¹

Mod ule	Date	Time	Loca tion	Topic	Assignment or Remarks
1	21 April 2022	10:00 – 12:00h	3.06. S27	Course Overview (instructor)	
2	28 April 2022	8:30 - 10:00h	3.06. S22	The Science of Climate Change	
3	28 April 2022	10:25 - 11:55h	3.06. S22	Climate Change as a Long-Term Policy Challenge	Assignment #1 & students will play an online long- term policy game
4	29 April 2022	9:00 - 10:30h	3.06. S28	Global Climate Negotiations: History	Assignment #1
5	29 April 2022	10:55 - 12:25h	3.06. S28	Actors I: Countries	Assignment #1 Assignment #3: Suggested Topics will be announced
6	05 May 2022	8:30 - 10:00h	3.06. S27	Actors II: Non-State Actors	Assignment #1
7	05 May 2022	10:25 - 11:55h	3.06. S27	Compliance & Implementation	Assignment #2
	05 May 2022 <i>(via Zoom)*</i>	19:00 – 21:00h	Zoom	Mandatory Group Consultation Sessions with Instructor on Assignment #3	Sessions of 20-30 minutes
8	12 May 2022	8:30 - 10:00h	3.06. S27	Effective Climate Governance?	Assignment #2
9	12 May 2022	10:25 - 11:55h	3.06. S27	Compensation/Loss & Damage	Assignment #2

¹ The schedule is indicative and subject to short-term changes in view of the then current epidemiological/pandemic situation. Check the course site on Moodle for updates and announcements.

10	13 May 2022	10:30 - 12:00h	3.06. S28	Modeling Global Climate Negotiations	Assignment #2
11	13 May 2022	13:00 – 14:30h	3.06. S28	Guest Lecture: Prof. Galina E. Churkina (Technical University Berlin): Timber and Carbon Storage	Guest Lecture
12	19 May 2022	8:30 - 11:00h	3.06. S27	Solutions for Long-Term Climate Policy Challenges	Presentations of Assignment #3
13	19 May 2022	11:15 – 12:00h	3.06. S27	Course Review	Assignment #3: Paper due on 18 May 2022, noon
	20 May 2022	9:00 - 10:30h	3.06. S27	Backup (please keep this time slot reserved)	
	20 May 2022	10:55 - 12:25h	3.06. S27	Backup (please keep this time slot reserved)	

*check announcements on Moodle.

Textbook & Readings

Luterbacher, Urs and Detlef F. Sprinz. 2018. *Global Climate Policy: Change in an International Context*. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press → *University of Potsdam library (electronic & print copies available)*.

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

Assignments

All Assignments

Assignments will be posted to → *Moodle* well ahead of the deadline. Submission deadlines are indicated on the → *Course Overview*.

When composing your individual or group papers, your emphasis is *not* on reviewing 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 the required readings, and innovate in a way not found in the required readings. Leave the reader with the impression that *your* ideas (either individual or as a group) have been carefully chosen and could be expanded upon in a longer research paper or Master 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 A4-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 Word *and* PDF formats – via →*Moodle* by the due date and time (→*Assignment*). Extensions will be granted only under extraordinary circumstances, following written petition to the instructor.

For proper citation, please consult →<https://poorvucenter.yale.edu/using-sources>.

In case of group assignments, all author ID numbers have to be listed, including a short description who contributed what.

In case you cannot submit assignments due to medical reasons, you must submit a medical doctor's certificate to the instructor.

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

Individual Assignments will be posted to →*Moodle* and are outlined below.

Assignments #1 & #2: Introducing the Readings

Sign up for a specific reading via → *Moodle 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 Wednesday, 14:00h, preceding its presentation to the class to →*Moodle*.

Together with all other students presenting an assignment #1 or #2 for the same module, paper givers will offer a *joint* 5 minutes introduction to the topic of the module at large. Subsequently, we split into parallel breakout groups, led by the paper givers and the discussion of each breakout group will be summarized by a rapporteur in the ensuing plenary. Assignment to breakout groups and to rapporteur status is random and at the discretion of the instructor. The instructor will visit the parallel breakout groups and subsequently will lead the concluding discussion in the plenary.

Assignment #3: Solutions for Long-Term Climate Policy Challenges: Video, Presentation, Q&A, Paper

A range of indicative enduring challenges will be made available on 29 April 2022, yet you will be free to propose any comparable long-term climate policy challenge you wish to pursue. Please submit a (max.) one-page proposal (ungraded) by 04 May 2022 and book (as a group [5-6 ECTS] or individual [9-10 ECTS]) a slot for consultation on 05 May 2022, 19:00-21:00h (first come, first served).

You or your group will have 10-20 minutes (depending on the number of students) to introduce your solution to a long-term policy challenge on 19 May 2022, followed by Q&A. The final paper is due on 01 June 2022.

Modules

Module 1: Course Overview

Course Overview

Module 2: The Science of Climate Change

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

Module 3: Climate Change as a Long-Term Policy Challenge

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

Levin, Kelly, Benjamin Cashore, Steven Bernstein, and Graeme Auld. 2012. Overcoming the Tragedy of Super Wicked Problems: Constraining Our Future Selves to Ameliorate Global Climate Change. *Policy Sciences*: 45 (2), 123-152. doi:10.1007/s11077-012-9151-0

Finnegan, Jared J. forthcoming. Institutions, Climate Change, and the Foundations of Long-Term Policymaking. *Comparative Political Studies*.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/00104140211047416>

Module 4: 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.nytimes.com/video/us/politics/100000004632792/obama-on-terrifying-threat-of-climate-change.html>

Module 5: Actors I: Countries

UNFCCC. n.d.. Party Groupings. <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/parties-non-party-stakeholders/parties/party-groupings> (last accessed: 31 March

- 2022)
- 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>
- Nascimento, Leonardo et al. 2021. Twenty Years of Climate Policy: G20 Coverage and Gaps. *Climate Policy* 22(2), 158-174. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14693062.2021.1993776>

Module 6: 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
- Paterson, Matthew. 2018. Chapter 9: Business. *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
- Kuramochi, Takeshi et al. 2020. Beyond National Climate Action: The Impact of Region, City, and Business Commitments on Global Greenhouse Gas Emissions. *Climate Policy* 20(3), 275-291. doi:10.1080/14693062.2020.1740150

Module 7: 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. doi: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. <http://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 8: Effective Climate Governance?

- Helm, Carsten, and Detlef F. Sprinz. 2000. Measuring the Effectiveness of International Environmental Regimes. *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 45 (5):630-652
- 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. doi: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>
- Almer, Christian, and Ralph Winkler. 2017. Analyzing the Effectiveness of International Environmental Policies: The Case of the Kyoto Protocol. *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management* 82, 125-151. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jeem.2016.11.003>

Module 9: 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. doi: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
- Munich RE. 2019. *NatCatSERVICE - Relevant Weather-Related Loss Events Worldwide 1980-2018*, 29 March 2019, Munich, Munich RE
- 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, esp. 15-27

Check <http://natcatservice.munichre.com> for interactive analysis [currently not freely accessible]

Module 10: 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. doi: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>
- Aklin, Michaël and Matto Mildenberger. 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
- Cashore, Benjamin and Steven Bernstein. 2022. Bringing the Environment Back In: Overcoming the Tragedy of the Diffusion of the Commons Metaphor. *Perspectives on Politics*, 1-24. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1537592721002553>

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>

Module 11: Guest Lecture by Prof. Galina E. Churkina (Technical University Berlin): Timber and Carbon Storage

Churkina, Galina et al. 2020). Buildings as a Global Carbon Sink. *Nature Sustainability* 3(4), 269-276. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41893-019-0462-4>
Churkina, Galina, and Alan Organschi. 2022. Will a Transition to Timber Construction Cool the Climate? *Sustainability* 14(7), 4271. <https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/14/7/4271>

Module 12: Solutions for Long-Term Climate Policy Challenges

Presentations + Q&A

Module 13: Course Review