

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
Woodrow Wilson School for Public Policy and International Affairs

Spring 2005

WWS 586d Topics in STEP: Global Environmental Governance

Prof. Michael Oppenheimer (Woodrow Wilson School), **jointly with**
Prof. Richard B. Stewart (NYU Law School)

Fridays 1:30-4:30 (location alternates first 6 weeks at NYU School of Law, Vanderbilt Hall, room 202; second 6 weeks at WWS, Robertson Hall, room 020)

Overview: This course examines international law and governance in the context of environmental problems, given the great variety of domestic approaches among nations, and the resulting challenge to global trade and regulatory regimes. We shall consider the need for regulation under conditions of scientific uncertainty with respect to a number of issues of current interest, including climate change, GMOs, fisheries management, biodiversity and forest conservation, and ozone depletion. The course explores the efficacy of diverse regulatory approaches, mechanisms for scientific advice to policy makers and participation by business firms and NGOs. Intersections between environmental regulation (both domestic and international) with trade, investment, and multilateral development and aid programs are examined.

Elements of international environmental regimes that are of interest include

- Formal administrative elements
- informal governmental networks
- the relation between domestic implementation and international procedures
- cross-state influence of domestic regimes
- public-private standard setting
- formal and informal scientific advisory mechanisms
- the interaction of international regimes with domestic politics and domestic interest groups
- means to rationalize diverse national approaches to risk

The course will proceed in seminar form, with occasional guest lecturers.

Requirements and Grading: Students will be responsible for one final paper. Final grades will be determined as follows:

Final paper:	50%
Seminar participation:	50%

Readings:

Extensive readings from

Barrett, S.: 2003, *Environment and Statecraft: the Strategy of Environmental Treaty-Making*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, UK.

Benedick, R.: 1998, *Ozone Diplomacy*, Harvard U., Cambridge.

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change: 2001, *Climate Change 2001: Synthesis Report*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK and New York (available online at <http://www.ipcc.ch/>).

Course packet

Outline

Week 1: GMOs – The EU Moratorium

Week 2: GMOs – Labeling and Traceability

Week 3: The Montreal Protocol (Ozone Depletion)

Week 4: Climate Change: How Warm is Too Warm

Week 5: Climate Change: Forests and Climate

Week 6: Sustainable Forestry and Ecolabeling

Week 7: Sustainable Fisheries

Week 8: Trade and Environment: Shrimps and Turtles

Week 9: Trade and Environment: Border Tariffs on Carbon

Week 10: Pesticides and other Chemicals

Week 11: Reflection on the Course

Week 12: To be Determined