

**UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO**  
**Department of Political Science**  
**POL 473H1F/2173H1F Advanced Environmental Politics in Canada**  
**Fall 2015, Monday 4 – 6pm**

**Instructor: Dr. Andrea Olive**

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Office Hours: Monday 2 – 4pm (or by appointment)

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**Course Description**

The purpose of this course is to immerse students in environmental policy literature in a Canadian context. Two current - and critical - events will occur in the fall of 2015: a federal election (scheduled October 19<sup>th</sup>) in Canada and the UN Climate Summit (Nov. 30 – Dec. 11). We will spend the duration of the semester focused on these two events. For the first part of the course, leading up to the federal election, we will examine the role of political parties, the media, and the Prime Minister's Office in environmental policy. Following the election, we will turn our attention to climate change and focus on Canada's approach to the UN Climate Summit. These two events will shape Canadian environmental policy in the next decade. We will closely follow these events in Canadian and international newspapers. At the same time, we will read scholarly manuscripts and think critically about how environmental policy is made inside Canada's federal system. We will also read Naomi Klein's most recent book on climate change. While Klein is not traditionally understood as an "academic," she is an iconic Canadian public intellectual. A critical examination of her book will open discussion to Canada's understanding of itself in global politics.

**Required Texts**

Klein, Naomi. 2014. *This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. Climate*. Simon & Schuster.

You will also be REQUIRED to read the *Globe and Mail* and *The Guardian* newspaper on a regular basis. You have access to these papers through the University of Toronto. It may also be necessary for specific assignments to read CBC.ca, the National Post, and other newspapers.

There will be a number of REQUIRED readings (journal articles) drawn from University of Toronto library. Please see course outline and works cited below.

**Strongly Recommended Text**

Olive, Andrea. 2015. *Canadian Environment in Political Context*. Course Pack, University of Toronto Press. Available at the University of Toronto bookstore only.

\*\* Please note that course readings may be added throughout the semester as articles are published and resources become available. Since we are focusing on current events it will be necessary to adjust readings to stay on top of the most recent and available information.

### Course Work

Attendance & Participation: 20%

Take-home exam 1: 20%

Take-home exam 2: 20%

Summary papers: 10%

Critical Essay: 30%

### Schedule of Classes (Subject to Change)

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment
September 14	Syllabus Federalism	Globe and Mail	
September 21	The issues The policy system	Parsons 2000; Olive Chapter 1 and 4	
September 28	Political Parties Election	Wood et al. 2010 Olive Chapter 2 & 3	
October 5	Political Parties Election	MacNeil 2014; Independent research	Election summary due
<b>October 12</b>	<b>Thanksgiving</b>	<b>Thanksgiving</b>	<b>Thanksgiving</b>
October 19	Election night!	Independent Research; Globe & Mail; CBC; National Post	Exam 1 due
October 26	Energy	Harrison 2013	
November 2	Energy	Stokes 2013; Winfield & Dolter 2014; Olive Chap.8	
<b>November 9</b>	<b>Fall Break</b>	<b>Fall Break</b>	<b>Fall Break</b>
November 16	Climate Change	Klein	
November 23	Climate Change	Klein	Exam 2 due
November 30	Climate Change	Klein	
December 8	UN Climate Summit; Course Conclusion	Olive Chap. 11 Guardian; New York Time; Globe and Mail	Climate Summit Summary

Harrison, Kathryn. 2013. "Federalism and Climate Policy Innovation: A Critical Reassessment." *Canadian Public Policy*. Vol. 39.

MacNeil, Robert. 2014. "Canadian Environmental Policy Under Conservative Majority Rule." *Environmental Politics* 23 (1): 174-78.

Parson, Edward. 2000. Environmental Trends and Environmental Governance in Canada. *Canadian Public Policy* 26: S123-S143.

Stokes, Leah. 2013. The Politics of Renewable Energy Policies: The Case of Feed-in Tariffs in Ontario, Canada.” *Energy Policy* 58: 490-500.

Winfield, Mark and Brett Dolter. 2014. “Energy, Economic and environmental discourses and their policy impact: The case of Ontario’s Green Energy and Green Economy Act.” *Energy Policy*. 68 (423-35).

Wood, Stepan et al., “Whatever Happened to Canadian Environmental Law?,” *37 Ecology Law Quarterly*. 2010. pp. 981-1040

### **Accessibility**

U of T Mississauga and the AccessAbility Resource Centre are committed to the full participation of students with disabilities in all aspects of campus life. The AccessAbility Resource Centre provides academic accommodations and services to students who have a physical, sensory, or learning disability, mental health condition, acquired brain injury, or chronic health condition, be it visible or hidden. Students who have temporary disabilities (e.g., broken dominant arm) are also eligible to receive services. All interested students must have an intake interview with an advisor to discuss their individual needs.

Students who require accommodation are advised to visit the AccessAbility Resource Centre as early as possible to have their needs assessed, as it may take some time to process the application. For more information please contact the centre at:

Room 2047, South Bldg.

Tel/TTY: 905-569-4699

E-mail: [access.utm@utoronto.ca](mailto:access.utm@utoronto.ca)

Web: [www.utm.utoronto.ca/access](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/access)

### **Note Concerning Turnitin**

*“Normally, students will be required to submit written assignments to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their assignments to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site”*

([www.Turnitin.com](http://www.Turnitin.com)). If you have an objection to the use of Turnitin for the submission of your work, please make an appointment to speak personally with the Course Instructor to discuss alternative arrangements. A guide for students is available from the University of Toronto’s Office of Teaching Advancement, at:

<http://sites.utoronto.ca/academicintegrity/TurnitinGuideForStudents.pdf> This information will also be made available on the course Blackboard site.

### **Equity Statement**

The University of Toronto is committed to equity and respect for diversity. All members of the learning environment in this course should strive to create an atmosphere of mutual respect. As a

course instructor, I will neither condone nor tolerate behaviour that undermines the dignity or self-esteem of any individual in this course and wish to be alerted to any attempt to create an intimidating or hostile environment. It is our collective responsibility to create a space that is inclusive and welcomes discussion. Discrimination, harassment and hate speech will not be tolerated. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns you may contact the UTM Equity and Diversity officer at [edo.utm@utoronto.ca](mailto:edo.utm@utoronto.ca) or the University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union Vice President Equity at [ypequity@utmsu.ca](mailto:ypequity@utmsu.ca).

### **Academic Rights**

You, as a student at UTM, have the right to:

- Receive a syllabus by the first day of class.
- Rely upon a syllabus once a course is started. An instructor may only change marks' assignments by following the University Assessment and Grading Practices Policy provision 1.3.
- Refuse to use turnitin.com (you must be offered an alternative form of submission).
- Have access to your instructor for consultation during a course or follow up with the department chair if the instructor is unavailable.
- Ask the person who marked your term work for a re-evaluation if you feel it was not fairly graded. You have up to one month from the date of return of the item to inquire about the mark. If you are not satisfied with a re-evaluation, you may appeal to the instructor in charge of the course if the instructor did not mark the work. If your work is remarked, you must accept the resulting mark. You may only appeal a mark beyond the instructor if the term work was worth at least 20% of the course mark.
- Receive at least one significant mark (15% for H courses, 25% for Y courses) before the last day you can drop a course for H courses, and the last day of classes in the first week of January for Y courses taught in the Fall/Winter terms.
- Submit handwritten essays so long as they are neatly written.
- Have no assignment worth 100% of your final grade.
- Not have a term test worth 25% or more in the last two weeks of class.
- Retain intellectual property rights to your research.
- Receive all your assignments once graded.
- View your final exams. To see a final exam, you must submit an online Exam Reproduction Request within 6 months of the exam. There is a small non-refundable fee.
- Privacy of your final grades.
- Arrange for representation from Downtown Legal Services (DLS), a representative from the UTM Students' Union (UTMSU), and/or other forms of support if you are charged with an academic offence.