

SURP 851 Environmental Policy

Contact Time	One 3 hour session per week	
Format	Lectures, guest presentations, in-class exercises, group assignments	
Class Assessment	Class Participation 15% In-Class Environmental Debate 35% Environmental Debate Research Document 30% In-Class role play exercise: 20%	

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course covers the basic principles of environmental policy. Emphasis is placed on environmental policy-making in an urban context and attention is paid to the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) for Ontario. The sustainability of urban settlements will be the overarching question throughout the course. While it does introduce some technical tools, the principal aim will be to enable thinking and analysis related to this question. The course is broad in scope but also allows students an opportunity to explore topics of special interest. It will offer a combination of North American examples and a comparative international perspective. Practicing environmental policy experts will share experience with current and emerging environmental issues including national energy policies, World Biosphere Reserves and other protected areas, together with natural resource policy development. Issues of environmental justice, climate justice and environmental planning will be explored.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course students will be able to:

- Understand a variety of environmental policy issues with a focus on the Canadian environment, resources and society.
- Generate responses to global environmental challenges and issues.
- Understand a broad range of environmental policy perspectives, processes and methods.

COURSE TOPICS

- Energy, climate change, protected areas, urban heat islands, species at risk, environmental justice and environmental planning.

COURSE READINGS

Leal Filho, E. (2018). Coping with the impacts of urban heat islands. A literature based study on understanding urban heat vulnerability and the need for resilience in cities in a global climate change context. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 171, 1140–1149.

Ntiwane, B. and Coetzee, J. (2018) “Environmental justice in the context of planning”, *Town and Regional Planning*, 720, pp. 84-98. <https://doi.org/10.18820/2415-0495/trp72i1.7>

Olive, A. (2019). The Canadian Environment in Political Context, Second Edition. In *The Canadian Environment in Political Context, Second Edition*. University of Toronto Press. Chapter 5. The Conservation of Species at Risk.