

Teaching Environmental Policy at the University of Maryland School of Public Policy

Conference on Environmental Policy
APPAM – Korea Development Institute – University of Maryland
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The University of Maryland, College Park

- R1 research university in the Washington DC area
 - Other Washington area Universities include George Washington, George Mason, Georgetown, Howard, Johns Hopkins-SAIS
 - Founded 1856
- As the flagship campus of the University of Maryland, we serve the State as well as the nation through policy research, and education at all levels—international, national, state and local



The University of Maryland School of Public Policy

- Located inside the DC Capital Beltway, a 20 minute Metro ride from
 - U.S. Congress and White House Offices
 - Federal Agencies and Departments
 - EPA, State, USAID, Energy
 - International organizations
 - World Bank, IMF, OAS
 - think-tanks and NGOs
 - Brookings, AEI, World Resources Inst, RFF, Pew
- Only school inside the Beltway to combine public policy and international affairs
- Only policy school in the Washington area embedded in a major research university



University of Maryland Centers conducting Environmental Policy research

- Center for Integrative Environmental Research
- National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education
- Institute for Philosophy and Public Policy
- Joint Global Change Research Institute
 - *with Dept of Energy's Pacific NW National Laboratory*
- Earth Systems Science Interdisciplinary Center
 - *with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration*
- University of Maryland Energy Research Center



Maryland School of Public Policy
Teaching Philosophy – Environmental Policy

1. Enhance students' capacity to apply **diverse methodologies**
2. Embed course learning within “**real world**” of Washington politics
3. Connect practical goals with **normative bases** for policy
4. Highlight the distinctions between **advocacy and analysis**
5. Integrate **international and domestic** policy analysis

Teaching Environmental Policy at the Maryland School of Public Policy

- Students are encouraged to intern in Washington during summers and school sessions
- Courses seek to integrate material with engagement in current policy events
- Anchor public policy teaching in multiple disciplinary methods of policy analysis
 - Philosophy
 - Engineering and sciences
 - Economics
 - Politics
 - Practice



Maryland Degree Offerings – Environmental Policy Focus

- Ph.D. in Policy Studies
- Master of Public Policy (MPP)
 - Environment
 - International Development
- Master of Engineering & Public Policy (MEPP)
- Dual MPP/MS in Conservation Biology
- Certificates
 - Ecological Economics
 - Environmental Finance
- Executive Master of Public Management (EMPM)



Maryland School of Public Policy Environmental Concentration

- Core curriculum
 - Required Courses for all MPPs
 - Methods of Policy Analysis
 - Normative Dimensions of Public Policy
- Three Required courses
- Elective courses
- Integrative experience



Maryland School of Public Policy

Environmental Concentration Required Course 1

Public Policy and the Environment focuses on how national environmental policy is formed and implemented

- emphasis on the interplay of environmental science, politics and economics.
- Examines roles of the Congress, the courts, agency administrators, and public interest groups.



Maryland School of Public Policy

Environmental Concentration Required Course 2

Global Environmental Problems surveys human influences on the global environment.

- Topics include human population growth, climate change, ozone depletion, acid rain, and biological diversity.
- Emphasizes how scientists approach environmental problems, and how policy makers use scientific analyses.
- Substantial quantitative component



Maryland School of Public Policy
Environmental Concentration Required Course 3

Human Health and Environmental Policy surveys the interactions of environment and human health

- reviews human and other species' physiological systems and their toxicological functions
- considers bodily defenses and classic, emerging, and ambiguous risks; all in ecological context
- applies to scientific controversy methods of policy formation, such as risk, social-cost, outcomes, and decision analysis, all in political-economic context.



Maryland School of Public Policy

Environmental Concentration Electives

Climate Science & Policy

Dynamic Modeling

Ecological Economics

Environmental Ethics

Environment & Development

Energy Policy

Growth Management

International Environmental Agreements

Chesapeake Bay

Water Resources

Wildlife Conservation

Globalization, Trade & Environment



Maryland School of Public Policy Integrative Course

Either **Environmental Policy Workshop**

- *students work as a team with the instructor as the leader*

or **Environmental Policy Project Course**

- *students work independently on a topic of their choosing*

In either course, students

- analyze and recommend responses to a current environmental policy issue
- emphasize problem definition, organization of information, and presentation of results



Thank you

