SPECIALIZATION IN GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS

OVERVIEW: The SIS specialization in Global Environmental Politics focuses on the challenge of responding to environmental degradation. The curriculum aims to enable students to understand the causes and consequences of environmental harm and the ways that humanity can build a more sustainable world. Students learn about and engage with the forces that shape global and international environmental behavior, with particular attention to sustainable development, environmental ethics, international political economy, international diplomacy, and environmental justice.

FACULTY

--for faculty bios, research ativities, and publications, see GEP web site <http://www.american.edu/sis/gep/Index.cfm>

GEP core faculty:

- Ken Conca, Program Director
- T. Garrett Graddy
- Sikina Jinnah
- Simon Nicholson
- Judith Shapiro
- Paul Wapner

GEP adjunct faculty:

- Victoria Kiechel
- Erich Vogt

SIS affiliated faculty:

- Eve Bratman
- Robin Broad
- Jeffrey Colgan
- James Lee

COURSES:

300-level:

- Contemplation and Political Change (SIS 315)
- Environment and Development (SIS 338)
- International Environmental Politics (SIS 388)

400-level (these classes are usually offered as SIS 400 or SIS 419):

- Climate Politics
- Political Economy of Climate Change
- Food and Agriculture
- Environmental Security in Asia
- Environment, Conflict, and Peacebuilding
- Environmental Politics through Literature
- Sustain Design/LEED certification
- Sustainable Cities
- The Future of Environmentalism

PREREQUISITES: SIS 388 is the gateway course for work in this specialization and should be taken prior to taking any of the 400-level offerings.

STUDY ABROAD: A handout of recommended semester study-abroad programs for students with environmental interests is available from SIS advising. Summer and intersession programs often include an environmentally-oriented course with a travel component. Interested students should contact SIS advising for further information.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES: The field of environmental politics and policy includes career opportunities in environmental law, environmental management and business, public policy, international diplomacy, education, and advocacy. Employment opportunities include intergovernmental organizations such as the World Bank and the UN Environment Program; federal agencies such as the State Department and the Environmental Protection Agency; business opportunities in consulting, corporate compliance, and strategic planning; and a wide array of non-governmental organizations and advocacy groups. Many graduate programs exist in environmental law, environment and business, public policy, and international relations. For examples right here on the AU campus, see the SIS MA programs in Global Environmental Politics (GEP) and in Natural Resources and Sustainable Development (NRSD); the Program on Comparative and International Environmental Law at the Washington College of Law; the MS program in Environmental Science in the College of Arts & Sciences; the Department of Public Administration and Policy in the School of Public Affairs; and the MS program in Sustainability Management within the Kogod School of Business.