

# YALOVA UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF ECONOMICS AND ADMINISTRATIVE SCIENCES DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

## **SYLLABUS**

Course Name / Code	International Environmental Policy/ CIR 326	
Instructor	Ahmet Safa YILDIRIM Ph.D	
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#### **Course Description**

This course is planned as an introduction to international environmental policies. International environmental issues are one of the toughest challenges facing our global community. Despite the proliferation of international institutions and actors, the absence of international enforcement mechanisms reflects the peculiarities of addressing environmental problems. For this purpose, this course aims to inform students about the basic concepts, actors, debates and problems in international environmental policy. The questions to be answered during the course include: What are the factors that cause environmental problems? What strategies do international actors use to address these problems? How do environmental problems trigger other security and economic issues? In order to find answers to these questions, first of all, the structures, factors and processes that affect international environmental policies will be examined. Later parts of the course focus on current issues such as overpopulation, unbalanced use of natural resources, environmental pollution, energy use, global climate change, etc. Throughout the course, international relations theories and concepts such as realism, liberal institutionalism, political economy, neoliberalism, and global governance will be used to analyze a specific global environmental problem and policy.

#### **Course Outcomes**

Students who successfully complete this CIR 326 coded course will be able to:

- Identify the main actors involved in international environmental policy and the roles of these actors,
- Explain the political obstacles to international cooperation in the solution of international environmental problems,
- Distinguish the effects of actors and institutions on the success or failure of international environmental politics,
- Define the concepts, theories and debates frequently used in international environmental policy studies,
- Analyze approaches to solving international environmental problems through the arguments of the international relations discipline,



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Period	Topic	Material
Week 1	Introduction: The Environment and International Relations	Kate O'Neill (2009) 1–23
Week 2	International environmental problems	Kate O'Neill (2009) 24-47
Week 3	Actors in international environmental politics	Kate O'Neill (2009) 48–70
Week 4	International cooperation and regime formation	Kate O'Neill (2009) 71–103
Week 5	The impacts and effectiveness of environmental treaty regimes	Kate O'Neill (2009) 104–134
Week 6	Global economic governance and the environment	Kate O'Neill (2009) 135–166
Week 7	MIDTERM	
Week 8	Non-state global environmental governance	Kate O'Neill (2009) 167–196
Week 9	The environment and international relations in the twenty-first century	Kate O'Neill (2009) 197–211
Week 10	Student Presentations	
Week 11	Student Presentations	
Week 12	Student Presentations	
Week 13	Student Presentations	
Week 14	Student Presentations	

### **Evaluation Methods and Tools**

Students will be responsible for the materials presented to them in the course and system during their exams. There will be midterm and final exams within the scope of the course.

• The grading of the exams and the student presentations within the scope of the course are as follows;

Midterm: 30% - Final Exam: 50% - Presentation 20% = Final grade.

#### **Course Materials**

### **Main Textbook:**

O'neill, K. (2009). The environment and international relations. Cambridge University Press.



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#### Method

The instructor may use lectures, comparisons, and case studies from textbooks and visual materials, too.

Students are encouraged to ask questions to clarify understanding and to discuss and debate the theories, principles, and concepts from the text, case studies, and lectures.

## **Class Participation**

At the end of the term, instructor will check the attendance of all students in class. Students with highest attendance will be considered positively.

#### **Course Adjustments and Changes**

The course syllabus provides a general framework for International Environmental Policy course. The instructor of the course can make changes in the course plan in order to increase the student's knowledge and understanding of the course.

### **Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty will NOT be tolerated. Any student found to be involved in any verifiable incident of a cademic dishonesty (copying, cheating, plagiarizing, etc.) will receive a grade of "F" for the class