

Global Climate Change: Policy and Society

ENST 442 MW 2-3:20

This class offers an in depth study of global climate change from a social science perspective, examining both the challenges we face in addressing climate change and the potential for significant cultural and social transitions toward sustainability. We will explore climate policies at the international, federal, and local levels, and evaluate how society is reacting to climate change, looking at trends in public attitudes and at the cultural and political discourse.

We will explore the following questions:

- * How has society responded to the challenges and opportunities involved in reducing human impact on the planet?*
- * What new strategies are governments, states, and cities implementing to reduce GHG emissions?*
- * What effect can the 2015 Paris COP have on the future of international climate policy-making??*
- * What role have non-governmental organizations taken in the global response to climate change?*
- * How have public attitudes on climate change evolved in the U.S. and in other countries?*