Climate Change Ethics and Policy  
NRSM 449E/CCS449E  

Autumn 2015  
TR 12:40-2:00  
Health Science 441  
Instructor: Dane Scott  
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Office hours: Monday: 1:00-2:00

Objectives: Students will:  
- Demonstrate a basic understanding of various concepts and theories of justice  
- Demonstrate an understanding of the roles of justice in international negotiations

Texts:  
- Michael Sandel, *Justice: What’s the Right Thing to Do?*  
- Dale Jamieson, *Reason in a Dark Time*  
- Additional readings will be linked and posted on the course Moodle page

Tests & Assignments:  
- Quizzes, Short Writing Assignments & Attendance: 20 pts  
- Essay #1: 20 pts  
- Essay #2: 20 pts  
- Presentation and Policy Briefing: 20 pts  
- Exam: 20 pts

Schedule

**Week 1**  
9/1: Course Introduction  
9/2: Sandel, Chapter 1, “Do the Right Thing”  
Plato, “The Ring of Gyges” (Moodle)

**Week 2**  
9/8: Jamieson, Chapter 2, “The Nature of the Problem”  
9/10: Video: Frontline, “Climate of Doubt”

**Week 3:**  
9/15: Freeman Dyson, “The Question of Global Warming”  
“Interview with Freeman Dyson, Reluctant Global Warming Skeptic”  
9/17: Mann, “How to Talk About Climate Change so People Will Listen”

**Week 4:**  
9/24: Singer, “One Atmosphere” (Moodle)

**Week 5**  
9/29: Pope Francis, Encyclical “On Care of Our Common Home” Chapters 4-6 (Moodle)  
10/1: George Lakoff, “Why Pope Francis Killed It on Addressing Climate Change”  
Joseph Heath, “Pope Francis’s Climate Error”  
David Brooks, “Fracking and the Franciscans”  
Anthony Annette, “Response to David Brooks”  
Essay #1 Assigned, Due 10/13

**Week 6**  
10/6: Sandel, Chapter 3, “Do We Own Ourselves / Libertarianism”  
10/8: Adler, “A Conservative’s Approach to Combating Climate Change”
**Week 7**
10/13: Sandel, Chapter 4, “Hired Help / Markets and Morals”
10/15: Jamieson, Chapter 4, “The Limits of Economics”

**Week 8**
10/20: Video: Bjorn Lomborg, “Cool It”
10/16: Naomi Klein, “Capitalism vs. the Climate”
        Elizabeth Kolbert, “Can Climate Change Cure Capitalism?”

**Week 9**
10/21: Sandel, Chapter 6, “The Case for Equity / John Rawls”
10/22: Jamieson, Chapter 5, “The Frontiers of Ethics”

**Week 10**
10/27: Caney, “Climate Change, Human Rights and Moral Thresholds” (Moodle)
        Presentations and Policy Briefings Assigned, Due 12/1 or 12/3
10/29: Exam

**Week 11**
        Robert Satvins, “Divestment is No Substitute for Real Climate Action”
11/5: Jamieson, Chapter 6, “Living with Climate Change”
        Debate on UM Divestment Proposal

**Week 12**
11/10: Sen, “Global Warming is Just One of Many Environmental Threats that Demands Our Attention”
11/12: Minteer and Collins, “Move It or Lose It” (Moodle)
        Essay #2 Due

**Week 13**
11/19: Mike Hulme, “Climate Engineering Schemes Could be Undone by Geopolitics”
        Jane Long, “Thinking the Unthinkable”

**Week 14**
11/24: Jamieson, Chapter 7, “Politics, Policy and the Road Ahead”
11/26: No Class, Thanksgiving Holiday

**Week 15**
12/1: Student presentations on various countries’ positions going into COP 21 (Policy Briefings Due)
12/3: Student presentations on various countries’ positions going into COP 21 (Policy Briefings Due)