

Climate Change: Science, Perception and Policy

PAI 770 | LAW 891 | CEE 600 | PSC 700

Spring 2023 • MW 2:15-3:45, Link 154

David Driesen (Law)

Charles Driscoll (Env Eng)

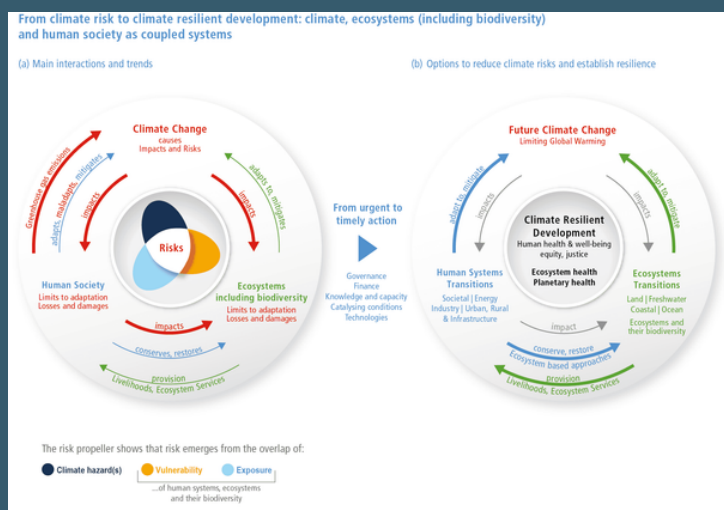
Sarah Pralle (Pol Sci)

Peter Wilcoxon (Pub Admin)

The climate crisis presents one of the most pressing global issues of the twenty-first century. This course introduces students to the challenges and complexities that the climate crisis poses through a unique multi-disciplinary exploration of the scientific, economic, policy, legal, and political dimensions of the issue. The course will cover topics such as the current state of scientific knowledge about the causes and dimension of climate change; policy and legal options for reducing greenhouse gas emissions; the economic implications of climate change and policies to mitigate and adapt to it; and the politics relevant to addressing the issue. Faculty in law, economics, political science and engineering will co-teach this course and facilitate a unique dialog that crosses traditional disciplinary boundaries. This course is intended to bring together students from a diverse range of backgrounds and does not have specific prerequisites.

Students will work together in interdisciplinary teams. Each team will address the climate crisis from the perspective of a particular geographic region. Student groups will prepare presentations on their regions' greenhouse gas emissions and climate impacts, policy options for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and potential for adapting to a warming world. Each group will produce a final report at the end of the year.

The first student presentations will take place during a double class on a Saturday with lunch provided. Law students: the course will begin on January 17 and the last class will be on May 6, as per the main campus university calendar.



Figures courtesy of the IPCC AR6 WGII Report