Climate Change Ethics and Policy
NRSM 449E/CCS449E

Autumn 2015
TR 12:40-2:00
Health Science 411
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”
http://e360.yale.edu/digest/with-freeman-dyson-reluctant-global-warming-skeptic/1880/
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)
http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html
10/1: George Lakoff, “Why Pope Francis Killed It on Addressing Climate Change”
Joseph Heath, “Pope Francis’s Climate Error”
http://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/20/opinion/pope-francis-climate-error.html
David Brooks, “Fracking and the Franciscans”
http://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/23/opinion/fracking-and-the-franciscans.html?_r=0
Anthony Annette, “Response to David Brooks”
https://www.commonwealmagazine.org/blog/response-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”
http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2012/05/a-conservatives-approach-to-combating-climate-change/257827/

**Week 7**
10/13: Sandel, Chapter 4, “Hired Help / Markets and Morals”
Essay #1 Due
10/15: Jamieson, Chapter 4, “The Limits of Economics”

**Week 8**
10/20: Video: Bjorn Lomborg, “Cool It”
10/22: Naomi Klein, “Capitalism vs. the Climate”
http://www.thenation.com/article/capitalism-vs-climate/
Elizabeth Kolbert, “Can Climate Change Cure Capitalism?”

**Week 9**
10/27: Sandel, Chapter 6, “The Case for Equity / John Rawls”
Presentations and Policy Briefings Assigned, Due 12/1 or 12/3
10/29: Exam

**Week 10**
http://e360.yale.edu/feature/point_bob_massie_why_universities_must_divest_from_fossil_fuels/2748/
Robert Stavins, “Divestment is No Substitute for Real Climate Action”
http://e360.yale.edu/feature/counterpoint_robert_stavins_divestment_no_substitute_for_real_action_on_climate/2749/
Essay #2 Assigned, Due 11/12
11/5: Jamieson, Chapter 5, “The Frontiers of Ethics”
Debate on UM Divestment Proposal

**Week 11**
11/10: Sen, “Global Warming is Just One of Many Environmental Threats that Demands Our Attention”
Essay #2 Due

**Week 12**
11/19: Mike Hulme, “Climate Engineering Schemes Could Be Undone by Geopolitics”
http://e360.yale.edu/feature/climate_intervention_schemes_could_be_undone_by_geopolitics/2283/
Jane Long, “Thinking the Unthinkable”
http://e360.yale.edu/feature/thinking_the_unthinkable_geoengineering_earths_climate/2452/

**Week 13**
11/24: Minteer & Collins, “Move It or Lose It”
11/26: No Class, Thanksgiving Holiday

**Week 14**
12/1: Jamieson, Chapter 7, “Politics, Policy and the Road Ahead”
12/3: Student presentations (Policy Briefings Due)

**Week 15**
12/8: Student presentations (Policy Briefings Due)
12/10: Student presentations (Policy Briefings Due)