

# DC Semester Program

## Spring 2021

### *US Environmental Policy*

*Taught by Professors Sarah Stafford and Greg Hancock*

This semester is about environmental policy in the United States. It will examine major institutions of US Environmental Policy – including the EPA, other executive agencies, Congressional committees, judicial review, key interest groups, and non-profit organizations – and how they have and continue to influence and impact our environmental policy. We will focus both on how policy is developed and implemented, and how scientific research is integrated and incorporated into regulations and policy. While the primary focus of the program will be federal environmental policy, we will also consider how states and localities interact with the federal government in developing their own independent policies, as well as how the U.S. interacts with other nations in shaping international environmental policy.

#### **Washington Program Internship**

- *6 credit hours: INTR 499*

Students will work at a wide variety of institutions that deal with environmental policy. Examples include: **EPA, relevant Congressional subcommittees, Sierra Club, Resources for the Future, Clean Water Action, Nature Conservancy, Chesapeake Bay Foundation, National Conference of State Legislatures, National Governors Association, and National Waste and Recycling Coalition.** Students will prepare an academic portfolio based on their internship experiences, including summaries of the various projects in which they are involved, and a self-reflective paper on how the internship has changed their understanding of the way in which environmental policy is formulated, implemented, and evaluated in the United States.

#### **Environmental Policy in the United States**

- *3 credit hours: PUBP 390 / ENSP TBD (Tentative COLL 200 CSI)*

This course examines the development of environmental policy in the US. The course provides an introduction to the historical development and current issues of environmental policy in the United States, including basic perspectives, processes and institutions, major developments in the history of American environmental policy, environmental regulation and recent innovations, and implications of emerging global issues and institutions.

#### **Integrating Science into Environmental Policy**

- *3 credit hours: PUBP 390 / ENSP TBD (Tentative COLL 200 NQR)*

This course applies principles from earth sciences and ecology to local, regional, and global environmental issues and focuses on the interaction between the natural and the social systems as they relate to the environment. Through case studies, the course explores the complex interactions that characterize environmental problems. Topics include the environmental impact of human-induced climate change at the local, regional, and global levels and the role of science and technology in the policy process. Course objectives include: exposing students to interdisciplinary approaches to environmental science, policy, and management; enabling students to develop problem solving skills to apply to environmental issues; and improving the technical writing capability of students.