

**ATOC 7500-002**  
**Climate Change, Energy, and Foreign Policy**

**When:** Fall 2012, T/Th 12:30-1:45 pm

**Where:** Stadium 136 C (The “Hart Lab”)

**Instructor:** Prof. Darin Toohey (5-0002, toohey@colorado.edu)

**Office Hours:** Stadium 255, TBD (and by appointment, please send email!)

**Reading:** See web site – will rely heavily on most recent policy literature

**Primary Course Website:** <http://atoc.colorado.edu/~toohey/ATOC7500-2012.html>

Reading material and any assignments will be posted for each class at the course website.

**Course Description:** A discussion oriented class that examines how climate change and energy inform bi-lateral and multi-lateral foreign policy, especially in the Asia-Pacific region. The course will include topical readings from a variety of sources that influence the policy-making process, including seminal scientific publications, popular books, technical reports commissioned by international organizations, position papers from ‘think-tanks’, and op-ed pieces from the popular media. Class discussions will be structured to mimic various formats that a civil servant, foreign service officer, or diplomat might encounter, such as interagency meetings, panel discussions, bilateral negotiations, policy dialogues, and meetings of foreign ministers and leaders. Groups of students will prepare for discussions by preparing materials such as action memos, position papers, cables, briefing checklists, annotated agendas, building blocks, and declarations. Classes will alternate between informal discussions and mock ‘dialogues’, where different groups represent different countries, taking the likely policy positions of those countries.

**Goals:** To learn how science informs the foreign policy process and vice versa – “science diplomacy.” To examine issues of current interest to the U.S. Government, in particular relating to foreign policy in the Asia-Pacific region.

**Course Format:** This course will mainly be discussions of current events, with reviews and critiques of materials prepared for policy makers to influence decision making. Therefore, there will be a lot of reading of position papers, summaries of workshops and dialogues, and a few video “panel discussions” thrown in for good measure when appropriate. Coursework will involve working in small teams of 3-4 to research issues, develop short position papers, and argue the merits of those positions with other groups in the class.

**Assignments and Grading:** TBD

### **Expectations**

Come to class!!

Read the materials!!

Participate and interact!!

Don't be late!! Your grade will be based on how responsive you are to assignments. I received a fortune cookie last week that captures the essence of how work is viewed in the policy world: "Better to do something imperfectly than to do nothing perfectly." In fact, working for the State Dept., I quickly learned that for the most part, something that was late was useless, so nothing was really ever "perfect." This is a theme we will repeat throughout the semester. Do the best you can with what you have, but don't make things up. It's ok to be incomplete, but the best work is that which strikes a balance between depth, timeliness, accuracy, and thoughtfulness.

## **Policies**

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to your professor a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner (for exam accommodations provide your letter at least one week prior to the exam) so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or by e-mail at [dsinfo@colorado.edu](mailto:dsinfo@colorado.edu).

If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see Temporary Medical Conditions: Injuries, Surgeries, and Illnesses guidelines under Quick Links at Disability Services website and discuss your needs with your professor.

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## **Tentative Schedule of Topics and Reading**

### **Week 1, August 28,30: Science Diplomacy and Twenty-First Century Statecraft**

[Science Diplomacy and Twenty-First Century Statecraft](#) (Robert D. Hormats)

[The Past as Prologue](#) (Vaughn C. Turekian and Norman P. Neurieter)

[China: Haze isn't Foreign Embassies' Business](#) (June 6, 2012, CNN)

### **Week 2, September 4,6: The Climate Change Challenge and Energy Information Resources**

[China, the United States, and the Climate Change Challenge](#) (Seligsohn et al., WRI Policy Brief)

[BP Statistical Review of World Energy June 2011](#)

### **Week 3, September 11: Energy Intensity and APEC**

[The trouble with Energy Intensity Targets – APEC 2011](#) (David Nelson)

**Week 4**

**Week 5**

**Week 6**

**Week 7**

**Week 8**

**Week 9**

**Week 10**

**Week 11**

**Week 12**

**Week 13**

**Week 14**

**Week 15**

**Week 16**