

## Course Descriptions None 2025-2026

Course Title Politics of Climate Change  
 Course Code SSP2054  
 ECTS Credits 5,0  
 Assessment Whole/Half Grades

Period	Start	End	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2	27-10-2025	12-12-2025	X			X	

Level no level  
 Coordinator Christian Scholl For more information:christian.scholl@maastrichtuniversity.nl  
 Language of instruction English

Goals  
 \* Students understand and analyse the role of the nation state, public policies and (international) law in climate politics  
 \* Students understand and analyse regulatory steering instruments for tackling climate change, especially with an eye on multinational corporations  
 \* Students understand and analyse how states try to tackle climate change internationally focusing on the role of the UNFCCC and the EU  
 \* Students understand and analyse the impact of NGO's and climate movements on (national and international) climate politics  
 \* Students evaluate climate politics from a variety of perspectives (nation state, multinational corporations, supranational agencies such as EU and UNFCCC, and NGOs and climate movements)

Description  
 This course unpack the politics of climate change, focusing on the role of the state, politics and international environmental law in focusing on climate change. Starting with the state as a key actor in contemporary politics, the course looks into the different regulatory instruments a state has available to tackle climate change. Thereby, special attention is given to the steering of multinational corporations in the context of globalized economies. Focusing on the Paris Agreement as the most recent outcome of the UNFCCC, the course centers on how states work together in Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEA's) to tackle climate change internationally. The EU will be addressed as a relatively you actor in international relations displaying specifically high ambitions. Finally, the course looks at the role of NGO's and climate justice movements and the impact they have on climate politics.

Literature  
 Prerequisites Exchange students should refer to the International Relations Office via email in case they would like to register for this course: iro-incoming-sbe@maastrichtuniversity.nl. Only limited spots available, first-come first-serve principle.

Keywords  
 Transitional Regulations  
 Teaching methods  
 Assessment methods Written Exam / Presentation

Evaluation in previous academic year  
 For the complete evaluation of this course please click <http://iwio-sbe.maastrichtuniversity.nl/rapporten.asp?referrer=codeUM>

This course belongs to the following programme / specialisation	Master Sustainability Science, Policy and Society - Policy for Sustainability	Compulsory Courses
	SBE Exchange Master	Master Exchange Courses