

Fall 2023
Climate Politics POL S 458A

Monday and Wednesday, 12:30-2:20

Instructor: Professor Aseem Prakash



Climate change is the defining challenge of our time, but climate politics is complex and contested. Climate policies can support economic growth and create new opportunities. But they can also create social conflict and injustices. This multi-disciplinary seminar will examine issues such as mitigation and adaptation, climate justice and equity, climate migration, climate finance and insurance, business response, and consumer responsibility.

Recent Student Evaluations:

The class presented many responses to the climate crisis which I had not considered. It made me think more carefully about the compromises necessary for good climate policy and the varying responsibilities and capabilities of different actors in responding to climate change.

Professor Prakash did a great job challenging the opinions of students and making them think of various perspectives on issues, which I think is very important for a class that discusses such a nuanced issue as climate.

It was one of the most intellectually stimulating classes I've taken at UW. This content is exactly what I want to pursue, and the wide variety of topics we explored was great. Finishing this class, I feel like I've really learned a lot. It definitely, absolutely stretched my thinking. Now I feel like I have a much more comprehensive understanding of climate policy issues and barriers to action.