

Course Introduction and Overview

POLI 307: Environmental Policy

How *are* natural resources managed?

How *should* natural resources be managed?

**Why are environmental issues
controversial? Why don't we agree?**







???

knickers, Australia, 6'4, 3,000lbs



Hypothetical Bonus Question

- How many bonus points should you receive on this exam? *Note that if 3 or more of your classmates choose 5 points, no one will get any bonus points.*
 - a) 2 points
 - b) 5 points
- Which do you choose?

Hypothetical Group Work Question

- You are assigned to do a group project for a class. Everyone in the group will receive the same grade *regardless of their individual effort*
- Does everyone in the group do the same level of work?

What do each of the scenarios have in common?

Collective Action Problems

Situations that arise when the goals of the individual conflict with those of the group

How do we solve collective-action problems?

Institutions

Institutions

Institutions are the humanly devised constraints that structure political, economic, and social interaction

Institutions

Institutions consist of both informal constraints (sanctions, taboos, customs, traditions, and codes of conduct), and formal rules (constitutions, laws, property rights)

Institutions

- Markets
 - Decentralized collection of buyers and sellers
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 - Decentralized collection of buyers and sellers
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- Governments
 - Produce and enforce *formal rules*
 - Make *public policy*

Public Policy

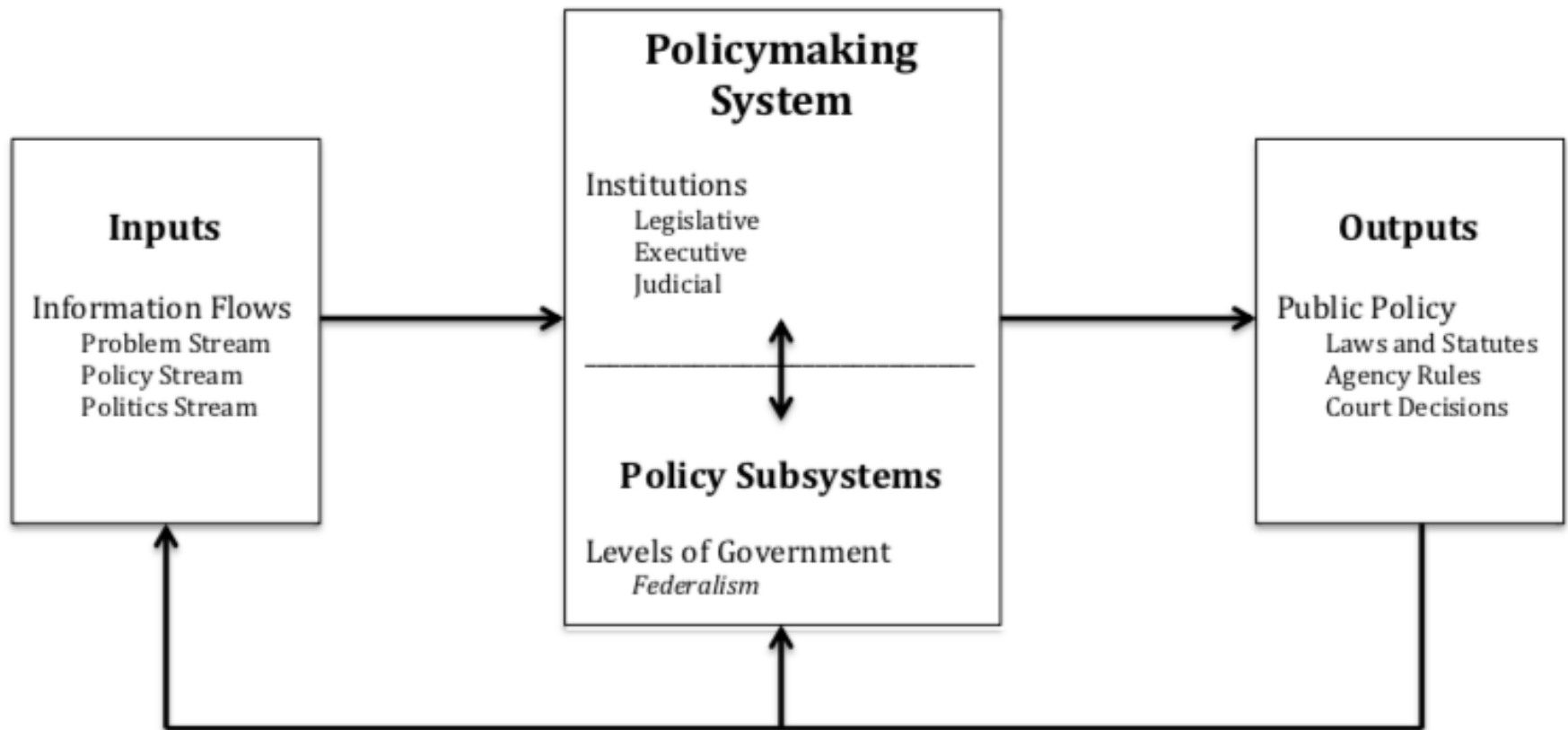
- Policy = *actors* * *institutions* (politics)

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Public Policy

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- *Policy actors*: Individuals, groups, or coalitions involved in the policymaking process that seek to see their preferences for policy enacted
- Policymaking occurs within a *complex system*



**What are some factors that drive
environmental politics?**

Environmental Politics

- Values

Environmental Politics

- Values
- Issue definitions

Environmental Politics

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- Property-rights

Environmental Politics

- Values
- Issue definitions
- Property-rights
- Transactions costs

Environmental Politics

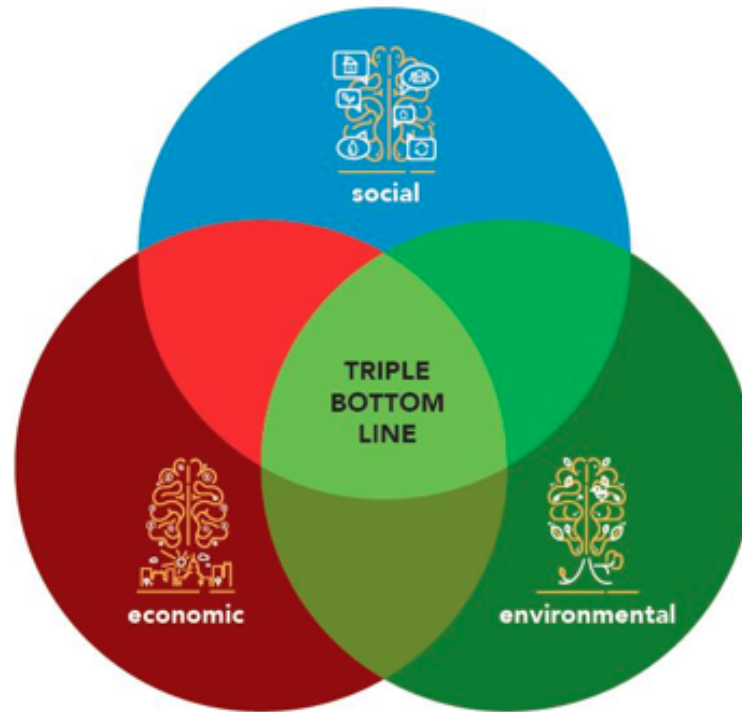
- Values
- Issue definitions
- Property-rights
- Transactions costs
- Regulatory policy

How would you define sustainability?

Sustainability

The ability to integrate economic, social and environmental systems in ways that allow for individual, institutional, community, regional and planetary resilience

Sustainability



For Next Time

- Read Nowlin chapter 2
- Be ready to test drive *Poll Everywhere*