

Reading Questions (Politics of Climate Governance)

Week 2 Reading Questions

1. Based on the summary in Kates et al., what are anticipatory transformational adaptations? Why are they an important type of adaptation? What are the difficulties in implementing these measures? And how can these difficulties be overcome?
2. Disaster governance is fraught with challenges. From the Tierney reading, identify and describe three characteristics of disaster governance that makes it difficult. Use 1-2 sentences each, and include the page numbers the characteristics are discussed on.

Week 3 Reading Questions

1. Based on both the Ostrom and the Bodin et al. readings, what is a social-ecological system (alternative spelling: socioecological)? How are they represented using networks?
2. Summarize Bodin et al.'s description of the three core governance challenges for these systems in your own words.
3. (Not required but useful to think about) Describe a climate change-related policy issue in terms of the underlying social-ecological system that it is associated with.

Week 4 Reading Questions

1. In Ostrom (2010), there are 5 questions on page 551. Choose any two and answer them in your own words. Make sure to explain your answers.
2. Based on the discussion in Imperial et al. (2016), what is a “governance network”? Describe the four stages of their life cycle.

Week 6 Reading Questions

1. In your own words, describe the three justifications (in Sarathchandra and Haltinner 2020) climate skeptics provide for having low trust in climate science.
2. From the Egan and Mullin (2017) and Hornsey and Lewandowsky (2022) readings, identify three different factors that influence or predict climate change opinion. Describe what the factors are and what their relationships are to climate change opinion.

Week 7 Reading Questions

1. According to Kwon and Hanlon (2015), what is eco-authoritarianism? What does it mean to have “descriptive” and “prescriptive” understandings of eco-authoritarianism?
2. Based on your reading of Ladrech and Little (2019), what is your understanding of “issue ownership”, and why is it important to understanding climate policy?

Week 8 Reading Questions

1. According to Green and Healy (2022), there is a relationship between increased societal inequality and worsening climate change. Briefly explain (2-3 sentences each) two reasons the authors provide for why this relationship exists.

2. Banzhaf et al. (2019) summarizes the literature on the existence of a relationship between a household's racial makeup or income and its exposure to pollution. Briefly explain (2-3 sentences each) two reasons the authors provide for why these relationships exist.

Week 9 Reading Questions

1. The McAdam (2017) reading outlines many explanations for why there was a lack of grassroots climate activism in the US back in 2017 when the piece was written. First, describe in 1-2 sentences what "grassroots climate activism" is. Second, summarize two of the reasons McAdam provides for the lack of grassroots activism using 1-2 sentences each. These reasons should be more specific than his three broad categories (i.e., political opportunities, mobilizing structures, and framing processes).
2. Hadden (2014) described the shift of climate activism toward a "transgressive" one. In 2-3 sentences, describe what transgressive activism is.

Week 10 Reading Questions

1. From the Holm and Berardo (2020) article, what is policy litigation? Why do policy actors litigate? Why do policy actors litigate in groups?
2. In the Climate Action Plan litigation process, how do the pro-regulation coalition and anti-regulation coalitions differ in their litigation behavior? Identify and very briefly describe two of the four differences discussed in Holm and Berardo (2020).
3. Climate litigation cases are highly diverse. Based on Sato et al. (2024), identify three aspects that climate litigation cases can differ by.

Week 11 Reading Questions

1. What are the three types of effectiveness of international environmental regimes according to Oran (2018)? Describe them using 2-3 sentences each.
2. Choose one of the four hypotheses in Axelrod (2011) and explain (i.e., the theory and argument) how he arrived at that hypothesis (approx. 3-4 sentences).

Week 12 Reading Questions

1. From the three readings or from your own outside knowledge, name two actors you would classify as transnational actors that participate in global climate governance. In 1-2 sentences, explain why you have classified these actors as transnational.
2. According to Hale (2018), what challenges or questions does the rise of transnational governance pose to traditional understandings of the governance process? Focus on Hale's argument about the "normative questions" (pp. 212–214). Describe and explain in 3-4 sentences.

Week 13 Reading Questions

1. According to Bruelle et al.'s summary (2021), what is the main difference between conservative and progressive philanthropy organizations in their funding strategies?
2. According to Ard et al. (2017), what is direct lobbying and indirect lobbying? What is one kind of direct lobbying the climate change countermovement has used? What is one kind of indirect lobbying the climate change countermovement has used?