PWP Summer 2015 – International Relations 422
Ecological Security and Global Politics

Professors Robert English and Steven Lamy
Dates: May 18 – June 14, 2015

Application Materials Due 12 PM on February 13, 2015.

Print and Submit the Following Documents to ADM 304:

- Application Form – please include the names of two professors we can contact on your behalf to obtain recommendations.
- STARS Report (accessible on OASIS through MyUSC).
- Personal Statement (1-2 pages) – please address why you are interested in this program, how it will benefit your academic experience and future goals, and why your background and preparation make you a good fit.
- Resume
Program Description

This 4-unit PWP course explores the complex issues surrounding climate change and its impact on the Arctic region through one week of class study and three weeks of field work in Iceland (Reykjavik and Akureyri), Norway (Oslo and Tromsø), and Finland (Inari, Rovaniemi, and Helsinki).

The popular view of the Arctic as a region of frozen solitude and remote beauty is now quickly yielding to a more complex series of images: a bellwether of climate change, as the polar ice caps shrink; an energy bonanza, as exploration for oil and gas riches long imagined now become accessible; the venue for a new tourist industry alongside expanded commercial shipping, as the dream of a Northwest (and Northeast) passage becomes a reality; and a zone of interstate confrontation, as all the preceding push the Arctic powers to expanded territorial claims.

These developments raise multiple policy issues. How can conflicting national interests be reconciled? Are current treaties sufficient to protect the fragile Arctic ecosystem from the degradation of petroleum prospecting and commercial shipping? How will the infrastructure to deal with oil spills or maritime incidents be built? Who will defend the interests of the traditional peoples of the Arctic regions? A rudimentary international legal framework exists, from the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea to the committees of the ad hoc Arctic Council. But it is just that—promising, yet rudimentary—and only beginning to negotiate the many conflicting positions of the main Arctic powers: the U.S., Russia, Canada, Norway and Denmark. Will these positions on territorial, economic and environmental issues harden into confrontation, or can the Arctic become the locus of a successful new regime of “global governance”?

The task for students—after an intense week of preparation at USC—will be to explore these issues with diplomatic, energy, environmental and other experts in six settings (Reykjavik, Akureyri, Oslo, Tromsø, Inari, and Rovaniemi) as prelude to drafting a coherent set of policy recommendations.

Estimated Program Costs

Tuition: $6,408 (4 units)
Travel: $1,400 (LAX-Reykjavik departure; return Helsinki-LAX)
Additional: $1,000 (meals and personal expenses, which vary considerably from student to student)

Funding

Students participating in this program may apply for a research stipend of up to $3,000 through SURF (Summer Undergraduate Research Fund). Please see the SURF website for details on eligibility at: http://college.usc.edu/surf. Graduating seniors are not eligible for SURF.
APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION - SUMMER 2015

PWP– IR 422 Ecological Security and Global Politics

Print and return all forms and supporting documentation to:
Dornsife Dean’s Office, ADM 304
Please contact Danika Newlee with questions at newlee@usc.edu.

Name: __________________________________________________________________________________

Last, First, Middle Initial

Student ID#: _______________________________ Email: ___________________________________

Major(s): _______________________________ Minor(s): _______________________________

Grade/Instructor in IR 210: _______________________________

Cumulative USC GPA: ___________ Major GPA: ___________

RELATED COURSES: List Course Number, Professor, and Grade
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Expected Graduation Date: ____________________

LOCAL ADDRESS: 

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Street

Apt

City

State

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Local Phone: _____________________________

PERMANENT ADDRESS:

_____________________________________________________________________________________

Street

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City

State

ZIP

Permanent Phone: _____________________________

STUDENT SIGNATURE: __________________________________________ DATE: ______________

NAME & CONTACT INFORMATION FOR RECOMMENDERS

1. __________________________________________________________

Name and title

Email and phone

2. __________________________________________________________

Name and title

Email and phone