

POLS303033 Environment, Human Security, and Conflict

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WEEK 11 WORKSHOP

Logistical notes

Students completing the lecture questions should note that the questions are now only to be found in the lecture videos themselves. The reason to have these questions is to encourage student engagement with the lecture videos. This change should hopefully continue to incentivize students' engagement with the lecture.

Not much else this week. I continue marking research proposals. Let me know if you are having any problems or questions about anything POLS3033-related.

Part 1: A close reading of this week's research article

This week's research article, Vivekananda et al. (2014) begins with an interesting discussion about existing approaches to the study of climate change and conflict that is worth revisiting.

1. What are Vivekananda et al.'s (2014) main critiques of the existing comparative climate change and conflict literature, much of which we have read this semester?
2. What is their *best* critique?
3. What is their *weakest* critique?
4. Spend a bit of time working through the path diagram in Figure 3 (p. 921). Then compare it to another path diagram of your choice we have come across this semester. What are their relative strengths and weaknesses?

Part 2: National Adaptation Plans

During the 2010 Cancún Climate Change Conference, the attending parties agreed to what became the Cancun Adaptation Framework. As part of this framework countries can design and implement National Adaptation Plans (NAPs). You can find more information about these NAPs at <https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/workstreams/national-adaptation-plans>. Given our focus this week on domestic mitigation and adaptation efforts, this section gives us an opportunity to learn a bit more about what countries themselves create as part of their observation, assessment, and proposed actions.

You can find a list of current NAPs from developing countries at <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Pages/national-adaptation-plans.aspx>.

Please choose one of these countries' NAPs and download it.

5. What are some of their identified national circumstances?
6. What some identified vulnerabilities?
7. What specific adaptation actions are they proposing?
8. Can you spot any links to the adaptation efforts we covered in this week's lectures and reading?

Part 3: Connecting course material to your research

Finally, let us briefly connect this week's topic to your own particular research projects.

9. Do your research questions involve domestic responses to possible negative climatic outcomes? If so, what are they?
10. Do they involve mitigation or adaptation? If so, why or how?
11. If not, what response efforts do you think would be relevant or necessary?