**CCS203, 2010**

**Exam #2 Study Guide: Climate Change Ethics and Social Science**

* **Ethics and Climate Change Policy (Dane Scott)**

1. Explain how the “tragedy of the commons” is a useful tool for conceptualizing important ethical issues involving distributive justice in the international climate change debate.
2. Two of the “moral storms” in Gardiner¹s perfect moral storm analogy have to do with temporal and spatial problems. Discuss the **three** factors below in terms of these temporal and spatial problems.

* Dispersion of cause and effect
* Fragmentation of agency
* Institutional Inadequacy
* **Christian Ethics and Climate Change (Dan Spencer)**

1. List the **four** “eco-justice moral norms” and discuss each in relation to climate change.
2. 12 Guidelines were developed by the Presbyterian Church on U.S. energy policy that fleshed out various dimensions of the four “eco-justice moral norms”. Provide **three** of these guidelines and discuss each in relation to energy policy.

* **Communications and Climate Change (Steve Schwarze)**

1. Provide **three** reasons for why we disagree about climate change as a society as presented in Mike Hulme’s “Why We Disagree”.
2. Discuss **two** problems associated with the information-deficit model of climate change communication.
3. How has the “journalistic norm of balance” shaped coverage of climate science? How has this norm changed over time and what could this mean for future response to climate change?

* **The Economics and Politics of Climate Change Legislation (Richard Barrett)**

1. What is the difference between “Carbon Tax” and “Cap and Trade”?
2. Provide **three** reasons that explain why there is a tendency to favor cap and trade over carbon tax as a policy tool to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
3. Discuss “competitive disadvantage” as it relates to coal and oil states. Provide an explanation for why these states may not support Carbon legislation.

* **Current Climate Change Policy (Len Broberg)**

1. Discuss the importance of the distinction between “downstream” and “upstream” in regulating carbon emissions.
2. Explain the importance of the following decisions for a cap and trade policy to regulate greenhouse gases.

* Allocations
* Banking
* Barrowing
* Offsets
* **China and Climate Change (Terry Weidner)**

1. What has been China's formal position on climate change? Include a discussion of their disposition regarding the UN and the Copenhagen meeting.
2. What forces have contributed to the growth of an environmental/climate change movement among the Chinese public? Provide **three** examples.
3. What forces make it particularly difficult for China's rulers to commit to a reduction in carbon emissions? Provide **three** examples.

**• Ethics, Economics, and Climate Change Policy (Dane Scott)**

1. Explain why John Broone believes the difference between Stern’s and Nordhaus’ economic analyses of the costs of climate change mitigation are based on ethical, and not economic choices.
2. Related to the above question: What two ethical questions must economists ask in determining the discount rate and what implications does this have for climate change policy?

* **The Rise and Fall of Prehistoric Villages (Anna Prentiss)**

1. How did Mid-Fraser canyon hunter-gatherers interact with their environment? Name **three** critical food resources and discuss their roles in maintaining adequate subsistence security.
2. How did climate change at ca. 1200 years ago affect access to critical Mid-Fraser food resources? What impacts did this have on the Mid-Fraser villages?

* **Geo-Engineering (Dane Scott)**

1. What is geoengineering? Contrast and provide examples of the two general approaches to geoengineering, carbon sequestration and solar radiation management.
2. List and discuss the three ethical issues Dale Jamieson raises concerning the possibility of geoengineering.
3. Why is geoengineering a perfect example of a technological fix?
4. Discuss the following problems raised by Alan Robock concerning geoengineering.

* Continued ocean acidification.
* Rapid warming if deployment stops
* Undermining emissions mitigation
* Control of the thermostat
* Questions of moral authority
* Unexpected consequences