

New Graduate Course!

EST 797, Section 01
Research Seminar

CHINESE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

David A. Sonnenfeld* and **Zhen Lin****
Department of Environmental Studies

SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
Fall 2011, W 4:00-4:55 pm

On a per capita basis, China remains a poor country; yet today it has the world's second largest economy. China has become a leader in development and implementation of renewable energy; yet remains heavily dependent on soft coal for its primary energy supply. High-speed railways and stringent automobile emission standards will push China past the US into the future of environmentally advanced transportation systems; yet its cities are clogged with and polluted by rapidly expanding automobile ownership and use. China's population remains primarily rural, but its cities are growing rapidly and at very large scale, creating new challenges and opportunities for urban environmental management and planning. On the global level, China is now infamously the world's premier emitter of greenhouse gases, surpassing the US; its role in international climate change negotiations is critical. There is much for us all to learn and appreciate about the complexities, accomplishments and challenges of environmental policymaking in China. This *one credit-hour*, graduate research seminar will be conducted as a reading, writing, and discussion group. We will start with a common set of readings, available through a Course Reader, and then delve further into a subset of topics contingent on the interests of the participants, including from research and work in-progress. Graduate students with an interest in learning more about and/or exploring research topics related to Chinese environmental policy, at any level of analysis, are welcome. The seminar will be limited to a maximum of 15 participants.

Instructor's permission required for enrollment. Prospective students should send an e-mail to <dsonn@esf.edu> with your name, graduate program and institutional affiliation, statement of your academic and research interests, and what you would like to work on in this seminar.

* Professor of Sociology and Environmental Policy, Dept. of Environmental Studies, SUNY-ESF; e-mail: dsonn@esf.edu; homepage: <http://www.esf.edu/es/faculty/sonnenfeld.htm>; tel. 315.470.6636

** Associate Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Beijing Forestry University; and Visiting Scholar, Dept. of Environmental Studies, SUNY-ESF; e-mail: g-lzhen@esf.edu.