



STP312: Governing Global Risks

🕒 Class Time

MTWTh 9:00 – 12:00

📍 Location

To be announced

📖 Credit

3

👤 Instructor

Professor So Young Kim ([soyoungkim.syk\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:soyoungkim.syk@gmail.com))
Office: N4 B/D, #1218 (Office Hour: TTh 12:30 – 13:30)

📚 Required Materials

Course Summary

★ Course Overview

Are there any commonalities in such disparate events as the 9.11 terrorist attack, disruptive climate disasters, the Great Recession, the Fukushima nuclear accident, the Ebola outbreak, and Brexit? Spanning just the first two decades of the new century, these events attest to just a few of global risks in the world. German sociologist, Ulrich Beck, theorized the intricate relations between modern society and risks with the notion of *risk society* more than two decades ago. The world has since witnessed the emergence and proliferation of risks of an unprecedented level, kind, and logic. This course first reviews scholarly effort to understand the nature of risk as well as human and societal responses to risks. We then examine recent tendencies in which risks are increasingly politicized, globalized, and scientized and explore local, national, regional, and global schemes of risk governance.

★ Course Overview

Students will commit fully to academic honesty. In particular, students should make every effort to avoid plagiarism (presenting someone else's idea without giving due credit). Note that simple paraphrasing won't do. Substituting just a few words in the original source will still constitute plagiarism. The best way to avoid plagiarism is to cite all information that is not your own unless it is *common knowledge*.

It is students' responsibility to keep updated on the course through email notices or class website posts.

★ Course Schedule

Refer to the references at the end of the syllabus for full citations.

Week I

- 1) Course Introduction & Theoretical Approaches
 - Lupton, Ch 2: Theorizing Risk
- 2) Risk, Culture, and Risk Society
 - Douglas & Wildavsky, Introduction: Can We Know the Risks We Face?
 - Beck, 1986. Ch 1: On the Logic of Wealth Distribution and Risk Distribution,
- 3) Risk Perception
 - Slovic, Ch 5: How Safe Is Safe Enough? A Psychometric Study of Attitudes Toward Technological Risks and Benefits
 - Guest Lecture on Risk Perception and Communication

Week II

- 1) Science & Technology Risks
 - Perrow, Ch 9: Living with High-Risk Systems
- 2) Global Catastrophic Risks
 - Film: *Life After People* (History Channel)
 - Bostrom & Cirkovic, Ch 1: Introduction
 - Posner, Ch 3: How to Evaluate the Catastrophic Risks and the Possible Responses to Them
- 3) Global Financial Crisis – *Déjà vu?*
 - Reinhart & Rogoff, Ch 1: Financial Crises: An Operational Primer
 - Hacker, Ch 1: The New Economic Insecurity
- 4) Global Climate Risk
 - Film: *Six Degrees Could Change the World* (National Geographic)
 - Borgerson, Arctic Meltdown: The Economic and Security Implications of Global Warming

Presentation I (Wednesday)

Week III

- 1) Global Energy Risk
 - Pascual & Elkind, Ch 1: The Geopolitics of Energy: From Security to Survival
 - Further Reading on Nuclear Energy and Fukushima (TBA)
- 2) Global Security Risk 3
 - Porfiriev, The Perception and Management of Security and Safety Risks: Implications for International Negotiations
 - Further Reading on Global Terrorism (TBA)
- 3) Fourth Industrial Revolution
 - WEF, The Fourth Industrial Revolution: what it means, how to respond (<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2016/01/the-fourth-industrial-revolution-what-it-means-and-how-to-respond/>)
 - Elizabeth Garbee, This Is Not the Fourth Industrial Revolution (http://www.slate.com/articles/technology/future_tense/2016/01/the_world_economic_forum_is_wrong_this_isn_t_the_fourth_industrial_revolution.html)

Week IV

- 1) Global Governance (Theories)
 - Ostrom, Ch 1: Reflections on the Commons
 - Rosenau & Czempiel, Ch 1: Governance, Order, and Change in World Politics
- 2) Global Governance of Risks
 - OECD, Ch 4: Emergency Management of Future Global Shocks, Ch 5: Strategic Approaches for Managing Future Global Shocks
 - Peel, Ch 2: Global Risk Governance and Its Legitimacy, Ch 7: Democratizing Global Risk Governance
- 3) Regimes of Risk Regulation
 - Hood, et al., Ch 1: What Are Risk Regulation Regimes? Why Do They Matter?, Ch 2: The Comparative Anatomy of Risk Regulation Regimes, Ch 3: Nine Risk Regulation Regimes Compared

Presentation II (Wednesday)

Course Evaluation

The following distribution of the grade components may change depending on the progress of class:

Attendance & Participation (20%)	Students are expected to participate in class discussion based on the course readings. Sometimes short in-class or take-home assignments may be given.
Presentation (50%)	Students will make two presentations (followed by Q&A) on an issue of their choice related to the course. The presentation grade consists of two parts – one on the content and style of presentation and the other on participation as audience.
Quizzes (30%)	There will be a couple of short quizzes to check how students are following up on the course readings.

References

- Anderson, Stuart and Massimo Felici. 2012. *Emerging Technological Risk: Underpinning the Risk of Technology Innovation*. Springer.
- Alexander, Kern, Rahul Dhumale, and John Eatwell. 2005. *Global Governance of Financial Systems: The International Regulation of Systemic Risk*. Oxford University Press.
- Beck, Ulrich. 1986/1992. *Risk Society: Towards a New Modernity*. Sage Publications.
- Bostrom, Nick and Milan M. Cirkovic. 2008. *Global Catastrophic Risks*. Oxford University Press.
- Douglas, Mary and Aaron Wildavsky. 1982. *Risk and Culture: An Essay on the Selection of Technological and Environmental Dangers*. University of California Press.
- Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission. 2011. *The Financial Crisis Inquiry Report: Final Report of the National Commission on the Causes of the Financial and Economic Crisis in the US*.
- Finkelstein, Lawrence S. 1995. What is Global Governance? *Global Governance* 1: 367-72.
- Goldthau, Andreas and Jan Martin Witte, eds. 2010. *Global Energy Governance: The New Rules of the Game*. Brookings Institution Press.
- Goodstein, David. 2005. *Out of Gas: The End of the Age of Oil*. W.W. Norton Company.
- Hacker, Jacob S. 2008. *The Great Risk Shift: The New Economic Insecurity and the Decline of the American Dream*. Oxford University Press.
- Hodge, Graeme A., Diana M. Bowman, and Andrew D. Maynard, eds. 2011. *International Handbook on Regulating Nanotechnologies*. Edward Elgar.
- Hough, Peter. 2008. *Understanding Global Security*. Routledge.
- Heng, Yee-Kuang and Kenneth McDonagh. 2009. *Risk, Global Governance and Security: The other war on terror*. Routledge.
- International Risk Governance Council (IRGC). 2008. *Introduction to the IRGC Risk Governance Framework*.
- Lupton, Deborah. 1999. *Risk*. Routledge.
- Nanto, Dick K. 2009. *The Global Financial Crisis: Analysis and Policy Implications*. Congressional Research Service.
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- Pascual, Carlos and Jonathan Elkind, eds. 2009. *Energy Security: Economics, Politics, Strategies, and Implications*. Brookings Institution Press.
- Peel, Jacqueline. 2010. *Science and Risk Regulation in International Law*. Cambridge University Press.

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- Posner, Richard. 2004. *Catastrophe: Risk and Response*. Oxford University Press.
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- Smil, Vaclav. 2010. *Energy Myths and Realities: Bringing Science to the Energy Policy Debate*. AEI Press.
- United Nations. 2007. *Emerging Global Energy Security Risks*.
- World Economic Forum. *Global Risks 2016*