



TEL AVIV אוניברסיטת
UNIVERSITY תל אביב

Full Syllabus



Course Title

Climate Change and Capitalism

Lecturer and Teaching assistant

Dr. Rami Kaplan

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Semester

2027a

Hours

Wednesdays, 14:00-16:15, Porter 302

Course requirements

Reading toward classes
Attending classes physically
Leading one discussion in class
Final exam

Final grade components

Participation – 20%
Leading a discussion – 20%
Final exam – 60%

Course schedule

Class no. / Date	Subject and Requirements (assignments, reading materials, tasks, etc.)
1 21.10.2026	Capitalist Civilization and Ecological Overshoot ◆ McNeill, J. R. & Engelke, P. (2014). The great acceleration. Harvard University Press. pp. 1-27, 40-54. ◆ Wiedmann, T., Lenzen, M., Keyßer, L. T., & Steinberger, J. K. (2020). Scientists' warning on affluence. <i>Nature communications</i>, 11(1), 3107. ◆ Rees, W. (2020). The fractal biology of plague and the future of civilization. <i>Journal of Population and Sustainability</i>, 5(1), 15-28.
Understanding Capitalism	
2 28.10.2026	Theories of Capitalism ◆ Jahan, S., & Mahmud, A. S. (2015). <i>What is capitalism?</i> International Monetary Fund, 52(2). pp. 44-45. ◆ Polanyi, Karl. (2001). <i>Great Transformation: The Political and Economic Origins of Our Time</i>, Beacon Press, 2001. Chapters 4-6.

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	◆ Heilbroner, R. L. (1986). <i>The nature and logic of capitalism</i>. WW Norton & Company. Chapters 2,3.
3 4.11.2026	Karl Polanyi's Double Movement Theory ◆ Polanyi, Karl. (2001). <i>Great Transformation</i>. Chapters 11-12.
4 11.11.2026	Neoliberalism, Globalization ◆ Cahill D. and M. Konings. (2017). <i>Neoliberalism</i>. Polity Press. Chapter 1. ◆ Reich, Robert, 2007. <i>Supercapitalism</i>. New York: Alfred A. Knopf. Pages: 50-65.
5 18.11.2026	Corporations ◆ Mills, C. Wright. 2000 (1956). <i>The Power Elite</i>. Oxford University Press. pp. 119-125. ◆ Wilks, Stephen. (2013). <i>The political power of the business corporation</i>. Edward Elgar Publishing. Chapter 3.
Capitalism and Climate change	
6 25.11.2026	The 1990s Carbon Wars and Obstruction since ◆ Levy, D. L., & Egan, D. (1998). Capital contests: National and transnational channels of corporate influence on the climate change negotiations. <i>Politics & Society</i>, 26(3), 337-361. ◆ Brulle, R. J. (2021). Networks of opposition: A structural analysis of US climate change countermovement coalitions 1989–2015. <i>Sociological Inquiry</i>, 91(3), 603-624. ◆ Lamb, W. F., Mattioli, G., Levi, S., Roberts, J. T., Capstick, S., Creutzig, F., & Steinberger, J. K. (2020). Discourses of climate delay. <i>Global Sustainability</i>, 3, e17, 1-5. ◆ <u>"Organised obstruction prevents effective climate policy through denial, delay, dilution, and distraction"</u>, from <i>10 New Insights in Climate Science toward COP 36</i>, October 2026.
7 2.12.2027	Neoliberal Environmental Governance ◆ Cipler, D., & Roberts, J. T. (2017). Climate change and the transition to neoliberal environmental governance. <i>Global Environmental Change</i>, 46, 148-156. ◆ Kaplan, R. (2024). "Rather Than Follow Change, Business Must Lead this Transformation": Global business's institutional project to

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	privatize global environmental governance, 1990–2010. <i>Organization Studies</i> , 45(1), 161-188.
8 9.12.2027	Corporate Environmentalism and Greenwashing ◆ Lyon, T. P., & Montgomery, A. W. (2015). The means and end of greenwash. <i>Organization & environment</i>, 28(2), 223-249. ◆ Wright, C., & Nyberg, D. (2017). An inconvenient truth: How organizations translate climate change into business as usual. <i>Academy of management journal</i>, 60(5), 1633-1661.
9 16.12.2027	Carbon Markets ◆ Haites, E. (2018). Carbon taxes and greenhouse gas emissions trading systems: what have we learned? <i>Climate policy</i>, 18(8), 955-966. ◆ Stuart, D., Gunderson, R., & Petersen, B. (2019). Climate change and the Polanyian counter-movement: Carbon markets or degrowth? <i>New political economy</i>, 24(1), 89-102.
10 23.12.2027	The Financialization of Climate Governance ◆ Sullivan, S. (2013). Banking nature? The spectacular financialisation of environmental conservation. <i>Antipode</i>, 45(1), 198-217. ◆ Kaplan, R., & Levy, D. (2025). The rise of investor driven governance: From Myth to Institution? <i>Regulation & Governance</i>, 19(2), 496-510.
11 30.12.2027	Green Capitalism? ◆ Newell, P. (2020). The business of rapid transition. <i>Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Climate Change</i>, 11(6), e670. ◆ Hickel, J., & Kallis, G. (2020). Is green growth possible? <i>New political economy</i>, 25(4), 469-486.
12 6.1.2027	Climate Change and Social Justice ◆ Parks, B. C., & Roberts, J. T. (2010). Climate change, social theory and justice. <i>Theory, Culture & Society</i>, 27(2-3), 134-166. ◆ Newell, P., & Mulvaney, D. (2013). The political economy of the 'just transition'. <i>The geographical journal</i>, 179(2), 132-140.
13 13.1.2027	Conclusion
21.1.2027	Final Exam - First Term



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11.2.2027

Final Exam - Second Term