

Master of Science in Sustainability Management

(ELECTIVE) FASHION POLICY AND THE POLITICS OF GOVERNMENT ACTION

6:10 pm – 8:00 pm, Thursdays, Pupin 224

3 Credits

Instructor: Elizabeth L. Cline, elc2195@columbia.edu
Response Policy: Please contact me or my TA Zoe by email, and one of us will respond within 48 hours.

Teaching Associate: [Zoe Alana Racette](mailto:zar2117@columbia.edu), zar2117@columbia.edu

Office Hours: By appointment every Friday via Zoom in 30-minute blocks, from 11AM to 4PM EST (or you can arrange a different time if this doesn't work). Sign up by emailing me and CC-ing Zoe.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

The fashion industry is an ideal case study of how governments, communities, citizens, and international institutions attempt to limit the environmental and social impacts of major consumer industries with complex global supply chains. Historically, apparel, footwear, and textiles have been at the center of some of the most consequential government actions under liberal Western democracy, including the abolition of slavery and the passage of the first workplace safety, labor, and environmental laws in the United States. In recent years, fashion has returned to the center of dynamic policy debates within the sustainability and social impact space, from issues of greenwashing and climate change to forced labor.

The \$2.5 trillion global fashion industry's social and environmental impacts often evade regulation. Major brands leverage long and opaque supply chains for raw materials and cheap manufacturing costs with little accountability. Private regulation and voluntary commitments have policed global supply chains for the better part of four decades, an approach, as this class explores, that arguably has ended in failures to protect human and environmental rights. The fashion industry's lack of accountability has cost lives, including the notorious Rana Plaza building collapse in 2013 where 1,132 garment makers died, and now contributes to a sizable percentage of annual climate change. Profits have been pushed to the top of the supply chain, while garment makers consistently toil for poverty wages, and the pollution and environmental degradation of fashion is a burden almost exclusively carried by low-and-middle income nations and communities of color that manufacture clothing and produce raw materials.

But the tide is turning. Governments are once again being asked to step in and regulate the fashion industry and other consequential consumer industries. Can effective policies police international supply chains and achieve their intended aims? How can they be designed to address root causes and systemic injustices and how can the policy process be inclusive and representative? Can policies be designed to avoid unintended consequences or is the democratic policy process doomed to compromise and thus flaws? This course is a survey of the fast-

evolving space of modern environmental and labor policy as it intersects with the fashion industry, and which seeks to incentivize more responsible business behavior in the realm of social, environmental, and governance impacts. The class will use recently passed and proposed fashion social and sustainability policies as our case studies, including the New York State Fashion Sustainability and Social Accountability Act (the Fashion Act); the EU Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Draft Directive (EU CSDD); California's Garment Worker Protection Act (SB62) and Congress's FABRIC Act; the FTC Green Guides and the UK CMA's Green Claims Code; and the EU's Waste Framework Directive, to name a few.

In this course, we critically explore the history, practicalities, limitations, and power dynamics of policy-making as a tool for problem-solving social and environmental problems through the lens of fashion with an emphasis on U.S. policy, looking at (1) the history and modern evolution of fashion policy in the environmental, civil rights, labor, and human rights space using both historical and current case studies, (2) the contested role of government in society, and the class, race, and gender politics of government engagement, and efforts to democratize the policy-making process, (3) the shift from private to public regulation and the varied approaches to regulating fashion, from soft to hard law, and (4) the industry opportunities and responses to and impacts from policy, including preparing for compliance and lobbying government.

This class will focus on developing the skills to critically understand and react to the fashion policy landscape and to analyze the government's power and limitations and the industry's role in shaping social change in fashion through the lens of social, environmental, racial, and economic justice for the full fashion supply chain.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- L1: Students will demonstrate an understanding of **the history of government efforts in developing labor and environmental standards** through the lens of the apparel, textiles and footwear industry and learn to identify **the key stakeholders** that shape policy and are affected by it.
- L2: Students will demonstrate an understanding of the **history and power dynamics** that determine how environmental and labor policy is made and what outcomes it produces, and how power, money, inequality, and organizing shape this process.
- L3: Students will demonstrate an understanding of and learn to **critically analyze the key components and approaches and potential effectiveness of emerging policies**, including New York's Fashion Act, EU CSDD, the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act, the FABRIC Act, Garment Worker Protection Act, and France's textile waste ban and key policy mechanisms **such as transparency, trade policy, consumer protection, corporate due diligence, and joint and several liability**. Students will apply **social science methods** to current policy case studies.
- L4: Students will develop an understanding of **how ethics, equity and bias** influence the development of fashion supply chains and policy's potential and limitations for influencing these dynamics.
- L5: Students will **demonstrate an understanding** of how the fashion industry is impacted by, engages with, and shapes the policy process. They will develop the capacity to understand the business perspective and how companies can prepare for social and environmental regulations.
- L6: Students will develop an **authoritative and informed position on policy matters**, which they will demonstrate through writing a final policy analysis that makes a recommendation to either industry or civil society on either for or against one of our fashion policy case studies.

READINGS:

Required books: None.

Other Required Readings. These materials will be made available directly in electronic or hard copy form, or made available on Canvas through an Internet link or a posted item.

This Syllabus may be revised during the course of the semester to reflect the inclusion of additional material or adjustments to the schedule. You are obliged to look for updates on Canvas.

COURSE POLICIES:

Participation and Attendance

I expect you to attend all classes as we will be covering a lot of material. Students can miss up to two classes per semester with prior notification from the instructor without their Participation and Attendance being impacted. Participation is graded based on in-class work. Your attendance and participation will be assessed via a letter grade in week 7 and week 13.

Late work

Work that is not submitted on the due date noted in the course syllabus without advance notice and permission from the instructor will be graded down 1/3 of a letter grade for every week day (not weekends) it is late (e.g., from a B+ to a B).

Citation & Submission

All written assignments must use APA format, cite sources, and be submitted to the course website (not via email).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS (ASSIGNMENTS):

1. Attendance and Participation - 20% (L1, L2, L3, L4, L5, L6)

Attending class in person is mandatory unless excused with prior permission, as participating in classroom discussions is critical to understanding the subject matter, fostering a healthy learning environment, and getting the most out of this course. Students should come to class having done the readings and be well prepared to listen, engage and participate in classroom conversations and work. The participation portion of your grade is based on in-class written discussion questions, group work, and other activities that are announced throughout the semester and are based only on whether the work is completed / performed.

2. Critical writing responses on readings - 40% (L1, L2, L3)

- You will complete four of five Graded Discussion posts due throughout the semester, of which each is worth 10% of your total grade (it’s your choice as to which post to abstain from).

These written reflections on our readings and coursework are pivotal for forming a strong foundation for your final paper and to critically understand the policy process, analyzing stakeholders and power in the policy process, and the economic and social / environmental impacts of policy on both a short and long-term timeline. You will be expected to submit these essays using proper APA formatting and citations and they will be checked against Turnitin. More detailed instructions will be made available on Canvas.

3. Mid-Point Historic Fashion Policy Group Presentation - 15% (L3, L4, L5, L6)

- Students will deliver a group presentation of 10-15 slides / 15-20 minutes each analyzing how a pivotal change in US policy is connected to fashion, the stakeholders and impacts of the policy, effectiveness and outcomes and lessons for today’s policymakers and broader society. This assignment will be 15% of your grade and every member of your group will receive the same grade.

The policies for the group presentations may include (the professor may change selections during the semester) abolition in the United States (13th amendment), women’s suffrage (19th amendment), the Wagner Act, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, or the Clean Water Act. Each group will receive constructive feedback from the class, as well as challenges to your conclusions, which they should incorporate back into their future learnings, which will prepare students to write their final paper. More detail on this assignment will be provided via Courseworks.

4. Final Fashion Policy Paper - 25% (L3, L4, L5, L6)

- 12-15 pages double-spaced policy critique and recommendation paper in APA style

Your final paper will analyze a recent fashion policy case study. You will choose your topic from one of the following (topics may change throughout the semester): The FTC Green Guides or the UK CMA Green Claims Code: EU Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD); The New York State Fashion Act (A8352/S7428); The US Fashioning Accountability and Building Real Institutional Change Act (FABRIC Act) (S.4213) and California’s SB62; The US Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act; or the French Anti-Waste Law. The topics are subject to change and the details of the assignment will be posted to Courseworks. The paper should be a highly develop dresearch paper that draws on course readings and learnings, credible sources (including academic journals, news sources, books, and / or interviews with experts), and any guest lectures.

FINAL GRADING SCALE

Grade	Percentage
A+	98–100 %
A	93–97.9 %
A-	90–92.9 %
B+	87–89.9 %
B	83–86.9 %
B-	80–82.9 %

C+	77–79.9 %
C	73–76.9 %
C-	70–72.9 %
D	60–69.9 %
F	59.9% and below
ASSIGNMENT	% Weight
Attendance / Participation	20%
Graded Discussion Post 1	10%
Graded Discussion Post 2	10%
Mid-Point Historic Fashion Policy Group Presentations	15%
Graded Discussion Post 3	10%
Graded Discussion Post 4	10%
Final Fashion Policy Paper	25%

School and University Policies and Resources

Copyright Policy

Please note—Due to copyright restrictions, online access to this material is limited to instructors and students currently registered for this course. Please be advised that by clicking the link to the electronic materials in this course, you have read and accept the following:

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted materials. Under certain conditions specified in the law, libraries and archives are authorized to furnish a photocopy or other reproduction. One of these specified conditions is that the photocopy or reproduction is not to be "used for any purpose other than private study, scholarship, or research." If a user makes a request for, or later uses, a photocopy or reproduction for purposes in excess of "fair use," that user may be liable for copyright infringement.

Academic Integrity

Columbia University expects its students to act with honesty and propriety at all times and to respect the rights of others. It is fundamental University policy that academic dishonesty in any guise or personal conduct of any sort that disrupts the life of the University or denigrates or endangers members of the University community is unacceptable and will be dealt with severely. It is essential to the academic integrity and vitality of this community that

individuals do their own work and properly acknowledge the circumstances, ideas, sources, and assistance upon which that work is based. Academic honesty in class assignments and exams is expected of all students at all times.

SPS holds each member of its community responsible for understanding and abiding by the SPS Academic Integrity and Community Standards posted at <https://sps.columbia.edu/students/student-support/academic-integrity-community-standards>. You are required to read these standards within the first few days of class. Ignorance of the School's policy concerning academic dishonesty shall not be a defense in any disciplinary proceedings.

Diversity Statement

It is our intent that students from all diverse backgrounds and perspectives be well-served by this course, that students' learning needs be addressed both in and out of class, and that the diversity that the students bring to this class be viewed as a resource, strength and benefit. It is our intent to present materials and activities that are respectful of diversity: gender identity, sexuality, disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, race, nationality, religion, and culture.

Accessibility

Columbia is committed to providing equal access to qualified students with documented disabilities. A student's disability status and reasonable accommodations are individually determined based upon disability documentation and related information gathered through the intake process. For more information regarding this service, please visit the University's Health Services website: <https://health.columbia.edu/content/disability-services>.

Class Recordings

All or portions of the class may be recorded at the discretion of the Instructor to support your learning. At any point, the Instructor has the right to discontinue the recording if it is deemed to be obstructive to the learning process.

If the recording is posted, it is confidential and it is prohibited to share the recording outside of the class.

SPS Academic Resources

The Division of Student Affairs provides students with academic counseling and support services such as online tutoring and career coaching: <https://sps.columbia.edu/students/student-support/student-support-resources>.

Columbia University Information Technology

[Columbia University Information Technology](#) (CUIT) provides Columbia University students, faculty and staff with central computing and communications services. Students, faculty and staff may access [University-provided and discounted software downloads](#).

Columbia University Library

[Columbia's extensive library system](#) ranks in the top five academic libraries in the nation, with many of its services and resources available online.

The Writing Center

The Writing Center provides writing support to undergraduate and graduate students through one-on-one consultations and workshops. They provide support at every stage of your writing, from brainstorming to final drafts. If you would like writing support, please visit the following site to learn about services offered and steps for scheduling an appointment. This resource is open to Columbia graduate students at no additional charge. Visit <http://www.college.columbia.edu/core/uwp/writing-center>.

Career Design Lab

The Career Design Lab supports current students and alumni with individualized career coaching including career assessment, resume & cover letter writing, agile internship job search strategy, personal branding, interview skills,

career transitions, salary negotiations, and much more. Wherever you are in your career journey, the Career Design Lab team is here to support you. Link to <https://careerdesignlab.sps.columbia.edu/>

COURSE SCHEDULE

Please refer to Courseworks for the most up-to-date assignments and readings.

Date	Topics and Activities	Readings	Assignments (due on this date)
Sept. 7	<p>Session 1: Can We Regulate the Fashion Industry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introductions. ● Class procedures / policies ● Overview of semester / assignments / expectations ● Fashion's impacts on society and the environment: Class-generated ● Case study: Shein. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Book chapter: Read the intro of The Globalization Paradox, Dani Rodrik (22 pages) ● Familiarize yourself with the Apparel Supplier's Guide to Key Sustainability Legislation (45 pgs) ● THREE RESOURCES ON SHEIN: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Video: CBS Shein's mounting ethical concerns (4 minutes) ○ https://www.cbsnews.com/news/shein-controversy-why-is-it-so-popular/ ○ Article: Shein's Fast Fashion Domination Comes at a High Cost Time Magazine, https://time.com/6247732/shein-climate-change-labor-fashion/ ● Article: "The Twilight of the Ethical Consumer," Elizabeth L. Cline, Atmos. (5 pages) <p>Recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Podcast: Sha'mira Covington, Healing the Fashion Industrial Complex (56 minutes) 	<p>Complete assigned readings /viewings, etc. before first class.</p> <p>Find 2 news stories of recent social and environmental problems or "scandals" in fashion (from the six months) to share with the class during session 1.</p> <p>Due: Respond to the intro Discussion thread in Canvas before the end of week 1.</p> <p>Attend class.</p>

Sept. 14	<p>Session 2: Historic Fashion Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Connecting fashion to landmark eco / human rights policies. ● Abolition; the 13th and 19th Amendments; the New Deal; the CWA; the Civil Rights Act of 1964 ● Skills building: <i>Stakeholder analysis and power mapping</i> 	<p>Required:</p> <p>Environmental law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Article: Silent Spring-1, Rachel Carson in <i>The New Yorker</i> (25 pages) <p>Civil rights, voting, and desegregation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Journal article: Minchin, T.J. Black Activism, the 1964 Civil Rights Act, and the Racial Integration of the Southern Textile Industry. <i>The Journal of Southern History</i>. (36 pages) ● Blog post: Immigrant Garment Workers and Suffrage, GothamCenter.org (9 pages) <p>Abolition and colonialism:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Book: <i>Empire of Cotton</i>, Sven Beckert, Chs. 10, 13 and Epilogue, p. 279-311, 379-426 (107 pages) ● Video: Sven Beckert, “Global Origins of Modern Capitalism,” YouTube (55 minutes) ● Blog Post: Immigrant Garment Workers and Suffrage, GothamCenter.org (9 pages) <p>Early labor laws:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Article from <i>Race, Poverty, & Environment Journal</i>, The Fire Last Time: Worker Safety Laws after the Triangle Shirtwaist Fire, P. Drier and D. Cohen (4 pgs) 	<p>Complete required readings, podcasts, videos, etc.</p> <p>Attend class.</p> <p>Due:</p> <p>Graded Discussion post #1 due Monday, Sept. 18 @ 11:59 EST</p>
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<p>Sept. 21</p>	<p>Session 3: Critique of Current Approaches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Failure of voluntary and private regulations, e.g. factory audits, MSIs, and codes of conduct. ● The fall and rise of public appetite for Big Government and regulation. 	<p>Required Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Article: “Overselling Sustainability Reporting,” Harvard Business Review, Kenneth P. Pucker (19 pgs) ● Article: “The Factory Oversight Industry Protects Profits, Not People,” Maria Hengeveld, <i>The Nation</i> (5 pages) ● Read the Preface and Intro of this book: “Private Regulation of Labor Standards In Global Supply Chain,” by Sarosh Kuruvilla, Preface and Intro (16 pgs) ● Watch: Decolonizing Fashion, Columbia Law School, Kimberly Jenkins (YouTube): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=9G-JPCVKbUQ (1hr 51 minutes) <p>Recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Articles: <i>The Economist</i> 2022 Special Report on ESG reporting (6 pages) ● Watch: Conscious Chatter Podcast: The Root, Ep. 5 Deolonizing the Sustainable Fashion Agenda: Where Do Go From Here? ● https://consciouschatter.com/podcast/2020/09/29-s04-episode-209-the-root-5-where-do-we-go-from-here (30 minutes) ● Read the Executive Summary and Summary of Key Insights: “Not Fit-for-Purpose The Grand Experiment of Multi-Stakeholder Initiatives in Corporate Accountability” Human Rights and Global Governance, MSI Integrity (10 pages) 	<p>Complete required readings and viewings, etc.</p> <p>Attend class.</p>
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<p>Sept. 28</p>	<p>Session 4: From Weak to Strong Laws</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The history and evolution, potential and limitations of mandatory disclosure laws • Early modern slavery laws: • CA Transparency in Supply Chains Act, UK and Australia Modern Slavery Act, NY Fashion Act (v1) • Criticisms of the NY Fashion Act V1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the Executive Summary and Key findings of this Report: Paper Promises? Report on Australia’s Modern Slavery Act, Human Rights Law Center (6 pgs) • Read this Journal Article: <i>The Failure of Mandated Disclosure</i>, U. Of Chicago Law School by Omri Ben-Shahar and Carl E. Schneider, intro and conclusion (25 pages) • Open letter in response to the Fashion Act from the data quality coalition; posted to Courseworks (5 pages) <p>Recommend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blog post: <i>Nothing More Than a Consumer Awareness Bill</i>, Corporate Accountability Lab (3 pages) • Blog post: Human and Labor Rights Propose to Strengthen the New York Fashion Act, Remake.World (link) • Read: Full Disclosure: The Perils and Promises of Transparency, Chps 1 - 4, Fung, Graham & Weil (89 pgs) 	<p>Complete required readings/ viewings.</p> <p>Attend class</p> <p>Due:</p> <p>Graded Discussion post #2 due Monday, Oct. 2 @ 11:59 EST</p>
<p>Oct. 5</p>	<p>Session 5: Regulating Textile Waste and Overproduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emerging policy solutions: Taxes, mandates on design and durability, incentives for circular businesses, etc. • France’s Extended Producer Law; EU Circular Economy 	<p>Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video: “U.S. Exports of Used Clothing Creating a Waste Nightmare,” CBS Mornings (5 mins 25 seconds) • Read the following 5 sections of this Gov. document: <i>EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles</i>, European Parliament, 2.1; 2.2; 2.6; 3.2; 4.2 (4 pgs). • Article: <i>Learnings from France on Textile Waste and EPR</i>, Innovation Textiles (4 pages) 	<p>Complete required readings / viewings, etc.</p> <p>Attend class.</p>

	<p>Action Plan, UK Fast Fashion Tax.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Depoliticization of waste. Who benefits / loses from waste in the Global North and South. ● Justice-centered circularity. Designing policy with the Global South and impacted stakeholders involved. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Article: UK Government rejects 1p fast fashion tax, Climateaction.org (4 pages) ● Article: <i>This is not your gold mine. This is our mess</i>, Liz Ricketts, Atmos magazine (12 pages) ● Article: Is Shein's \$50 Million Fund To Tackle Clothing Waste A Good Thing, Or Just Greenwashing?, Vogue UK (5 pgs) ● Article: Will the Circular Economy Save the Planet? Sierra Magazine, Elizabeth Cline (12 pages) <p>Recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Report: Fixing Fashion: Report Summary, UK Parliament Environmental Audit Committee (15 pages) ● Report: <i>A New Textiles Economy</i>, Ellen MacArthur Foundation (33 pages) 	
Oct. 12	<p>Session 6: Climate Change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Measuring fashion's climate footprint ● Skills building: How to read a bill ● US: SEC climate disclosure draft rules and the New York Fashion Sustainability and Social Accountability Act's (Fashion Act) climate elements. ● EU: France's proposed climate labeling law, the EU CSDDD sustainability reporting requirements ● Just Transition and critiques of emissions target-setting. 	<p>Required Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● US policy: ● Bill: New York Senate Bill S7428 (New York Fashion Act). Scan this for the climate change / emissions language (5 pages) - Link ● Read the Summary and Introduction of the SEC's proposed Climate Disclosures for Investors (10 pages) ● European policy: ● Read the sustainability amendments to the EU Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive, pg. 29 to 40 (11 pages) ● Article: Clothing labels detailing climate impact could soon become mandatory in France, In Lifestyle (5 pages) <p>Listen to this podcast: (Planet: Critical) Decolonize to Decarbonize: Interview w/ Fadhel Kaboub and this tangential blog post: "Why the Global South Can't Go Green"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Just Transition: ● Article: "FAQ on a Just Transition," International Labour Organization ● Read: Op-Ed, Developing economies need a fairer way to 	<p>Complete required readings and viewings, etc.</p> <p>Attend class.</p> <p>Due: Discussion post due #3 Monday, Oct. 16 @ 11:59pm EST</p>

		<p>help them decarbonise, Kenneth Rogoff, The Guardian (link)</p> <p>Recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Article: “Climate experts are worried about the toughest carbon emissions for companies to capture,” CNBC (Source: Online) ● View: Sept 20. Climate Forward panel on fashion policy, YouTube (pay special attention to Nazma Akter’s comments at the end) 	
Oct. 19	<p>Session 7: Regulating Greenwashing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Greenwashing case studies in fashion; exploring drivers and harms of greenwashing ● US policy approach: FTC Green Guides, consumer protection and truth in advertising laws on the state and federal level ● European policy approach: UK Green Claims Codes; Norway Marketing Control Act, Dutch and Norwegian recommendations to the SAC Higg Index ● Recent consumer lawsuits against greenwashing: H&M and Allbirds ● The gap between consumer behavior and intentions. Promises and limitations of regulating greenwashing. 	<p>Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Blog post: Regulating Greenwashing, Steve Cohen, Columbia State of the Planet blog (5 pages) ● Gov. document: <i>U.S. FTC Green Guides</i>, Federal Trade Commission (12 pages) ● Journal article: <i>Greenwashing No More: The Case for Stronger Regulation of Environmental Marketing</i>, U. of Missouri, Rotman, Gossett, & Goldman (Intro and section 1; 11 pages) ● Podcast: “Inside the Green Claims Code with Cecilia Parker Aranha, Director of the UK Competitions and Markets Authority,” Can Marketing Save the Planet (30 mins.) ● Gov. document: Leaked version of the EU anti-greenwashing directive (30 pages) <p>Recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Article: The Big Global Crackdown on Greenwashing, <i>Vogue Business</i> ● Article: <i>H&M called out on “illegal” sustainability marketing</i>, EcoTextile ● Article: Allbirds is One of the Latest Brands Facing a Lawsuit Over its Sustainability-Centric Advertising, <i>The Fashion Law</i> (5 pages) 	<p>Complete required readings, viewings, etc.</p> <p>Attend class.</p> <p>Due:</p> <p>In-class group presentations of historic fashion policies</p>

Oct. 26	<p>Session 8: Consumer Labeling (“A Nutritional Label for Clothes”)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Greenwashing and consumer psychology. Political affiliation and attitudes towards green washing. ● The FTC Green Guides revisions and potential for binding and enforceable standards. ● US: Deep dive into the class action suits against H&M in New York and Missouri. ● UK: Deeper dive into the UK CMA Green Claims Code. 	<p>Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Journal article: The Intentions with Which the Road is Paved: Attitudes to Liberalism as Determinants of Greenwashing. <i>Journal of Business Ethics</i>, pp. 305–320 (15 pages) ● Journal article: Exploring the Gap Between Consumers’ Green Rhetoric and Purchasing Behavior, <i>Journal of Business Ethics</i>, pp. 311–328 (17 pages) ● Legal document: Class action lawsuit against H&M: Classaction.org (read the Nature of the Argument; 5 pages) ● Article: H&M class action: what lawyers told us, <i>Apparel Insider</i> (5 pages) ● Gov. document: Read the sections on claims in the <i>UK CMA Green Claims Code</i>, Competition and Markets Authority (10 pages) ● Article: <i>FTC’s Updated ‘Green Guides’ Could Clamp Down on Greenwashing</i>, Kaley Roshitsh, <i>WWD</i> (3 pages) 	<p>Complete readings, viewings, etc.</p> <p>Attend class.</p>
Nov. 2	<p>Session 9: Living Wages: The California Garment Worker Protection Act and U.S. FABRIC Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sweatshop conditions and fissured workplaces. ● Brand accountability for supply chain abuses. Joint and several liability as a policy solution. ● Worker-driven policy. ● Competition and the job killer elements of a state-level bill. 	<p>Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bill text: California Senate Bill 62, Ca.Gov (10 pages) ● Bill text: FABRIC Act one-pager, U.S. Congress (2 pages) ● Book: Introduction, Ch. 1 & 2, from <i>The Fissured Workplace</i>, David Weil, pp. 1-42 (42 pages) ● Anner, Mark, Jennifer Bair and Jeremy Blasi. “Towards Joint Liability in Global Supply Chains: Addressing the Root Causes of Labor Violations in International Subcontracting Networks.” pp. 1-43 (42 pages). ● Report: “How Apparel Brand Purchasing Practices Drive Labor Abuses,” Human Rights Watch - Skim (68 pages) 	<p>Complete required readings, viewings, etc.</p> <p>Attend class.</p> <p>Due:</p> <p>Graded Discussion post #4 due Monday, Nov. 6 @ 11:59 EST</p>

		<p>Recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Article: 25 years later: the legacy of the El Monte sweatshop raid, National Museum of American History (8 pages)Article: <i>California's garment labor law: The global implications</i>, Vogue Business (5 pages) ● Article: Behind a \$13 T-shirt, a \$6-an-hour worker, <i>L.A. Times</i> 	
Nov. 9	<p>Session 10: Human Rights + HRDD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What are human rights and due diligence? How and why did they develop? ● mHRDD laws from country to country in Europe, from soft to hard. ECI for Living Wages ● Process versus outcomes-based laws. ● Criticisms of corporate due diligence. What it can, can't do and what we still don't know. 	<p>Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Report: <i>The United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights</i>, UN, pp. 1-30 (30 pages) ● Skim draft directive: <i>Corporate due diligence and corporate accountability directive</i>, European Parliament (70 pgs) ● Report: <i>Debating Corporate Due Diligence: A Reality Check</i>, by ECCJ and CORE, pp. 1-31 (33 pages). ● Article: <i>EU draft law would require firms to check suppliers for human rights, environmental ethics</i>, Reuters (3 pages) ● Report: <i>French Parliament Publishes Evaluation Report on Corporate Duty of Vigilance Law</i>, Latham & Watkins (5 pages). <p>Recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Video: Lara Walters and IRL New Conversation project panel debate on mHRDD (2022) ● Blog: mHRRD on BHRRRC website ● Blog post: Workers must be the foundation of any human rights due diligence approach, BHRRRC 	<p>Complete required readings, viewings, etc.</p> <p>Attend class.</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article: The Carrots and Sticks of Due Diligence, <i>Fair Observer</i> 	
Nov. 16	<p>Session 11: Forced Labor - Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act (UFLPA) and Trade Law</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> US MCA, Tariff Act, and U.S. trade law in fashion. China's reaction to the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act. Transparency and challenges of enforcement. Impact on business. Political ramifications and motivations of US policy towards China. <p><u>Guest Lecturer: TBA</u></p>	<p>Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report: Break Their Lineage, Break Their Roots, Human Rights Watch (59 pages) Bill: H.R.1155 - Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act, Congress.gov (12 pages) Trade law Chapter 13: US MCA - Rapid Response Labor Mechanism, USTR.gov, (2 pages) Article: <i>China ratifies international labour treaties as scrutiny of treatment of ethnic minorities mounts</i>, France24.com (5 pages) Journal Article: Corvaglia, M. Labour Rights Protection and Its Enforcement under the USMCA, World Trade Review, 648-667 (19 pages). <p>Recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article: Nike and Coca-Cola Lobby Against Xinjiang Forced Labor Bill, <i>The New York Times</i> (2 pages) Article: Cotton complications in Xinjiang: William Overholt on the case of Esquel, Kaiser Kuo, SupChina, (25 pages) Article: <i>How your favorite jeans might be fueling a human rights crisis</i>, Vox.com (10 pages) 	<p>Complete required readings, viewings, etc.</p> <p>Attend class</p> <p>Due: Discussion post due #5 Monday, Nov. 20 @ 11:59pm EST</p>
Nov. 23			
	<p>** Thanksgiving holiday; No Class **</p>		
Nov. 30	<p>Session 12: Industry Attitudes to Regulation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fashion industry positions and responses on the 	<p>Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article: THREADS Sustainability and Social Responsibility Protocol, AAFA, CFDA (2 pg) 	<p>Complete required readings, viewings, etc.</p> <p>Attend class.</p>

	<p>new wave of regulation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Economic impacts of social and environmental policy. ● When is policy good or bad for business? ● How brands, retailers, suppliers prepare for and comply w/ regulation, like the Uyghur Act, SB62, greenwashing. ● The role of corporate lobbying in fashion and American society. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Article: <i>Asos calls for mandatory human rights due diligence legislation</i>, JustStyle (4 pgs) ● Report: <i>Sweatshops Silent Supporters: Understanding Political Influence in Fashion</i> by Remake / E. Cline (20 pages) ● Article: “Lobbying for Good,” in Stanford Social Innovation Review (7 pgs) ● Article: Money Well Spent? Why Fashion Companies Spend Big on Lobbying Governments, <i>Business of Fashion</i> (4 pages) ● Article: Companies Prepare for the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act (UFLPA), JD Supra (5 pages) <p>Recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Article: Why Fashion Is More Political Than Ever Before, <i>Vogue</i> ● Article: These Brand-Activists, Nonprofits Are Tackling Fashion Policy Head-on, R. Roshitsh in <i>WWD</i> (2 pages) ● Web post: “Brands that Support California’s Garment Worker Protection Act,” Remake.world 	
Dec. 7	<p>Session 12: The Bangladesh Accord, Binding Agreements and Alternative Approaches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rana Plaza and its legacy. ● Pros and cons of the Accord on Fire & Building Safety and the Alliance. ● Alternatives to policy: 	<p>Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Short documentary: “Rana Plaza Collapse Documentary,” The New York Times (5 mins) ● Short documentary: “The Accord on Fire and Building Safety,” Worker Rights Consortium (10 minutes) ● Report: Security for Apparel Workers, Alternative Models, Cornell IRL School - Skim (49 pages) 	<p>Complete required readings, viewings, etc.</p> <p>Attend class.</p> <p>Due: Final paper due ~ Dec. 17 (date subject to change)</p>

	<p>Transnational organizing and binding agreements. Worker-driven social responsibility. Community-driven regulation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Article: Worker-driven social responsibility, Worker Rights Consortium (3 pages) ● Journal article: <i>The Accord on Fire and Building Safety in Bangladesh: A New Paradigm for Limiting Buyers' Liability in Global Supply Chains?</i> pp. 411-451(41 pgs) <p>Recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Article: "Major High Street Players Are Committing To Protect Garment Workers In A Vital New Agreement," <i>Vogue</i> (3 pages) ● Journal article: Labour Networks under Supply Chain Capitalism: The Politics of the Bangladesh Accord, <i>Development and Change</i>, pp. 1069-1088 (20 pgs) 	
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