Information about the U4735 quantitative analysis section

This page contains information on the *optional* one point section that accompanies U4735—Environmental Science for Policy Makers. The section meets *once a week* at a time and a place TBA.

Why take the 1 point section?

The section will focus on quantitative methods in Environmental science: applying physical reasoning, mathematics and chemistry to improve our understanding of environmental issues. A familiarity with quantitative analysis is often critical for evaluating the methods and results of scientists and thus their policy implications. The class will

- Help you understand the quantitative concepts and methods in lecture (and thus the lecture problem sets).
- Teach you a set of quantitative skills beyond what is taught in the lecture.

What "prerequisites" are there for this section?

None, really. You should be familiar with high-school level algebra and chemistry, or at least remember a time when you were familiar with them. We'll go as slow as needed to get everyone up to speed. Students with college degrees in science or engineering may find the section to be boring however.

What is the workload of the section?

There are weekly problem sets that complement the work that you are assigned in lecture. They are designed to take *about 1 hour per week*. There is no section mid-term or final exam. There may be a final project, in place of homeworks, that will be completed by the last day of class.

How is the section graded?

Grades are based on homework performance plus a project, if we decide to do one. *The section grade is then factored into your overall course grade*.

Who is teaching the section?

Richard Katz, a graduate student in the Department of Earth and Environmental Science. Richard has a master's degree from Columbia University in Tectonophysics. This is the second year he has taught this section.