

Guidance Document - The International Political Economy of Everyday Life (I-PEEL): Living Through Climate Change Global Groupwork Project

This document contains important information about the project mentors and guidance notes on the project outputs. Please read this document carefully. If you have any questions please contact the project team on i-peel@warwick.ac.uk

Meet your mentors!

The Living through climate change global groupwork project is an initiative of the Monash Warwick Alliance (MWA). As part of this project you will work with an academic mentor, and you'll also receive feedback and input on your writing from other members of the Global Groupwork mentor team. You can read the bios of the project mentors below:

James Brassett is Reader in International Political Economy at the University of Warwick. His teaching and research interests concern the everyday politics of globalisation with a focus on discourses of global ethics, crisis and resistance. Brassett has a longstanding interest in how global resistance is (re-)imagined through cultural practices like film, social media and comedy.

Tom Chodor is Senior Lecturer in Politics and International Relations at Monash University. His teaching and research focuses on the global governance of the global political economy, specifically the role of private actors in contributing to and contesting global policy agendas, and the transformation and global institutions in an era of the Second Cold War.

Juanita Elias is Professor of International Political Economy at the University of Warwick. Her teaching and research interests are in gendered approaches to the study of IPE and she also works on the political economy of Southeast Asian states (with a particular focus on gender and migration).

Samanthi J. Gunawardana is a Senior Lecturer in Gender and Development in the School of Social Science in the Faculty of Arts, Monash University. Samanthi's research examines the impact of development policy on employment systems, labour, and livelihoods among rural women in South Asia, particularly emphasising gender, development and labour in Sri Lanka

Ruben Kremers is a postdoctoral researcher in International Political Economy. His research and teaching focuses on the digitalisation and financialisation of global capitalism, with a particular focus on fintech start-up companies.

Batrisyia Najwa Azalan's research interests focus on disability rights, governance, and advocacy. While working part-time at Monash University Malaysia, she is also finalising her application to the Monash PhD program to research the topic of stigmatised illnesses and religion within Malaysian society.

Helen Nesadurai is Professor of International Political Economy at Monash University Malaysia. Her teaching and research interests cover global governance, especially non-state modes of transnational sustainability governance, including their intersection with the political economy of Southeast Asia.

George Nikolaidis is Teaching Associate in Politics and International Relations at Monash University. George holds a PhD from Monash University in the field of International Political Economy and his research focuses on economic policy conditionality and austerity with a particular emphasis on the Eurozone.

Lena Rethel is Professor of International Political Economy at the University of Warwick. Her teaching and research interests focus on the intersection of finance and development - as well as the emergence and (global) governance of Islamic economies. Her work is grounded in insights from Southeast Asia.

Ben Richardson is Professor of International Political Economy at the University of Warwick. His teaching and research interests are on international trade, labour and land governance, the political economy of food, and capitalism and everyday life.

Important guidance notes on the project output

Your group will collaborate to produce a short essay (around 1,500 words) on the everyday political economy of climate change. In order to do this we have some specific guidance that we would like you to follow:

You should be aware that we are expecting you to write an essay in the style of an [i-peel.org](https://www.i-peel.org) 'tile'. So, take some time to look at the I-PEEL website and familiarise yourself with the format. Broadly speaking this is about taking an everyday object or practice and then using a discussion of this object or practice as a jumping off point into a wider discussion of a key concept or issue in the study of International Political Economy

The first **requirement** of this project is that your group will need to select an object or practice that you are going to collectively write about. Because this project is about the everyday political economy of climate change, we would like you to select an object or practice that is either (a) something that can be viewed as a CAUSE of climate change (e.g. cars, intensive farming); (b) something that is an IMPACT OF or is IMPACTED by climate change (e.g. bush/wild fires, food insecurity); (c) something that can MITIGATE climate change (e.g. solar panels, cycling). Try to think about an object or practice that is ONE or TWO words in length – this will be the title of your essay (you can always add a subtitle later).

The second **requirement** of the project is that you will need to find a way to connect your everyday object or practice to a theory, concept or key issue in the study of International Political Economy (IPE). We recognise that not everyone involved in this project will have studied IPE before and your mentors are there to help you think about how your object or practice enables you to connect to 'big picture' IPE issues such as trade, global governance, financial crisis, labour migration, or global gender inequality. You might also want to bring in some theoretical ideas and concepts that enable you to connect an everyday object or practice to the field of International Political Economy. As well as the i-peel.org website, we also recommend that you read the opening chapter of the I-PEEL textbook which has also been made available on the [Global Groupwork website](#).

The third **requirement** of the project is that we would like your group to not only think about the text that you will write but also how you can use video and images to complement the text. **You are therefore required to include (as a minimum):** one video link (ideally a YouTube link that can be embedded in the final output), one stock image (we will provide a link to an appropriate stock image library) and one photograph that has been taken by a member of the writing group (please don't use an image that you have not actually taken because we will need to secure permission for use of this image from the original photographer). If you look at the I-PEEL.org website, you will see that each entry (or 'tile') contains a range of multimedia resources. Using these kinds of resources can really enhance the reader's engagement with the text – plus, your essays will appear on a website and so think about how blogs use images and video clips to engage the reader.

The fourth **requirement** of the project is that you familiarise yourself with the Progress in Political Economy (PPE) blog: <https://www.ppesydney.net/>. This blog celebrates its tenth anniversary this year and has attracted over 1.7 million page views since its launch in 2014. Content is released on the PPE blog every week and there is a search function on the blog's site, so you can trawl for anything interesting and related to your project through the archive. PPE is edited by Professor Adam Morton and Dr Gareth Bryant in the Discipline of Political Economy at the University of Sydney and many of your mentors in the I-PEEL team have been contributors to PPE. Indicative here is Tom Chodor's post on the 'Pink Tide' in Latin America that has now had close to 5,000 page views: <https://www.ppesydney.net/understanding-and-misunderstanding-the-pink-tide-in-latin-america/>. Visiting the blog and returning to it for consultation will improve the outreach and pitch of your project.

A note on how to organise and start work on your essay.

As a group you will have lots of flexibility in terms of how to write your essay. However, this is NOT a traditional academic essay – you are writing something that is much more accessible in tone and so you need to avoid academic jargon and academic referencing. *Note that the essays on PPE have no referencing.* Rather, PPE blog posts have *hyperlinks* to sources that are mentioned and you will have to learn that skill yourself when completing your essay. You will not start your essay with a standard essay introduction – rather *use the introduction to explain what the object or practice is that you are interested in and why.*

From there you can think about the key topics and issues that you want to link to. You might want to bring your own reflections or experiences into the essay, or connect your discussion to popular culture in some way.

Take as an example Matthew Paterson's discussion of the 'car' on the I-PEEL Website (see here [Car – I-PEEL.org](#)). The tile starts with a discussion of how cars are everywhere in modern life, and then takes up a number of different issues (a) car production as a key feature of capitalist modernity, (b) the 'cult' of the car in modern life, (c) geopolitical conflicts and the car – especially in relation to conflict over oil, and (d) cars and climate change. This is a good example of how starting with an everyday object that we engage with on a daily basis can be used to link the reader to stories about the changing nature of capitalism, the

climate crisis and global conflict. How might you link the object and practice that you are interested in writing about to the political economy of the climate crisis?