

Michael Maniates is Professor of Social Science and the founding Head of Studies of Environmental Studies at Yale-NUS College in Singapore. He holds a BS in Conservation and Resource Studies and an MA and PhD in Energy and Resources, all from the University of California at Berkeley. He was previously Assistant, Associate, and Full Professor of Environmental Science and Political Science at Allegheny College (1993 – 2013), and Senior Visiting Professor of Environmental Studies at Oberlin College (2011 – 2013), both nationally ranked liberal arts colleges in the United States. He joined Yale-NUS College in its inaugural year (2013) to guide the development of its program in environmental studies, the only explicitly interdisciplinary, trans-divisional program at the college.

Professor Maniates studies systems of sustainable consumption and production, social innovation for a low-growth world, and approaches to teaching for turbulence in undergraduate settings. His current research, with students at Yale-NUS College, investigates hidden, disabling assumptions about power and social change that infuse contemporary notions of sustainability. He also is completing a book for Polity Press on the potential and pitfalls of “green living” while launching a new research project on higher education for a post-growth world. His recent publications include “Higher Education for A Post-Growth World” (in *State of the World 2017: EarthEd – Education for a Changing Planet*, Island Press, 2017 and reprinted in abridged form in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*), “Make Way for Hope: A Contrarian View” (in Nicholson and Jinnah’s *New Earth Politics*, MIT Press, 2016), “Power: The Missing Element in Sustainable Consumption” (*Journal of Cleaner Production* 2016) with Doris Fuchs et al., “Sustainable Consumption – Three Paradoxes” (*Gaia* 2014), “Teaching for Turbulence” (in *State of the World 2013: Is Sustainability Still Possible?*, Island Press 2013), and *The Environmental Politics of Sacrifice* (edited with John Meyer, MIT Press, 2010). His first foray into the field of sustainable consumption came via *Confronting Consumption* (eds. Tom Princen, Michael Maniates, and Ken Conca, MIT Press, 2002), recipient of the Sprout Award for the best book in global environmental affairs. One of Maniates’ contributions to the book (“Individualization: Ride a Bike, Plant a Tree, Save the World”), which also appeared in the journal *Global Environmental Politics*, is among the most cited pieces in the field.

In addition to his work as a scholar, Professor Maniates is also an experienced leader and administrator within higher education. At Allegheny College he assumed several administrative roles, including the chair of the Committee on Discriminatory and Sexual Harassment and the chair of the Academic Support Committee. He was a frequent participant on tenure sub-committees, served multiple years on the college’s Curriculum Committee, and was selected as the Inaugural Faculty Fellow in Strategic Planning and Public Affairs. Under the auspices of the University of Pittsburgh and, later, the University of Virginia, Maniates also filled two key administrative roles for the award-winning Semester at Sea program – one as coordinator of the “all-ship” course for the Summer 2005 voyage and the other as Academic Dean of the Spring 2007 around-the-world voyage. In this latter role as Dean, Professor Maniates directed an international search for faculty, hired 27 professors, and led the academic program for 100 days through 11 countries. Since joining Yale-NUS College in 2013 he has assumed increasing levels of administrative responsibility. These include past and ongoing responsibilities as Interim Head of Studies of Global Affairs, Head of Studies of Individual and Society, founding Head of Studies of Environmental Studies, Coordinator of Comparative Social Inquiry, inaugural chair of the Academic

Integrity Committee, Moderator of the Faculty (elected), chair of the Task Force on Peer Observation, and numerous additional ad-hoc committee assignments and leadership duties.

Repeatedly recognized for his accomplishments in the classroom, Professor Maniates remains fiercely engaged in undergraduate instruction around vexing and often overwhelming issues of global environmental decline. He typically teaches two courses a semester while serving as a formal or informal advisor to more than a dozen students. He mentors junior faculty on course design and classroom dynamics, writes on the challenges of “teaching hope,” and periodically serves as an external consultant for colleges and universities with programs in environmental sustainability. His creative unpredictability in the classroom (e.g. setting paper aflame in class to illustrate the laws of thermodynamics or screening choice clips from Monty Python and the Holy Grail to underscore the dangers of environmental surprise) contributes to his reputation as an in-demand instructor who is both nurturing and demanding. At Yale-NUS he offers courses in global environmental governance, environmental policymaking, systems of sustainable production and consumption, energy technologies and trends, comparative social inquiry, and introduction to environmental studies.

Professor Maniates lives in Singapore with his wife Rebecca Maniates, a social-science librarian at Singapore Management University, and their son Elliot. They have two cats, an abundance of cookbooks, and a growing love of the cultural and culinary delights of Southeast Asia.