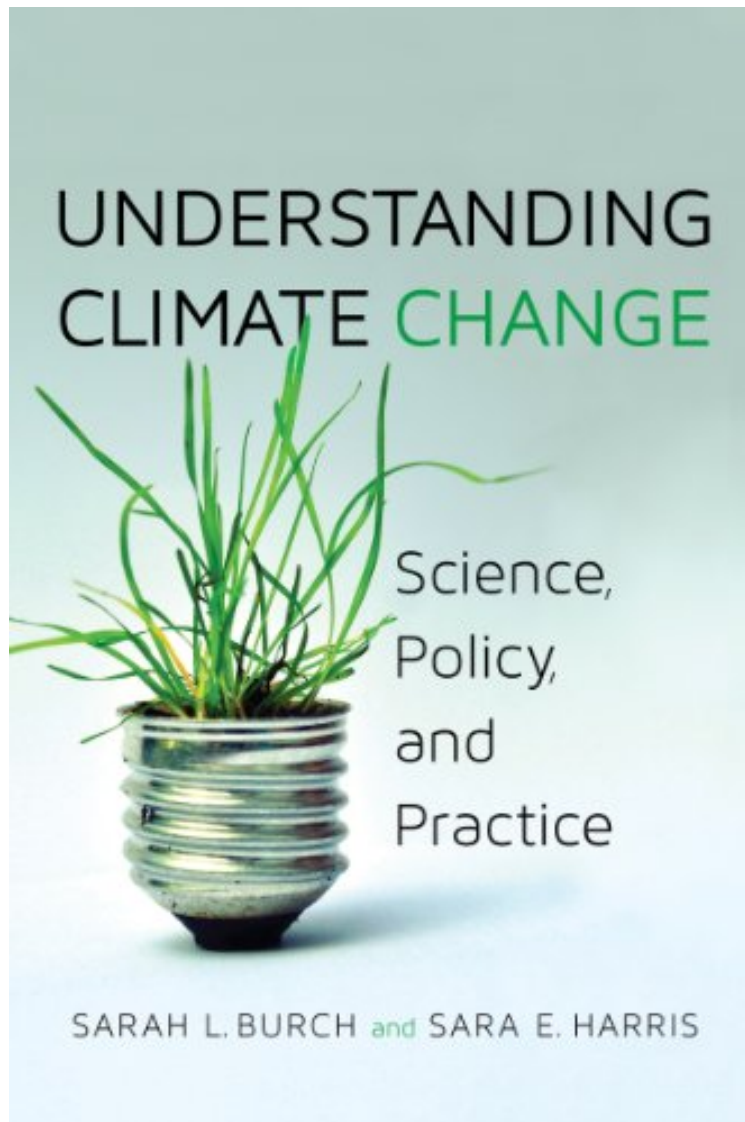


# Understanding Climate Change: Science, Policy, and Practice

*Sarah Burch, Sara Harris*

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Conversations about climate change are filled with challenges involving complex data, deeply held values, and political issues. *Understanding Climate Change* provides readers with a concise, accessible, and holistic picture of the climate change problem, including both the scientific and human dimensions. *Understanding Climate Change* examines climate change as both a scientific and a public policy issue. Sarah L. Burch and Sara E. Harris explain the basics of the climate system, climate models and prediction, and human and biophysical impacts, as well as strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, enhancing adaptability, and enabling climate change governance. The authors examine the connections between climate change and other pressing issues, such as human health, poverty, and other environmental problems, and they explore the ways that sustainable responses to climate change can simultaneously address those issues. An effective and integrated introduction to an urgent and controversial issue, *Understanding Climate Change* contains the tools needed for students, instructors, and decision-makers to become constructive participants in the human response to climate change.

Perhaps the most accessible book yet to be written on climate change: If you decide to read only one book about climate change, *Understanding Climate Change* is the one you should choose. (Jason MacLean *Thunder Bay Chronicle-Journal*) This book is an excellent overview of the scientific and human dimensions of anthropogenic climate change. The main contribution is the seamless integration between the physical science and the social science. Highly recommended. (J. Schoof *Choice Magazine* vol 52:07:2015) This book seeks to move beyond the fundamentals and introduces the reader to the economic, political, and social dynamics of climate change. Each chapter begins with "Main Points," or guided questions, which is ideal for guided research in schools or undergraduate classes. (Pat M. Coutts, *American Association of School Librarians University Press Books for Public and Secondary Schools* 2015, Twenty Fifth Edition) Bridging social and natural science, *Understanding Climate Change* is a very accessible and well developed explanation of climate change. Students without scientific backgrounds will find the approach refreshing and appealing, yet those with natural science training will still find it engaging and interesting. (Len Broberg, Director, Environmental Studies Program, University of Montana) Written in an accessible style that will engage the reader, *Understanding Climate Change* is a well-balanced, comprehensive review of climate science and politics. The field has been crying out for such a resource. (Aled Jones, Director, Global Sustainability Institute, Anglia Ruskin University) *Understanding Climate Change* is a well-written text, with strong and substantive content. Undergraduates will find its analogies and metaphors catchy and effective for learning and retention. (Max Boykoff, Center for Science and Technology Policy Research, University of Colorado-Boulder) About the Author Sarah L. Burch is an assistant professor in the Department of Geography and Environmental Management at the University of Waterloo. Sara E. Harris is a Senior Instructor in the Department of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences at the University of British Columbia.