Economics 3545-002
Environmental Economics

Spring 1992
MWF 2:00-2:50
Education 134

Shannon Ragland
Econ 309B

This course is designed to acquaint students with the mainstream economic approach to analyzing environmental issues. Such an approach is primarily concerned with defining the optimal allocation of an environmental asset (or pollution control efforts), and determining whether markets or government policy instruments are capable of achieving that allocation.

Note: This course is intended for non-economics majors. Students cannot receive credit for both Econ 3545 and Econ 4545. Also, if you have not taken Econ 2010 (Principles of Microeconomics) please notify the instructor.

GRADING

Final grades will be determined by three exams, classroom participation and assignments in the following manner:

- 25% Mid-term 1
- 25% Mid-term 2
- 25% Final exam
- 25% Classroom participation/assignments

Each exam will have a short answer/essay format. Dates for mid-term exams will be announced at least two weeks in advance. The final exam is scheduled for Saturday, May 9 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. You may substitute a paper for one of the exam grades. The paper should be no longer than 10 pages in length and it should be relevant to the material covered on the exam it replaces. Please discuss paper topics with the instructor to determine whether they are appropriate. All papers are due by the final exam date.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday 10:00-12:00
Wednesday 3:00-4:00
Other times by appointment

During office hours you can reach me by calling 492-6875. At other times you can leave a message with the Economics Department’s main office, 492-6394.

READING MATERIAL

Reading assignments are taken from two books and a selection of articles. One of the books, Free Market Environmentalism by Terry L. Anderson and Donald R. Leal is available for purchase in the campus bookstores. Two copies of the second book, Environmental and Natural Resource Economics by Tom Tietenberg are on reserve in the Norlin library; each copy can be checked out for one day, provided they are returned by 9:30 a.m. the following morning. Copies of the articles will be made available by the instructor.
COURSE OUTLINE

Introduction to Environmental Issues


Introduction to Economic Theory

Tietenberg, Chapter 2 (except Dynamic Efficiency section)
Tietenberg, Chapter 3
Anderson, Chapters 5, 1, 2, 3

Mid-term 1

Tietenberg, Chapter 4

Environmental Topics

Overview:
Tietenberg, Chapter 14
Air Pollution:
Tietenberg, Chapters 15, 16, 17
Anderson, Chapter 11
Water Pollution:
Tietenberg, Chapter 18
Anderson, Chapter 10

Mid-term 2

Toxic Substances:
Tietenberg, Chapter 19
Biodiversity and Habitat Preservation:
Anderson, Chapter 7
Population and Poverty:
Tietenberg, Chapter 5
Tietenberg, Chapter 20