Economics 3545, Fall 1997
Environmental Economics for Non-Majors

Preliminaries

Instructor: Dr. Ashley Ahrens
Office: Economics, 4c
Phone: 492-3827
e-mail: ahrens@spot.colorado.edu
Office hours: TR 12:30-2:30 and by appointment

Introduction

This course is an overview of environmental issues facing the US and the world today and will employ economic analysis to evaluate informed and responsible environmental policies. Economics 2010 or 1000 is the prerequisite for this course. Knowledge of supply, demand, profit maximization, the functioning of markets, the role of prices, discounting, the appropriate measure of economic benefits, and market failure is presumed. However, these concepts will be reviewed at the beginning of the course.

Grades and Related Policies

There will be four critical-analysis writing assignments and two exams. The purpose of the writing assignments is to thoughtfully apply the economic principles presented in class to real-world environmental issues. In completing these assignments, you will be able to select from a number of environmental issues that will be posted on the course Web homepage at [http://spot.colorado.edu/~ahrens/econ3545/3545.html](http://spot.colorado.edu/~ahrens/econ3545/3545.html). Assignments must be typed, and you are limited to four double-spaced pages.

In addition to the writing assignments, there will be a mid-term exam and a final exam. The mid-term is scheduled for Thursday, October 16. The final exam is comprehensive and is scheduled for Thursday, December 18 at 7:30AM. If you have three or more final exams scheduled on the same day, you are entitled to an alternative exam time for any of the three exams. The instructor must receive evidence of this situation no later than Friday, October 3. Consult the Registration Handbook and Schedule of Course for further information.

The weights of the assignments and exams are given below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Term Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>35%</td>
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</tbody>
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Late assignments will not be accepted under any circumstances. You are encouraged to work together on the assignments, but the work you turn in must be your own. No
makeup exams will be given under any circumstances. If the mid-term exam is missed, \textit{for any reason}, the weight of the final exam will be increased to 55%. A missed final exam will result in an F for the course. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Confirmed cases of dishonesty will result in an F for the course; other sanctions may be imposed by the University.

\textbf{Course Text and Reading Requirements}

We will rely on a single text in this course. The text is \textit{Environmental Economics: An Introduction} and will be followed fairly closely. The book is available at both the Colorado Bookstore (on the Hill) and the CU Bookstore (in the UMC).

\textbf{Course Schedule}

The schedule of course topics is listed below. Although the course schedule may change, exam dates are fixed to assist you in planning your semester. As the semester progresses, the course schedule will be refined and posted on the course homepage.

\begin{itemize}
  \item \underline{Overview of Economic Concepts} \hspace{1cm} 8/26-9/9
  \begin{itemize}
    \item Reading: \textit{Chapters 3-5}
  \end{itemize}
  \item \underline{Economics and the Environment} \hspace{1cm} 9/11-9/30
  \begin{itemize}
    \item Reading: \textit{Chapters 2, 6-8}
  \end{itemize}
  \item \underline{Environmental Policy Overview} \hspace{1cm} 10/2-10/21
  \begin{itemize}
    \item Reading: \textit{Chapters 9-13}
  \end{itemize}
  \item \underline{US Environmental Policy} \hspace{1cm} 10/23-11/13
  \begin{itemize}
    \item Reading: \textit{Chapters 14-17}
  \end{itemize}
  \item \underline{International Environmental Policy} \hspace{1cm} 11/18-12/9
  \begin{itemize}
    \item Reading: \textit{Chapters 18-21}
  \end{itemize}
\end{itemize}