
Course Syllabus
University of Colorado, Boulder
Economics 4545-001
Spring 2017

Professor: Nicholas E. Flores

Office: Economics Rm. 210

Voice: 303 492-8145

Email: Nicholas.Flores@Colorado.edu

Office Hours: T 1:15 – 2:15 p.m., TH 9 – 10 a.m. and by appointment

Classroom: Econ 119

Class Meeting Time: T TH 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Required Textbook

Environmental and Natural Resource Economics, 10th Edition, by Tom Tietenberg and Lynne Lewis.

Course Overview

In this course we will continue your economics education by considering the economic approach to analyzing and addressing environmental problems. In addition to learning about the methods that economists use to analyze environmental problems and issues, you will be challenged to frame problems in economic terms and propose solutions to these problems.

Prerequisites

To be enrolled in this course, you should have Economics 3818, Economics 3070, and Economics 3080. Simple analytical models will be used throughout the course. You should be comfortable with basic economic models of optimization as well as calculus. If your transcript does not reflect the prerequisite, you need to verify with me that you have successfully completed an equivalent course.

Course Components

- **Lecture:** With help from you and your fellow students, we will make class lectures an active learning experience. This means you will be required to discuss lecture material in class (i.e. you will have to think on your feet).
- **In-class Exercises:** Some topics lend themselves to in-class exercises as another way of learning. These exercises will sometimes involve the entire class working together and at other times small groups or individuals working on problems.

- Homework: There will be regular homework assignments that will be turned in and graded by me.
- Team Project: The class will be divided into research teams that will then identify and analyze an environmental problem. The team will provide a joint paper and present findings to the class.
- Midterm Examinations and Finals: There will be two midterm exams and a cumulative final. Make-up exams are not a possibility. If you have a legitimate and verifiable reason for missing a midterm, test reweighting can be used to adjust your final grade. Lacking a legitimate and verifiable reason for missing a midterm will result in a zero for the missed midterm. The final exam is mandatory with no exceptions.

Evaluation

Homework	10%
Team Project	15%
Midterm 1	20%
Midterm 2	20%
Final	35%

Important Dates

January 17 – First Day of Class
 February 1 – Last day to drop class at no cost
 February 23 – Midterm 1
 March 23 – Midterm 2
 March 24 – Last Day to drop class without instructor and Dean’s approval
 April 11, 13 – Group Project Presentations and Papers Due (tentative)
 May 4 – Last Day of Class
 May 8, 4:30 - 7 p.m. – Final Exam

Course Topics

Remembering Intermediate Microeconomics and Statistics
 What distinguishes the economic approach?
 Chapter 1 – Visions of the Future
 Chapter 2 – Property Rights, Externalities, and Environmental Problems
 Chapter 3 – Benefit –Cost Analysis and Other Metrics
 Chapter 4 – Valuing the Environment
 Chapter 5 – Dynamic Efficiency and Sustainable Development
 Chapters 14-18 – The Economics of Pollution Control
 Chapter 19 – Toxic Substances and Environmental Justice
 Chapter 20 – The Quest for Sustainable Development
 Chapter 21 – Population and Development

Attendance Policy

Daily attendance will be taken for each class. You must attend a minimum of 80% of the lectures in order to pass the course. If you miss more than 20% of the lectures, you will receive an automatic F. A sign-in sheet will be circulated daily. It is your responsibility to make sure that you have signed in for each class.

Special Accommodations Policy

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to your professor a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner (for exam accommodations provide your letter at least one week prior to the exam) so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or by e-mail at dsinfo@colorado.edu.

If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see Temporary Medical Conditions: Injuries, Surgeries, and Illnesses guidelines under Quick Links at Disability Services website and discuss your needs with your professor.

Religious Observances Policy

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, please notify the professor in advance of any conflicts due to religious observances.

See full details at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html

Classroom Behavior Policy

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, color, culture, religion, creed, politics, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and gender expression, age, disability, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. See policies at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html> and at http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code

Honor Code Policy

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-735-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Other information on the Honor Code can be found at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html> and at <http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/>

Discrimination and Harassment Policy

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU-Boulder) is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment. The University of Colorado does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status in admission and access to, and treatment and employment in, its educational programs and activities. (Regent Law, Article 10, amended 11/8/2001). CU-Boulder will not tolerate acts of discrimination or harassment based upon Protected Classes or related retaliation against or by any employee or student. For purposes of this CU-Boulder policy, "Protected Classes" refers to race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or veteran status. Individuals who believe they have been discriminated against should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Student Conduct (OSC) at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH, the above referenced policies, and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at <http://www.colorado.edu/odh>