

**ECONOMICS 3535-001 NATURAL RESOURCE ECONOMICS
FALL 2008 SYLLABUS**

Instructor: Andy Meyer

Office location: ECON 12A

Office Hours: T 11:00-12:00 and W 1:00-2:00 and by appointment

Email: meyerag@colorado.edu (This is the best way to contact me.)

Office Phone: 303-735-1727

Course Website: <https://webfiles.colorado.edu/meyerag>

Lecture Times: MWF 12:00-12:50 in HLMS 199

Required Text: Barry C. Field. *Natural Resource Economics: An Introduction*, 2nd Edition. Waveland Press. 2008.

Course Description: This course explores how to apply economic analysis to identify the origins, consequences, and policy implications of natural resource problems. The first portion of the class will emphasize basic economic concepts and the tools that we will use throughout the semester. The remainder of the course will cover specific natural resource problems.

Course Topics: (This schedule is tentative and subject to change.):

Week	Topic	Textbook Chapters
1	Introduction	1, 2
2	Basic Economic Concepts	3, 4
3, 4	Defining and Pursuing Efficiency	5, 6
5, 6	Public Policy and Analysis MIDTERM I (Oct. 3)	7, 8
7	Valuation	9
8	Mineral Economics	10
9	Energy Economics	11
10	Forest Economics	12
11	Marine Resources	13
12	Land Economics MIDTERM II (Nov. 14)	14
13	Water Resources	15
14	Recreation	17
15	Class Choice (I'll explain) FINAL EXAM (Dec. 12)	?

Prerequisites: ECON 2010 (Principles of Microeconomics) is required for all students in this class.

Lectures: In lecture, new material will be presented. This material will be based upon the textbook, but may differ in emphasis. There may be some material on the exams that is covered only in lecture and not in the textbook. Should you miss a lecture, you should get lecture notes from another student in the class.

Also, we will begin lecture everyday by spending a few minutes on current events that pertain to natural resource economics. I will ask for volunteers to give a quick explanation of a current event. If nobody has an event to discuss we will continue on with the lecture material. As I expect this class to have diverse backgrounds and interests, I also expect the range of current event topics to be wide. As a class, we will discuss the issue and determine the relevant economic principles involved as well as the policy implications. The material from these discussions is fair game for exams.

Grading: Your course grade will be based on four different components. The weights of these four components are shown in parenthesis.

- 1) Homework (15%): There will be periodic homework assignments. The purpose of these assignments is to review the concepts learned in class and prepare for the exams. Late homework assignments will not be accepted and you will not receive any credit for turning in homework late.
- 2) Summaries (15%): Throughout the semester we will be discussing scholarly articles and recent news reports in class. You are required to turn in word-processed (double spaced, 12 pt. font, 1 to 2 pages) summaries of the articles that we are discussing in class. On the course website, you will find a link for the reading list. Check back often as the list will be constantly updated throughout the semester. The summaries are due at the beginning of class on the day of the discussion. You will not receive any credit for turning in summaries after the discussion or for turning in hand-written summaries.
- 3) Midterm I Exam (20%): Friday, October 3. Questions will be multiple choice and short answer. No make-ups allowed.
- 4) Midterm II Exam (20%): Friday, November 7. Questions will be multiple choice and short answer. No make-ups allowed.
- 5) Final Exam (30%): Half of the final will be on the material since the midterm. The other half will be cumulative and include material from the entire semester. Questions will be multiple choice and short answer. No make-ups allowed.

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

93.00 – 100.0 %	... A
90.00 – 92.99 %	... A-
88.00 – 89.99 %	... B+
83.00 – 87.99 %	... B
80.00 – 82.99 %	... B-
78.00 – 79.99 %	... C+
73.00 – 77.99 %	... C
70.00 – 72.99 %	... C-
68.00 – 69.99 %	... D+
63.00 – 67.99 %	... D
60.00 – 62.99 %	... D-
59.99 – 0.00 %	... F

Important Dates:

Lectures begin: Monday, August 25th

Midterm I: Friday, October 3rd

Midterm II: Friday, November 14th

Fall/Thanksgiving Break: November 24-28th

Last day of class: Friday, December 12th

Final Exam: Wednesday, Dec 17th, 1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Additional Notes: If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services (DS) early in the semester so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, (<http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices>).

Disability Services letters for students with disabilities indicate legally mandated reasonable accommodations. Other letters/requests you may receive from agencies such as the Wardenburg Student Health Center, or other health providers, such as physicians or counselors, are recommendations you may choose to follow to assist students but are not necessarily legal mandates. The syllabus statements and answers to Frequently Asked Questions can be found at <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices>.

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, reasonable accommodations will be made for students that notify me adequately in advance of conflicts. Students can see full details at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html.

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty have the professional responsibility to treat students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which students express opinions. See policies at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html> and at <http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/>

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; 303-725-2273). 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/>.

The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on Discrimination and Harassment, the University of Colorado policy on Sexual Harassment and the University of Colorado policy on Amorous Relationships apply to all students, staff and faculty. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial

Affairs 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>

Be aware of the Drop/Add deadlines
(http://registrar.colorado.edu/students/registration/registration_packet/drop_add.html).

If you have three or more final exams scheduled on the same day, you are entitled to arrange an alternative exam time for the last exam or exams scheduled on that day. To qualify for rescheduling final exam times, you must provide evidence that you have three or more exams on the same day, and arrangements must be made with your instructor no later than the end of the sixth week of the semester. For the complete final examination policy, see the University of Colorado at Boulder Catalog (<http://www.colorado.edu/catalog>).