

**ECONOMICS OF THE ENVIRONMENT
ECNS 433, SPRING 2012**

COURSE INFORMATION

Professor: Helen Naughton, Ph.D.
Office: Liberal Arts 412
Email: helen.naughton@umontana.edu
Phone: (406) 243-4586
Office Hours: WF 8:30-9:30 AM and by appointment.
Class Times & Location: MWF 2:10-3:00 PM in JRH 204 AND
Thursday, March 22nd, 8 PM at Montana Theater

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Gain awareness about environmental problems,
2. Model environmental problems using economics,
3. Explain how different policies can correct environmental problems, and
4. Analyze cost-effectiveness of different types of policies.

PREREQUISITES:

The prerequisite for this class is Principles of Microeconomics (ECNS 201). It is your responsibility to brush up on relevant material, as well as algebra and basic use of graphs.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND BLACKBOARD:

Tom Tietenberg & Lynne Lewis. (2010) *Environmental Economics and Policy*, 6th Ed., Addison-Wesley.

Additional course materials and announcements will be posted on Moodle:
umonline.umt.edu. Please check Moodle for updates often.

GRADING POLICY:

5% Participation
35% Research Paper
10% Poster Presentation
15% 5 Short Writing Assignments (3% each)
20% 2 Exams (10% each)
15% Group Assignment (short paper and presentation)

A=100%-90%, B=89%-80%, C=79%-70%, D=69%-60% and F=59% and below.
I will not use +/- grading.

GRADUATE INCREMENT:

Graduate students' research project (the paper and poster) must incorporate a comprehensive review of the academic economics literature on their approved topic. Additional guidance will be provided.

PARTICIPATION:

Active participation in the classroom is highly recommended. You can contribute by asking and answering questions. We will have experiments and in-class exercises that rely on your participation. It is your responsibility to sign the attendance sheet before leaving the class. Everyone is allowed two missed class periods during the term to accommodate personal emergencies, collegiate athletic travel, and other important life events. **Every missed class beyond the first two will reduce your participation grade by one percent of the course grade.** Attendance is also required for Dr. Forest Reinhardt's lecture on **Thursday, March 22nd, 8PM** at Montana Theater—short writing assignment 5 will be based on this talk.

RESEARCH PAPER AND POSTER PRESENTATION:

Writing a research paper (about 10 pages) will be central to the class. You can write on your choice of an environmental issue subject to my approval. You will have to submit three versions of the paper: Draft 1, Draft 2, and Final Paper. During the last week of class every student must also present a poster describing their research.

SHORT WRITING ASSIGNMENTS:

There will be five short writing assignments (half a page to a page long). These assignments have two goals: first, to help think of research topics and second, to help learn the material covered in class. These assignments will be graded on following marks: + (100%), √ (80%), – (60%), or 0 (0% if it is clear there was very little effort given to the assignment).

EXAMS:

There will be two exams that test the understanding of material covered in lectures and presentations. Students should bring the following to each exam: (1) #2 lead pencils, (2) a good eraser, and (3) a NON-PROGRAMMABLE CALCULATOR. All cell phones must be turned off.

GROUP ASSIGNMENT:

Part way through the term I will assign the class into groups. The groups will choose one topic from a list. As a group you will write a two-page summary of the topic focusing on three or four most important issues to be shared with the rest of the class. You will also present for about 15 minutes on the topic. Finally, based on your two-page summary and the presentation write three possible exam questions with answers. Exam 2 will draw from these exam questions.

UNIVERSITY GUIDELINES:

(1) Academic Dishonesty: All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students must be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at

<http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/documents/StudentConductCode1.pdf>.

(2) Disabilities: If you have a documented disability, which requires special arrangements, please inform me the first week of classes and contact the University of Montana Disability Services for Students (DSS) by calling 243-2243.

	Very Tentative Outline of Topics	Reading	Assignments
Week 1: Starting Jan. 23	Introduction	Syllabus Lomborg Ch. 1, 2	Friday: Short 1
Week 2: Starting Jan. 30	Valuing the Environment	Ch. 2, 3	
Week 3: Starting Feb. 6	Valuing the Environment	Ch. 3	Friday: Short 2
Week 4: Starting Feb. 13	Property Rights, Externalities, and Environmental Problems	Ch. 4	Friday: Short 3
Week 5: Starting Feb. 20	Monday, Feb. 20—Presidents' Day, No Class Property Rights, Externalities, and Environmental Problems	Ch. 4	
Week 6: Starting Feb. 27	Environmental Economics	Ch. 14	Friday: Draft 1
Week 7: Starting Mar. 5	Environmental Economics	Ch. 14	Friday: Short 4
Week 8: Starting Mar. 12	Stationary-Source Local and Regional Air Pollution	Ch. 15	
Week 9: Starting Mar. 19	Global Climate Thursday, Mar. 22, 8PM Forest Reinhardt lecture at Montana Theater: "Global Natural Resource Markets: Perspectives from Business Strategy" (Also, 3:40 Seminar with Dr. Reinhardt at Gallagher BB 123)	Ch. 16	Thursday: 8PM Lecture Friday: Short 5
Week 10: Starting Mar. 26	Sustainable Development	Ch. 5	Friday: Draft 2
Week 11: Starting Apr. 2	Spring Break		
Week 12: Starting Apr. 9	Natural Resource Economics	Ch. 7	Monday: Exam 1 Friday: Group Paper
Week 13: Starting Apr. 16	Group Presentations		Group Presentations
Week 14: Starting Apr. 23	Group Presentations		
Week 15: Starting Apr. 30	Individual Poster Presentations		Monday: Exam 2 Poster Presentations
Finals Week: Starting May 7	Monday, May 7th, 5PM: Deadline for Research Paper Drop the paper off in my office (LA 412).		Monday: Final Research Paper due