

Environmental Economics 250 Course Syllabus, Fall 2016
Dr. Mike Matheis

Time: TR 2:30-3:45pm

Location: 105 Poisson Hall

Email: mmatheis@anselm.edu

Phone: 641-7390

OH: 207 Joseph Hall, M 1-4pm, TR 1:15-2:15pm, T 4-5pm, and by appointment

Text Book (required): Tietenberg & Lewis, Environmental & Natural Resource Economics 10th Edition.

Course Objective: Apply microeconomic concepts to problems of the environment and explore the role that economists play in the formation of policy to gain a deeper understanding of how the world around us functions.

Prerequisites: Economics 141.

Attendance: Regular class attendance is mandatory and is essential in order to learn the material of this course. You are responsible for all material presented in class, whether you are present or not. After your second absence, your current events and participation grade will be reduced by one full letter grade per absence. To avoid distracting others it is requested to be in the class on time and not leave it before it is ended.

Grading: The entire grade for the course will be weighted as follows: Quizzes (10%), Report & Presentation (10%), Exam 1 (25%), Exam 2 (25%), Final (25%), Current Events & Participation (5%).

Final Grades will be based on the following guidelines:

A: 93 A-: 90 B+: 87 B: 83 B-: 80 C+: 77 C: 73 C-: 70 D+: 67 D: 63 D-: 60 F: below 60

Schedule: The following dates are tentative and subject to change, but plan on the following:
Exam 1(Th Oct 6th), Exam 2 (Th Nov 17th), Final (Tues Dec 13th 1pm).

Exams: All exams are closed book/closed notes. **The final exam is cumulative.** Students who wish to appeal an exam grade must do so within 24 hours of the time the graded exam is returned and need to ask for an appointment with me to discuss the issue. Make-up exams will be provided in approved circumstances. Students must provide sufficient evidence/documentation that his or her absence is excusable and a make-up exam is warranted. If you know ahead of time that you will be missing an exam, notice must be provided one week in advance of the scheduled exam date. Missing two scheduled exams will result in a F for the course.

Quizzes: Starting the week of Sept. 13th students should expect to take a quiz once a week. The quizzes will cover material from previous class lectures. The quizzes will be short answer, multiple choice, or a simple mathematical problem to keep a gauge on how well everyone understands the material. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped so students will not have an opportunity to make up a missed quiz.

Report & Presentation: Each student will be required to write a paper that is 5-7 pages (double-spaced, 12 point font, 1 in. margins) and do a presentation to the class that is at least 5 minutes on an environmental economics book, an approved set of environmental economics academic papers, or an environmental economics research topic of interest. The paper will be due Thursday December 1st and

presentations will begin Tuesday December 6th. All topics must be pre-approved by me by Thursday October 27th. More information regarding this project will be provided.

Do not plagiarize for this project in any way! Including material in your write up that is not cited will be taken as plagiarism and is an academic integrity violation. If you want to use excerpts from your source material, cite them (doesn't have to be perfect), and it won't count towards your page total.

Current Events & Participation: Once a week students need to come to class ready to describe to the class a recent news article or scholarly report from a reputable print or online publication relating to the material from class (due dates will be defined during class, but will likely occur every Tuesday starting Sept. 13th). The student should summarize the content of the article and describe to the class how it relates to recent class material. The class will have a short discussion regarding the articles where participation may be required. I will call on students randomly each week. All students should expect to get called at least once, and repeat articles will not be accepted. If you are not present or don't have an article, your current events and participation grade for the class will be reduced by half. The students called each week will provide to me by the next class meeting a hardcopy of the article and a one to two page essay summarizing the article, along with your thoughts and critiques.

Homework: Periodic homework is assigned, but it will not be collected or graded. However, doing the homework problems will help you on the exams and quizzes.

Course Topics: Topics may include, but are not limited to the following:

Property Rights, Externalities, Economic Efficiency, Benefit-Cost Analysis, Valuation of the Environment, Dynamic Efficiency and Intertemporal Fairness, Economics of Pollution Control, Stationary-Source Local and Regional Air Pollution, Climate Change, Mobile-Source Air Pollution, Water Pollution, Toxic Substance Pollution, Environmental Justice, Sustainable Development, Depletable Resource Allocation, Energy, and Water

Accessibility and Accommodations:

Saint Anselm College is committed to meeting the needs of students with documented physical, sensory, psychiatric, and learning disabilities. To disclose a disability and request academic accommodations, please see Kenneth Walker in the Academic Resource Center (ARC) in Lower Cushing, who will assist you in making contact with appropriate faculty members and arranging support services and accommodations available within the ARC and elsewhere. To ensure that accommodations are arranged in a timely manner, you are encouraged to make your request at the beginning of each semester.

Academic Integrity/Plagiarism: Cheating will NOT be tolerated. Group studying and working on homework in groups is encouraged; however, directly copying other's work is plagiarism. Academic misconduct in any form will be reported and punished accordingly.