

# Economics 131 - Fall 2011

Professor: Mark Jacobsen (m3jacobsen@ucsd.edu)

**Office Hours:** Economics Building, Room 223  
Mondays 4:00-5:00pm (*except 10/17*)  
Tuesdays 10:00-11:00am (*except 10/25 and 11/15*)

Class Times: Tuesday and Thursday 2:00-3:20pm, Center Hall 101

Web Page: <http://ted.ucsd.edu>

Class email (your TA's will answer questions here): **ucsdecon131@gmail.com**

## Economics of the Environment

Economics 131 serves as an introduction to environmental economics, covering cost-benefit analysis, the theory of externalities, and applications to environmental regulation both in the U.S. and internationally. We touch on questions of the environment in the context of development, population growth, and sustainability. The issues will be treated with mathematical rigor in the context of formal economic models. At the same time, the field is heavily influenced by work in the natural sciences.

## Required Text

*Markets and the Environment* (Keohane and Olmstead, 2007)

**TA's** (TA office hours and section times will be announced on WebCT and in class)

- Kirti Gupta
- Jake Johnson
- Anthony Liu
- Ketki Sheth

The TA's hold weekly office hours and lead class review sessions. Each of the problem sets will be covered in these sessions, and solutions also posted online. The problem sets will not be graded.

## Quiz and Exams

Quiz: Thursday, October 13th (in class at 2:00pm, followed by lecture)  
Midterm exam: Thursday, October 27th (in class, 2:00pm-3:15pm)  
Final exam: Thursday, December 8th (3:00pm-6:00pm)

## Grades

Grades will be based on the quiz (10%), midterm (30%), and final exam (60%). All are closed-book.

Exams will cover the material presented in class, the problem sets, and the assigned reading from the text.

Exams can only be offered at the time and place above and notes, books, calculators, cell phones, etc. are not permitted. Note that it is the policy of the economics department to turn matters of academic integrity over to the university.

If you miss the quiz or midterm the weight can only be transferred to the other exams if the professor excused you ahead of time. If you were not excused ahead of time a grade of 0 will be assigned for that exam. You need to take the final in order to receive a passing grade for the course.

## Schedule and Outline

9/22 Introduction (Ch. 1)	11/1 Climate change/examples (Ch. 10)
9/27 Costs and benefits (Ch. 2)	11/3 Cars and transportation
9/29 Costs and benefits (Ch. 3)	11/8 Cars and transportation
10/4 Externalities (Ch. 4-5)	11/10 Sustainability (Ch. 11)
10/6 Externalities (Ch. 5)	11/15 Valuing ecosystems and risks to life and health
10/11 Policy in Theory (Ch. 8)	11/17 Natural resources, forests (Ch. 6-7)
<b>10/13 Quiz (in class),</b> Policy (Ch. 8-9)	11/22 Fisheries (Ch. 7)
10/18 Policy, Extensions (Ch. 9)	11/24 <i>Thanksgiving holiday</i>
10/20 Climate Change	11/29 Water economics
10/25 <i>No lecture, midterm-review in class</i>	12/1 Wrap-up, review
<b>10/27 Midterm (in class)</b>	<b>12/8 Final Exam (3:00pm-6:00pm)</b>

Please see announcements at the beginning of each lecture (slides posted on WebCT) for reading assignments, problem sets, and updates to this schedule.