

University of California, San Diego
Department of Economics
Summer Session II 2014

ECON 131: Environmental Economics

Prof. Augusto Nieto Barthaburu
Lectures: TuTh 5:00-7:50 PM at Solis Hall 104
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Text

Tom Tietenberg and Lynne Lewis, *Environmental and Natural Resource Economics* (ENRE), 10th Edition, Boston: Pearson Addison Wesley, 2014.

This text is a comprehensive introduction to environmental issues in economics. We will follow the book fairly closely during the course.

Copies of the textbook are available on reserve at Geisel Library.

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to environmental issues from an economic perspective. In the first part of the course we will introduce economic tools that will be useful to think about environmental economics problems. In this part we will present applications to pollution control. The second part of the course will deal with efficient use of depletable and renewable natural resources. The third part of the course will address additional important issues regarding air and water pollution.

Grading

Midterm: 40%

Final: 60%

The midterm exam will be in lecture time on Thursday, August 21. Please refer to Tritonlink for the date, time and location of the final exam.

Homework

Homework will be assigned but not collected. Solutions for each problem set will be provided at the course's web site. It is very important that you work on the problem sets and understand them, since they are the best preparation for the exams.

Teaching Assistant

Name	Email	Location	Office Hours
Jason Bigenho	jbigenho@ucsd.edu	Economics Bld. 116	Friday 1:00-3:00 PM
Ce (Will) Liu	cel013@ucsd.edu	Economics Bld. 119	Wednesday 1:00-3:00 PM

Administrative Issues:

1. If you have a documented disability, please bring your documentation and come to talk to me as soon as possible so that I can make suitable accommodations for you.
2. If you arrive late to an exam, I will allow you to take the exam in the time that remains as long as no one has turned in his/her exam and left the room. If a classmate has already turned in his/her exam and you arrive late, you will earn a zero on the test.
3. **There will be absolutely no makeup exams.** If you have to miss a midterm **for a medical or other University approved reason**, the weight will be allocated to the final exam. In that case, you will need to provide proof of your situation. The weights will not be reallocated for any other reason.
4. All students must take the final exam at the scheduled date and time, so if you have any conflicts with other exams you are advised not to take this course (or the other courses that this course's exam conflicts with).

COURSE OUTLINE**PART I: Economic Tools****Topic 1:** Introduction

ENRE, Chapter 1

Topic 2: Valuing the Environment

ENRE, Chapters 3 and 4

Topic 3: Externalities, Property Rights and Pollution Control

ENRE, Chapters 2, 14 and 15

PART II: Depletable and Renewable Natural Resources**Topic 4:** Dynamic Efficiency

ENRE, Chapter 5

Topic 5: Depletable Resources: Overview

ENRE, Chapter 6

Topic 6: Depletable, Nonrecyclable Resources

ENRE, Chapter 7

Topic 7: Recyclable Resources

ENRE, Chapter 8

Topic 8: Replenishable but Depletable Resources

ENRE, Chapter 9

Topic 9: Storable, Renewable Resources

ENRE, Chapter 11

Topic 10: Renewable Common-Pool Resources

ENRE, Chapter 12

PART III: Pollution Issues (IF TIME PERMITS)**Topic 11:** Mobile Source Pollution

ENRE, Chapter 17

Topic 12: Water Pollution

ENRE, Chapter 18