University of California, San Diego
Department of Economics
Winter 2019

ECON 131: Environmental Economics

Prof. Augusto Nieto Barthaburu
Lectures: TuTh 8:00-9:20 AM at Center Hall 214
Email: anieto@ucsd.edu
Office Hours: M 10:00-11:00
Office: Economics Bld. 113

Textbook

Tom Tietenberg and Lynne Lewis, *Environmental and Natural Resource Economics* (ENRE), 11th Edition, Boston: Pearson Addison Wesley, 2018.

This text is a comprehensive introduction to environmental problems 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 problems 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 issues. 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.

Course website

We will use a web page located at https://tritoned.ucsd.edu/. We will post information relevant to the course, the syllabus, lecture notes, problem sets and practice tests, solutions, etc. You should check this page regularly.

Grading

Homework: 5%
Midterm: 35%, in class on Tuesday, Feb. 12.
Final: 60%, please check the schedule of classes for time, date and room.

Homework

Problem sets will be collected and graded. Solutions will be posted on the course's web site. **It is very important that you work on problem sets and understand them, since they are the best preparation for the exams.** Besides, there is no way of learning and truly understanding Economic concepts without practicing them.

Teaching Assistant

Name	Email	Location	Office Hours
Wanchang Zhang	waz024@ucsd.edu	Economics 115	Tuesday 4:30-6:00 PM

Administrative Issues:

1. If you have a documented disability, please talk to Brittany Thompson at Sequoyah Hall 245. Bring your documentation with you. Do it as soon as possible so that we 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 by the time you arrive, you will earn a zero on that test.

3. If you have to miss a midterm **for a medical or other University approved reason**, the weight of that exam 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).

5. UCSD now has automated waitlists. If you have any questions regarding adding the course, please contact the undergraduate advisors in Sequoyah Hall 245.

6. **Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated.** Students are expected to do their own work, as outlined in the UCSD Policy on Integrity of Scholarship. All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Academic Integrity Coordinator. In addition to the penalties imposed by the Academic Integrity Review Board, **I also reserve the right to fail students found guilty of academic misconduct**.

COURSE OUTLINE

PART I: Markets and the Environment

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 and 14

PART II: Markets and Natural Resources

Topic 4: Dynamic Efficiency
ENRE, Chapter 5

Topic 5: Depletable Resources: Overview
ENRE, Chapter 6

Topic 6: Depletable, Non-recyclable Resources
ENRE, Chapter 7

Topic 7: Replenishable but Depletable Resources
ENRE, Chapter 9

Topic 8: Storable, Renewable Resources
ENRE, Chapter 11

Topic 9: Renewable Common-Pool Resources
ENRE, Chapter 12