

ECON 7251 - Advanced Environmental Economics

Fall 2016, M & W, 2:00pm - 3:20pm, Bldg. 73, Rm. 109

Instructor: Dr. Haimanti Bhattacharya

Email: haimanti.bhattacharya@utah.edu

Office Hours: By Appointment

Course description

The objective of this class is to analyze the economics of environmental issues. We will discuss the causes of environmental problems and the strengths and limitations of the plausible solutions in form of various kinds of property rights. These have applications for various aspects of our natural environment like air, water, land, forests, fisheries, wildlife etc. We will also discuss the relationship between environment and different aspects of economic development, which can provide us the perspective about how the institutions governing the natural resource use and/or conservation serve/hinder the objective of sustainable development, which is the prime concern in today's world.

You will be assigned to read and prepare short summaries of the major arguments in the papers on a given topic ahead of each class, so that you can engage in and lead a critical discussion of the topic in the class. The relevant journal articles or book chapters will be made available to you through canvas. You will also work on a project that involves critical review of the theoretical &/or empirical literature on an environmental issue and lay out a proposal for research contribution on that topic.

Topics

- Externalities and Market Failure
- Property Rights
 - Open Access
 - Common Property Rights
 - Private Property Rights
 - Administrative Regulation

- Applications of Property Rights
 - Land and Forests
 - Air
 - Water
 - Fisheries
 - Wildlife

- Sustainable Development Challenges
 - Income & Environment
 - Trade & Environment
 - Population & Environment
 - Poverty & Environment
 - Health & Environment
 - Agriculture & Environment
 - Renewable energy

Grading policy

Summary reports and in-class discussions: 70% weight

Research project: 30% weight

A \geq 93%, 93% > A- \geq 90%,
 90% > B+ \geq 87%, 87% > B \geq 83%, 83% > B- \geq 80%,
 80% > C+ \geq 77%, 77% > C \geq 73%, 73% > C- \geq 70%,
 70% > D+ \geq 65%, 65% > D \geq 60%, 60% > D- \geq 50%,
 50% > E

Notes

- Late assignments lose points.
- Incompletes are not generally given for non-medical reasons.
- If you have any question regarding grading, you must ask within a week from the day the grades are provided. No exceptions to this rule will be entertained.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Statement

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services. (www.hr.utah.edu/oeo/ada/guide/faculty/)

Wellness Statement

Personal concerns such as stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, cross-cultural differences, etc., can interfere with a student's ability to succeed and thrive at the University of Utah. For helpful resources contact the Center for Student Wellness - www.wellness.utah.edu; 801-581-7776.