



Carleton University Department of Economics

Fall 2023

ECON 3804A

Environmental Economics

The Instructor

Instructor: Dr. Samuel Bonti-Ankomah

Email Address: Samuel.bontiankomah@carleton.ca or Brightspace at carleton.ca/Brightspace
(please use the Brightspace e-mail facility for all course-related electronic communication)

Office Location: TBD

Office Hours: Thursdays, 5:15 pm – 5:55 pm

The Course

Course Location/Delivery: [In person] Log into Carleton Central to view the location on your timetable.

Course Day and Time: Thursdays, 6:05 pm- 8:55 pm

TA: TBD

Email Address: TBD

Office Location: TBD

Office Hours: TBD

Brightspace Course Page: <https://brightspace.carleton.ca/d2l/home/208431>

Course Description

This course introduces students to the economic analysis of environmental issues. The objective is to familiarize students with the causes, consequences and possible solutions to local and global environmental issues. Topics covered include externalities, public goods, market failure, benefit-cost analysis, measuring non-market values, and policies for environmental regulation.

Learning Outcomes

After successful conclusion of this course, students should be able to:

- Describe critical environmental issues and their consequences;
- Understand the global challenges in dealing with environmental challenges;
- Understand criteria for evaluating environmental challenges;
- Explain the economic principles that guides cost-benefit analysis;
- Describe the market for environmental quality;
- Identify possible solutions to global environmental issues;

- Identify effective programs and policies for addressing environmental problems;
- Understand and explain Government approaches in dealing with environmental challenges.

Preclusions and Prerequisites

Prerequisite: ECON 1001 or ECON 1000 or FYSM 1003.

Precludes additional credit for ECON 3806 (no longer offered).

Students who believe they have taken similar background course or courses from another university must provide appropriate documentation to the Department of Economics Undergraduate Administrator, Renee Lortie.

Course Calendar

Section 1. Overview of Environmental Economics – September 7

1. What is Environmental Economics? (Chapter 1)
2. Linkages Between the Economy and the Environment (Chapter 2)

Section 2. Analytical Tools – September 14 -21

3. Benefits and Costs, Supply and Demand (Chapter 3)
4. Markets, externalities and Public Goods (Chapter 4)
5. The Economics of Environmental Quality (Chapter 5)

Quiz 1- September 21

Section 3. Environmental Analysis – September 28- October 12

6. Frameworks of Analysis (Chapter 6)
7. Benefit Cost Analysis: Benefits (Chapter 7)
8. Benefit Cost Analysis: Costs (Chapter 8)

Midterm exam – October 12

Fall Break – October 23-27

Section 4. Environmental Policy Analysis- October 19-November 16

9. Criteria to Evaluate Environmental Policies (Chapter 9)
10. Liability Laws, Property Rights, Voluntary Action (Chapter 10)
11. Command and Control Strategies: Standards (Chapter 11)
12. Incentive-Based Strategies: Environmental charges and Subsidies (Chapter 12)
13. Incentive-Based Strategies: Market Trading Systems (Chapter 13)

Quiz 2 – November 16

Section 5. Selected Environmental Problems* - November 23-December 7

- 14. Selected environmental policies and Institutions in Canada (From different sources)
- 15. International environmental agreements (Chapter 19)

Group Assignment due date –December 1

*Time permitting.

Notes:

- All chapters are from the main course textbook.
- The foregoing is a tentative list of contents. There may be changes due to questions and interests of students.

Textbooks and Readings

Texts

Title	Author(s)	ISBN
Environmental Economics: An Introduction, 8th Edition, McGraw Hill Education, New York, NY. (Required)	Barry Field and Martha Field	978-1-260-57549-1
“Economic Incentives for Environmental Protection: Integrating Theory and Practice.” American Economic Review, vol. 82, No. 2, 1992. (Optional on reserve in library)	R.W. Hahn and R.N. Stavins	
“The Problem of Social Cost.” Journal of Law and Economics, vol. 3, 1960. (Optional on reserve in library)	R.H. Coase	

Available from:

This course is structured to follow the chapters of the **required** course textbook, “Environmental Economics”. Students can purchase the electronic version of the textbook and related materials via the textbook publisher’s website for \$75 (subject to change) in accordance with the University’s policy on Technology Enhanced Learning Resources: <http://carleton.ca/secretariat/wp-content/uploads/Adopting-Technology.pdf>.

Hardcopies of the **required** course textbook, if desired, can also be purchased via the University bookstore.

Evaluation

Evaluation

Assignment/Test	Date	Mode of Delivery	Percentage of Grade
Quiz 1	September 21, 2023	Online	10
Mid-term exam	October 12, 2023	In-person	20
Quiz 2	November 16, 2023	Online	10
Group Assignment	December 1, 2023	Online	30
Final Exam	TBD	In-person	30
			Total: 100%

Information About Assignments

One assignment will be expected in this course. Students will be put into groups to complete the assignment. You are required to participate fully in the group assignment to satisfy the course requirement. Each group will submit one group assignment which will be due on December 1, 2023, through Brightspace. Submission of individual assignments are not permitted. All submitted assignments should be typed. Hand-written assignments will not be accepted.

Late Policies and Extensions for Term Work

Students will lose 5% per each day for submitting assignments after the due date of December 1, 2023. Students who fail to submit their assignments without a compelling reason will be awarded a grade of zero for the assignment and the assignment grade will not be distributed to the remaining evaluation instruments.

Quiz Policy

If you are absent for any of the quizzes, email me as soon as possible within a few days to reschedule. I reserve the right to request a Self-Declaration form or PMC letter of accommodation depending on the length of incapacitation.

Midterm Policy

If you are absent for a midterm, email me as soon as possible to discuss how we will weight your course evaluations differently. I reserve the right to request a Self-Declaration form or PMC letter of accommodation depending on the length of incapacitation.

Final Exam

The final exam will be in-person as scheduled by the University during the exam period. Students are not to make travel plans during the exam period as that is not a valid reason for missing a final exam.

Satisfactory Performance Criteria

Students must fulfill all of the course requirements, including the final exam, in order to achieve a passing grade (D- or higher). **Students must also attend class at least 60% of the time to fulfill the course requirements and achieve a passing grade.**

Deferred Finals

Students who do not write the final examination because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control may apply for to write a deferred final examination by contacting the Registrar's Office no later than three working days after the original final examination was scheduled. In the event that a student writes a deferred examination, the deferred examination will carry the same weight as the final examination in determining the course grade. Any deferred examination will not be identical to the original final examination.

Deferred finals (which must be applied for at the RO) are only available for students in good standing in the course. This implies that the student has to meet the class attendance requirements and with a weighted grade (before the final exam) of not less than 20%.

E-Proctoring

E-proctoring will not be used for evaluations in this course.

Standing in the course

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Plagiarism, Resources and Mental Health, Academic Accommodations

You are responsible for reading and knowing the information about plagiarism, Carleton University resources, and academic accommodations found [HERE](#).