



蘇州大學  
Soochow University

# **ECO 223 Environmental Economics and Project Evaluation Summer 2023**

**Course Credits:** 4

**Contact Hours:** 55 hours

**Instructor:** TBA

**Email:** TBA

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

---

This course provides an introduction to environmental economics, which is the study of how economic decisions affect the environment and how environmental policies can be designed to promote sustainable development. Topics include the economics of pollution, natural resource management, climate change, and environmental policy analysis.

Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the causes and alternative solutions to modern environmental problems from an economic perspective
2. Cultivate own views on the role, contribution, and limitations of economic tools in providing policy guidance on environmental issues
3. Enhance the ability to conduct professional economic research
4. Develop critical thinking and related skills for deeper learning

## **PREREQUISITES**

---

N/A

## **GRADING**

---

Grades will be determined by accumulating points, with 100 points being the maximum, as follows:



| ITEM          | POINTS     |
|---------------|------------|
| 2 Quizzes     | 20 Points  |
| 2 Assignments | 20 Points  |
| Midterm Exam  | 25 Points  |
| Final Exam    | 35 Points  |
| Total         | 100 Points |

Late submissions will be graded at the end of the course. Grades will be assigned according to the following rule:

$$A \geq 90 > B \geq 80 > C \geq 70 > D \geq 60 > F.$$

We reserve the right to make adjustments to the overall grading policy.

## COURSE MATERIALS

### Required Texts:

Barry C Field, Martha K Field *Environmental Economics: An Introduction*, 7th Edition, McGraw-Hill Education, 2016.

### Recommended (Optional) Texts or Other Materials:

None

## COURSE TOPICS

| MODULE   | TASKS   |
|----------|---|
| Module 1 | <b>Topics:</b><br>Topic 1: Course Overview<br>Topic 2: What Is Environmental Economics?<br>Topic 3: The Economy and the Environment<br>Topic 4: Benefits and Costs, Supply and Demand<br><b>Assessments:</b><br>Assignment #1 |
| Module 2 | <b>Topics:</b><br>Topic 5: Markets, Externalities, and Public Goods<br>Topic 6: The Economics of Environmental Quality<br>Topic 7: Frameworks of Analysis<br>Topic 8: Case Study<br><b>Assessments:</b><br>Quiz #1            |



|          |   |
|----------|---|
| Module 3 | <p><b>Topics:</b><br/>Topic 9: Benefit–Cost Analysis: Benefits<br/>Topic 10: Benefit–Cost Analysis: Costs<br/>Topic 11: Criteria for Evaluating Environmental Policies<br/>Topic 12: Decentralized Policies: Liability Laws, Property Rights, Voluntary Action</p> <p><b>Assessments:</b><br/>Midterm Exam</p>                        |
| Module 4 | <p><b>Topics:</b><br/>Topic 13: Command-and-Control Strategies: The Case of Standards<br/>Topic 14: Incentive-Based Strategies: Emission Charges and Subsidies<br/>Topic 15: Incentive-Based Strategies: Market Trading Systems<br/>Topic 16: Federal Water Pollution-Control Policy</p> <p><b>Assessments:</b><br/>Assignment #2</p> |
| Module 5 | <p><b>Topics:</b><br/>Topic 17: Federal Air Pollution–Control Policy<br/>Topic 18: Federal Policy on Toxic and Hazardous Substances<br/>Topic 19: State and Local Environmental Issues<br/>Topic 20: Case Study</p> <p><b>Assessments:</b><br/>Quiz #2</p>  |
| Module 6 | <p><b>Topics:</b><br/>Topic 21: International Environmental Agreements<br/>Topic 22: Globalization<br/>Topic 23: Economic Development and the Environment<br/>Topic 24: Final Exam Review</p> <p><b>Assessments:</b><br/>Final Exam</p>   |

## ATTENDANCE

1) Class attendance is required. Missing classes without permission will lead to decrease in overall grade.

Missing less than two classes: no penalty.

Missing more than two classes: 7% will be taken off from the overall grade.

If the instructor reports a student’s frequent missing of class to the Soochow University Academic Administration Office, the student might get a written warning and might be prohibited from attending final exam.



2) Participants in this course are expected to arrive in class promptly and adequately prepared. The primary objective of this course is to critically engage with the readings and the subject matter. Therefore, course participants are expected to have completed the reading prior to class and prepare thoughtful reflections/commentaries to share with fellow colleagues.

### **LEARNING REQUIREMENTS**

- 1) Late assignments are not acceptable and are subjected to grade deductions.
- 2) Assignments submitted in the wrong format will be counted as not submitted.
- 3) Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.
- 4) Make-up for midterm and final exams only with valid excuses, as defined by the University.
- 5) In order to earn a Certificate of Completion, participants must thoughtfully complete all assignments by stated deadlines and earn an average quiz score of 50% or greater.

### **TECHNOLOGY POLICY**

The use of electronic devices in class is distracting, both for the user and for the rest of the class. Only non-programmable calculators can be used in the tests and exam. Any attempts to use cell phones and other electronic communication devices will be seemed as cheating. Laptops are discouraged, unless you use them for activities DIRECTLY related to the course (eg., note taking, reading course documents).

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY**

Soochow University highly values the academic integrity and aims to promote the academic fairness, honesty and responsibility. Any academic dishonesty behaviors and any attempts to cheats and plagiarism will be reported to the university administration office. A written warning and the relevant penalties will be imposed. The record might be shown on the official university transcript.

### **DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION**



蘇州大學  
Soochow University

Soochow University is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at Soochow University. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome.

Note:

Please contact the University Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material.