



蘇州大學
Soochow University

ECO 293 Environmental Economics: Theory and Practice

Winter 2024

Course Credits: 4

Contact Hours: 56 hours

Instructor: TBA

Email:TBA

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course offers an introduction to students about the theory and practice of environmental economics. The major chapters of this course contain the benefit-cost analysis, criteria for evaluating environmental policies, global climate change, and etc.. Students will have a good understanding of the concepts and principles of economy and the environment, the benefits and costs, supply and demand and the control policies to reduce pollution. Besides, students will be able to evaluate, analyse and compare benefits and costs using prices and other ways.

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

1. Analyze and comprehend the fundamental principles of environmental economics.
2. Apply economic frameworks and cost-benefit analysis techniques to assess and compare the environmental costs and benefits associated with various policies and projects.
3. Evaluate the economic and social implications of different environmental policies.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the economic factors influencing environmental quality and resource use, and their impact on sustainability.
5. Develop critical thinking skills to assess the impact of local, national, and global environmental policies and regulations on society and ecosystems.



PREREQUISITES

ECO 110 Microeconomics

GRADING

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

ITEM	POINTS
Quizzes	20 Points
Midterm 1	15 Points
Midterm 2	15 Points
Projects	20 Points
Final Exam	30 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 and Martha K Field, *Environmental Economics*, 8th Edition, McGraw Hill, 2021.

Recommended (Optional) Texts or Other Materials:

None

COURSE TOPICS

MODULE	TASKS
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Module 1	<p>Topics: Topic 1: The Economy and the Environment Topic 2: Benefits and Costs, Supply and Demand Topic 3: Markets, Externalities, and Public Goods Topic 4: The Economics of Environmental Quality</p> <p>Assessments: Quiz#1</p>
Module 2	<p>Topics: Topic 5: Frameworks of Analysis Topic 6: Benefit–Cost Analysis: Benefits Topic 7: Benefit–Cost Analysis: Costs Topic 8: Criteria for Evaluating Environmental Policies</p> <p>Assessments: Quiz#2 Project#1</p>
Module 3	<p>Topics: Topic 9: Decentralized Policies: Liability Laws, Property Rights, Voluntary Action Topic 10: Command-and-Control Strategies: The Case of Standards Topic 11: Incentive-Based Strategies: Environmental Charges and Subsidies Topic 12: Incentive-Based Strategies: Market Trading Systems</p> <p>Assessments: Midterm#1</p>
Module 4	<p>Topics: Topic 13: Federal Water Pollution– Control Policy Topic 14: Federal Air Pollution—Control Policy Topic 15: Federal Policy on Toxic and Hazardous Substances Topic 16: State and Local Environmental Issues</p> <p>Assessments: Midterm#2 Project#2</p>
Module 5	<p>Topics: Topic 17: Global Climate Change Topic 18: International Environmental Agreements Topic 19: Globalization Topic 20: Economic Development and the Environment</p> <p>Assessments: 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



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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

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.