

Economics 377(L02) (Economics and the Environment)

Instructor:	L. Vojtassak	Lecture Location:	ST 147
Phone:	403 220 6550	Lecture Days/Time:	MWF 9:00 – 9:50
Email:	lvojtass@ucalgary.ca		
Office:	SS 336		
Office Hours:	MF 15:00 – 15:50		
	TR 11:00 – 11:50		Winter 2020

Course Description:

This course examines the links between economic activity and environmental degradation. Topics include the valuation of environmental amenities, the use of incentives in regulation, the economics and environmental effects of market failure and the rationale for government intervention.

Course Learning Outcomes:

The goals of this course are:

- (a) gaining a general knowledge of the various environmental problems that confront modern societies;
 - (b) developing an understanding of the specific economics perspective on these problems;
 - (c) becoming familiar with the main methods used in economics to measure costs and benefits of environmental protection;
 - (d) becoming familiar with the main policy tools normally used to address environmental problems.
- More generally, the course will allow students to explore real-world applications of some of the microeconomic tools acquired in previous courses.

Course Outline:

Course material will follow a sequence similar to that of the textbook. However, students are encouraged to read the appropriate chapters in the supplementary textbooks and articles to benefit from additional explanations and examples.

- I Vision of the Future
- II Basic Concepts: Valuing the Environment: Concepts, Valuing the Environment: Methods, Property Rights, Externalities & Environmental Problems, Sustainable Development: Defining the Concept
- III Overview of Environmental Economics
- IV Air Pollution: Stationary-Source: Local and Regional Air Pollution, Mobile Source Air Pollution
- V Water and Water Pollution
- VI Waste
- VII Biodiversity: Forest Habitat, Commercially Valuable Species
- VIII Vision of the Future Revisited

Prerequisites/corequisites:

Economics 201.

Required Textbook(s):

Field and Olewiler, *Environmental Economics*, 4th Canadian edition, McGraw-Hill Ryerson

Books on Reserve:

Field and Olewiler, *Environmental Economics*, 4th Canadian edition, McGraw-Hill Ryerson.

Tietenberg, Tom, Elizabeth Wilman, and Peter Tracey, *Environmental Economics and Policy*, Canadian Edition, Pearson 2009.

Tietenberg, *Environmental and Natural Resource Economics*, 10th edition, Pearson.

Nordhaus, *The Climate Casino*, Yale University Press, 2013.

Desire2Learn:

This course will make use of the Desire2Learn (D2L) platform. Students who are registered in the course can log on at <http://d2l.ucalgary.ca> through their student centre. Please note that D2L features a class e-mail list that may be used to distribute course-related information. These e-mails go to your University of Calgary e-mail addresses only.

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:

Midterm Examination	20%	February 14 2020 in class
Individual Assignments	15%	Due date: February 10, 2020, at the beginning of class!
Group Project	20%	Due date: April 6, 2020, D2L submission
Final Examination	45%	
	100%	

The official grading system will be used. See <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.html>.

A passing grade on any particular component of the course is not required for a student to pass the course as a whole.

If a student's letter grade on the final exam exceeds their midterm(s) letter grade, the weight of the midterm(s) is (are) transferred to the final exam. The student must have written the midterm(s) or provided supporting documentation for the absence(s) such as a medical note or statutory declaration.

As per the Writing Across the Curriculum Statement in the Calendar, writing and grading thereof will be a factor in the evaluation of student work. See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>.

Any student work which remains undistributed after the last day of classes will be available to students through the instructor's office during the instructor's office hours.

Tests and exams WILL NOT involve multiple choice questions.

Programmable calculators, cellphones, textbooks, course notes, and other electronic devices will not be allowed during the writing of test.

The final examination will be comprehensive, an open-book, take-home exam. The exam will be available on D2L 24 hours before the end of the Registrar's scheduled final exam time. Students will hand in their exam in pdf format on D2L prior to the end of the scheduled completion time of their final exam. The final was scheduled by the Registrar's Office from 8:30-10:30 on April 27, the exam will be available on D2L at 10:30 on April 26 and is to be submitted on D2L before 10:30 on April 27. If a student cannot write their final exam during this interval, they need to apply for a deferred exam at www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred_final. Under no circumstance will this be accommodated by the Department.

THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUP OR DEFERRED QUIZZES/TESTS/EXAMS under any circumstances, nor may the quizzes/tests/exams be written early. Students unable to write the quizzes/tests/exams because of documented illness, family emergency, religious observance, or university-sanctioned event will have the weight shifted to the final examination; otherwise a grade of zero will be assigned.

Reappraisal of Grades and Intellectual Honesty:

For Reappraisal of Graded Term Work, see Calendar I.2

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

For Reappraisal of Final Grade, see Calendar I.3

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

Statement of Intellectual Honesty, see Calendar K.4

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-4.html>

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct, see Calendar K.5

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>

Academic Accommodations:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services. SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act:

Personal information is collected in accordance with FOIP. Assignments can only be returned to the student and will be accessible only to authorized faculty and staff. For more information, see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/files/legalservices/faq-students.pdf> and http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/files/legalservices/faq-faculty_0.pdf.

Internet and Electronic Communication Device information:

The use of cell phones for any purpose in class is prohibited. Computers and tablets may be used for note taking only unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

Copyright Legislation:

See the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright at www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf.

Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Recording of Lectures:

Recording of lectures is prohibited, except for audio recordings authorized as an accommodation by SAS or an audio recording for individual private study and only with the written permission of the instructor. Any unauthorized electronic or mechanical recording of lectures, their transcription, copying, or distribution, constitutes academic misconduct. See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-6.html>.

Important Dates:

Please check: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>.

Student Organizations:

Faculty of Arts Students' Association (F.A.S.A.):

Economics Department Representative

Office: SS 803, E-mail: econrep@fasaucalgary.ca and Web: www.fasaucalgary.ca.

Society of Undergraduates in Economics:

<https://www.ucalgarysue.com/>.

Society of Undergraduates in Economics is a student run organization whose main purpose is to assist undergraduate economics students to succeed both academically and socially at the University of Calgary. Services include access to the exam bank, career events such as Industry Night and information sessions, mentorship programs, and social events for members. They invite you to join by contacting SUE at societyofundergradsineconomics@gmail.com.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call them at 403-220-3580, or email them at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>, which has detailed information on common academic concerns, including program planning and advice.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them in the MacKimmie Library Block.

Student Support and Resources:

- See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for information on campus mental health resources, the Student Ombuds' Office, Student Success Centre, Safewalk, and Emergency Evacuation and Assembly.
- Online writing resources are available at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/writing-support>.

Notes:

1. Students are responsible for all assigned material, e.g., supplementary material posted on D2L, regardless of whether or not the material was covered in class.

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2020-03-24