ECP3302: Environmental Economics and Resource Policy

Instructor: Dr. Michelle A. Phillips

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Phone: 352-392-5017

Office Hours:

Mondays 9:30-10:20am Zoom (see Canvas Syllabus for link)

Tuesdays 11:20am-12:10pm MAT 336 Thursdays 11:20am-12:10pm MAT 336

Class Meeting Time and Place

Tuesday and Thursday, 1st and 2nd periods (Section 1092), MAT 16 Tuesday and Thursday, 3rd and 4th periods (Section 297A), MAT 119

Course Prerequisites: ECO 2023.

Note: Credit will not be awarded for both ECP 3302 and AEB 3450.

Course Textbook: None. Please see Canvas for reading materials. They are linked in each Module.

Fall 2023

Course Description:

This course introduces economic issues related to the environment and policies that can be used to address them. Topics covered in this course include (but are not limited to) the following: Externalities, Open Access Resources, Revealed Preferences, Stated Preferences, Social Choice, Economic Growth and the Environment, Environmental Policy (including Standards, Fees, and Marketable permits), Law and the Environment.

Course Objectives: Students that successfully complete this course will be able to:

- (i) understand some of the major environmental regulations in the United States of America
- (ii) understand different valuation methods for environmental goods
- (iii) identify different types of goods and policies aimed at incentivizing their socially optimal use
- (iv) understand the economic implications of different types of environmental policies

Class Modality: This is a fully in-person course. Lectures will not be streamed nor recorded¹. All exams will take place in person, during our scheduled class times. Spot quizzes are in class activities that require you to be physically present in class (with the exception of the Thanksgiving week virtual quiz). The course does not have a final exam, but it does have two individual exams.

Grading weights:

Exam 1 35% Exam 2 35% Spot quizzes/Classwork 15% Attendance/Professionalism 15%

¹ The only scheduled exception to this is we will have an asynchronous virtual lecture on Thanksgiving week. This lecture and the work accompanying it is part of your Spot Quiz grade.

Grade		Grade Points
Α	100%	to 94%
A-	< 94%	to 90%
B+	< 90%	to 87%
В	< 87%	to 84%
B-	< 84%	to 80%
C+	< 80%	to 77%
С	< 77%	to 74%
C-	< 74%	to 70%
D+	< 70%	to 67%
D	< 67%	to 64%
D-	< 64%	to 61%
E	< 61%	to 0%

^{**}The scale listed above is firm. Final course grades will not be rounded. I will explain why in class.**

Make Up Exams

Make-up exams will be arranged *only* for absences that are explicitly covered by the <u>UF Attendance Policy</u>. Whenever possible, you should reach out at least five business days in advance to arrange a make-up exam. Of course, this will not always be possible. Unforeseen absences and emergencies occur and can be excused without such advance notice. In most cases, you will be asked to provide evidence or documentation of an absence that is explicitly excused by the <u>UF Attendance Policy</u>. Absences related to religious holidays and worship do not require this documentation but must be given ahead of time since the holiday date is known ahead of time. Important: Being sick and providing a doctor's note is considered and excused absence. Making a routine doctor's appointment (ex: dental cleaning, check up) is not considered an unforeseen medical emergency/sickness and does not count for an excused absence.

Make Up Exams will be given at set dates. Excuses must be provided at most 1 week after the absence. The above grading policies are consistent with UF policies regarding grade determination. This information can be found at: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

Exams: There are two exams in this course. These closed-book, closed-note exams will take place in our regularly assigned classroom. Partial credit will be given for partially correct answers. For questions involving math/graphs, points will be deducted if a student has the correct answer but does not show how they arrived at that answer. All answers must include an explanation unless told otherwise. If a student arrives 20 minutes or more late to an exam, they will receive a grade of 0 on that exam. Please plan accordingly. Important: Calculators are not allowed during exams. *You must know how to add, subtract, divide and multiply by hand. You must also know how to work with exponentials. Calculus is not a prerequisite of this class but we do use a little bit of it. I teach you all you need to know for the calculus work done in class, so if you have not taken calculus, you can still take the class. I do not, however, teach basic algebra skills nor how to add, subtract, divide, and multiply. We also use a lot of graphs, so you must have a good understanding of how to read a graph in the x-y plane (Cartesian plane).*

Spot Quizzes / **Classwork:** We will periodically have in class quizzes / classwork. These are part of your grade. These can only be completed in class in groups of up to 4 students. You must be present in the classroom to be able to submit classwork. Dates for spot quizzes / classwork will not be announced in advance. They must be completed during class time and uploaded to Canvas either as a photo or PDF. Students in the past have used apps such as Camscanner or Dropbox to upload their work. If you are unable to upload your Spot Quiz, you can submit it to me in person. I will not accept Spot Quizzes emailed after class has ended. You will obtain a grade of 0 on a Spot Quiz submitted on a day in which

you were Absent on the Roll Call. If you arrive late and miss the Roll Call, please let me know before you leave the classroom.

Attendance / Professionalism: You will be graded based on Attendance (Roll Call) and Professionalism. Attendance is based on being present when I call your name. Professionalism is based on acting professionally. There is a full list of what constitutes professionalism on our Canvas Website – Syllabus page. I will go over it on the first day of class. Note that routine check-ups and routine dental work are not considered a medical emergency/illness. I will drop three missed lectures at the end of the term to account for sickness or other unforeseen circumstances that may prevent you from attending some lectures (up to 3). Please contact me if you are experiencing medical difficulties, death in the family, etc. I will be happy to help you navigate medical withdrawals or put you in touch with the appropriate UF office for support.

Professionalism and Honor Code: Students are bound to not cheat or plagiarize, and are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: 'On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.'"

You should familiarize yourself with the <u>UF Student Honor Code</u>. Cheating and plagiarism are not the only violations of this policy. Importantly, ignorance of a policy is not a valid reason for violating it.

All suspicious evidence of cheating, plagiarism, making false statements, and any other violation of these rules will be reported to the Dean of Students Office. Additionally, I will advocate for the strictest of available sanctions (dismissal from the University of Florida) for any student who is found responsible for violating these rules.

In order to be fair, grades are based solely on objective course components. I do not respond to emails asking for grades to be increased due to "effort" or other reasons not related to outcomes or stuff I can measure. This is because grades should be based on performance, not personality. It is not fair for students who complain and describe their effort in detail to get a better grade than students who do not complain or describe their effort in detail. I only increase grades when mistakes are made. Grades are based solely on outcomes I can measure, not how much you say you studied, worked hard, etc. This is because I can only grade you on what I can measure and verify. I do have a score for the only effort I can measure which is attendance. Please refrain from emailing me to ask to round up, as I do not round grades.

Students Requiring Accommodations: Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disabilities Resource Center (392-8565; https://disability.ufl.edu/), providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter that can be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodations. *Please register at the beginning of the course if seeking accommodations*. My office is not quiet because it is next to advising. For this reason, I provide disability accommodations only through the DRC. Getting a room at the DRC is the way to get accommodations for this class and the rules require reservations to be made at least 5 business days in advance. It is the student's responsibility to follow these rules to be able to use the DRC for exams and receive accommodations for this class. Missing DRC deadlines will not result in extensions for exams.

Old Homework Practice: Our Canvas course contains several practice homework you should complete. I have posted the homework individually and with answers. While I do not collect nor grade these practice homework, you should always complete them prior to the exam review. We will spend lecture time working on these. Historically, students who complete all of the posted homework are the students who perform the best in the class. You are encouraged to work with your classmates while completing these assignments. Working together can facilitate deeper learning of the course material and more

efficient completion of the assignment itself. If you have trouble understanding any of the homework problems, please ask about them during class (there is a session dedicated to working on the homework) or attend office hours. Old Homework Practice is not graded, but it will help you study for the Exams.

Course Evaluation: Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via ufl.bluera.com/ufl/.

UF Teaching Center: The UF Teaching Center offers guidance on study skills and tutoring services. You can find more information at: https://umatter.ufl.edu/office/teaching-center/.

Health Counseling, Emergencies, Services:

U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact <u>umatter@ufl.edu</u> or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS): Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or http://www.police.ufl.edu/.

UF Food Pantry: For students experiencing food insecurity. https://pantry.fieldandfork.ufl.edu/

Extended Absences:

If you are out sick for a substantial period of time, and it is unlikely that you can reasonably get caught up in class, you can pursue a medical withdrawal by contacting the UF Care Team (https://care.dso.ufl.edu/). I generally recommend this route when a student misses 2+ weeks and when a student misses their makeup exam (in addition to their scheduled exam).

Recording of class:

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A "class lecture" is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To "publish" means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

If I make any changes to the syllabus, I will announce them via email and will list each change here: This is syllabus version 1.0.

Course Schedule

Note: The pace of the course will vary depending on several factors, so some topics may be covered a little earlier or later than listed. However, the Exam due dates won't change unless there are extenuating circumstances (example: hurricane). Spot quizzes are not announced ahead of time (they are spot quizzes) and are considered classwork. For the most up-to-date pace of the course, please refer to the Canvas Modules and attend the lectures.

Week 1:	Syllabus
Week 2:	Environmental Law, Revealed Preferences
Week 3:	Revealed Preferences
Week 4:	Stated Preferences, Social Choice
Week 5:	Social Choice
Week 6:	Social Choice, Externalities, Types of Goods
Week 7:	Externalities, Types of Goods
Week 8:	Exam 1 Review, Exam 1 Extra Office hours
Week 9:	Exam 1 on Tuesday, October 17
	Exam 1 extra credit assignment on Thursday October 19
Week 10:	Case Studies, Correcting Market Failures
Week 11:	Public Goods, Private Markets, and the Environment
Week 12:	Coase Theorem, Government Policy
Week 13:	Economic Growth, Voluntary Actions, Political Economy
Week 14:	Virtual Spot Quiz on Tuesday, November 21
	Note: All other Spot Quizzes take place in class and are not announced ahead of time
Week 15:	Exam 2 Review, Exam 2 Extra Credit and Extra Office Hours
Week 16:	Exam 2 on Tuesday, December 5.

FALL SEMESTER 2023											
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Aug.	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	Week 1			
	27	Drop/A 28	29	30	31			Week 2			
Sept.					_	1	2	Week 2			
	3	Hollday 4	5	6	7	8	9	Week 3			
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Week 4			
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	Week 5			
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	Week 6			
Oct.	1	2	3	4	5	Homeco	ming 7	Week 7			
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Week 8			
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Week 9			
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	Week 10			
	29	30	31					Week 11			
Nov.				1	2	3	4	Week 11			
	5	6	7	8	9	Holiday Obs. 10	Holiday 11	Week 12			
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Week 13			
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Week 14			
	26	27	28	29	30			Week 15			
Dec.					_	1	2	Week 15			
	3	4	5	6	Readi 7	ng Days 8	9	Week 16			
	10	11	12	13	14	Commenc 15	ement 16				
	17	Grades Due 18	Deg. Ce 19	rt. 20	21	22	23				
	24	Holiday 25	26	27	28	29	30				
	31										

Rectangles and squares denote class dates. Circles denote exam dates. Our last class meeting is on December 5^{th} for Exam 2.