

# Environmental Economics and Resource Policy

Fall 2019

Section 1092 meets Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:35am-11:30am in Matherly Hall 112

Section 297A meets Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:45am-1:40pm in Matherly Hall 105

## INSTRUCTOR

Michelle A. Phillips, Ph.D.

[michellephillips@ufl.edu](mailto:michellephillips@ufl.edu)

(352) 392-5017

Regular Office Hours:

Tuesdays 2:00pm-4:00pm in MAT 334

Wednesdays 11:30-12:30pm in TBA with Daniel Wagner

Extra office hours during exam week:

Exam 1 extra office hours: Wednesday, September 25, 1-3pm in MAT 224

Exam 2 extra office hours: Tuesday, November 5, 9:35-11:30 in MAT 112 and 11:45am-1:40pm in MAT 105.

## TEACHING ASSISTANT

Daniel Wagner. Email: [wagnerdnlj@ufl.edu](mailto:wagnerdnlj@ufl.edu)

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

Topics covered in this course include (but are not limited to) the following: Externalities, Open Access Resources, Cost Benefit Analysis, Revealed Preferences, Stated Preferences, Social Choice, Economic Growth and the Environment, NPV, Environmental Policy (including Standards, Fees, and Marketable permits), Law and the Environment.

## REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

All the reading material required for this class is posted on Canvas.

## EVALUATION OF GRADES

Your grade will be determined by your performance on the following:

Graded Event	Weight
Exam 1	35%
Exam 2	40%
Environmental Econ Paper and Proposal	20%
Environmental Econ Presentation	5%

Class participation may raise your grade but not lower it. We will have in class activities from time to time and I will calculate an overall attendance grade for you. This score will be used as extra credit for the exams. There are no make ups for in class work since it is extra credit.

## EXAM POLICY

Exams will be administered in the evenings (all sections will take the exams jointly). The exam dates and locations are listed below (see Weekly Schedule section). We will have a regular lecture the same day as the exams, but the lecture covered the same day as the exam is not part of that exam.

For an exam absence that is known ahead of time, you must notify me at least one week in advance if possible (less time is allowed for sickness or other emergencies). For emergencies, you must notify me as soon as you can (and at most 1 week after the original exam date). If you miss an exam you can take a make up that will be similar in difficulty, but different from the original exam.

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Note: Dates may be adjusted based on how quickly or slowly topics are covered and unforeseen circumstances. I may also slightly modify the topics covered.

Tu Aug 20:	Syllabus, Environmental Law
Th Aug 22:	Revealed preferences
Tu Aug 27:	Revealed preferences
Th Aug 29:	Hedonic pricing, value of statistical life
Tu Sept 3:	Averting behavior, contingent valuation, non use value, stated preferences
Th Sept 5:	Stated preferences, social choice
Tu Sept 10:	Social choice, <b>Research paper proposal is due.</b>
Th Sept 12:	Social choice, externalities.
Tu Sept 17:	Market failures, externalities.
Th Sept 19:	Externalities, practice exercises.
Tu Sept 24:	Exam review
Th Sept 26:	Pollution in baseball, transportation. <b>Exam 1 in STZ102 from 6:15-8:15pm.</b>
Tu Oct 1:	Exam 1 returned, public goods game.
Th Oct 3:	Health and pollution, public good games results, common property resources
Tu Oct 8:	Recycling, correcting market failures, stock externalities. <b>Research paper due.</b>
Th Oct 10:	Present value, public goods
Tu Oct 15:	Private markets and the environment
Th Oct 17:	Private markets and the environment, Cap and Trade
Tu Oct 22:	Government policies, evaluating pollution standards, moral hazard.
Th Oct 24:	Moral hazard
Tu Oct 29:	Economic growth and the environment, Exam review
Th Oct 31:	Enforcement and political economy, voluntary actions.
Tu Nov 5:	Optional office hours during class time, <b>Exam 2 in STZ102 from 6:15-8:15pm.</b>
Th Nov 7:	Virtual lecture (and quiz – the quiz counts for 5 points for exam 2)
Tu Nov 12:	<b>Student Presentations day 1</b>
Th Nov 14:	<b>Student Presentations day 2, Virtual lecture quiz is due.</b>
Tu Nov 19:	<b>Student Presentations day 3</b>
Th Nov 21:	<b>Student Presentations day 4</b>
Tu Nov 26:	No class (returning lecture spent taking evening Exam 1)
Tu Dec 3:	No class (returning lecture spent taking evening Exam 2)

## GRADING POLICY

The following scale will be used to determine your final grade:

Grade		Grade Points
93.4-100	A	4.00
90.0-93.3	A-	3.67
86.7-89.9	B+	3.33
83.4-86.6	B	3.00
80.0-83.3	B-	2.67
76.7-79.9	C+	2.33
73.4-76.6	C	2.00
70.0-73.3	C-	1.67
66.7-69.9	D+	1.33
63.4-66.6	D	1.00
60.0-63.3	D-	0.67
0.00-63.2	E	0.00

\*\* Important: There will be no rounding under any circumstances.

## DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS

Students requesting classroom accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Disability Resource Center. The DRC will provide documentation to the student, who must then provide this documentation to me. Their phone number is 392-8565. If you are taking exams with the DRC, I highly recommend that you reserve the room for all of your exams early on in the semester. The DRC has very strict rules regarding room reservations. My office is not quiet because it is next to advising. For this reason, I provide disability accommodations 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 4 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. If you do not follow the DRC procedures to schedule an exam and miss the deadline, I will not postpone your exam because you failed to reserve the room on time. I highly recommend getting room reservations done early in the term so you don't have to worry about missing any deadlines. If you don't know the procedures, feel free to come talk to me. I am familiar with the process and will be more than happy to help you navigate through it. But I cannot help once a deadline has been missed, the DRC has strict rules about room reservations.

## COURSE EVALUATION

Students are expected to provide feedback regarding this course by completing online evaluations at <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>

## CLASS DEMEANOR

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and to fellow students. Please avoid the use of cell phones during class. Opinions held by other students should be respected in discussion, and conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be held at minimum, if at all. Please be professional on e-mails to me and your classmates.

## UNIVERSITY HONESTY POLICY

UF students 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.” The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TA in this class.

## COUNSELING AND WELLNESS CENTER AND OTHER RESOURCES

Contact information for the Counseling and Wellness Center:

<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies. Alachua Crisis Center: 352-264-6785. National Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1-800-273-8255.

## COURSE WEBSITE

We will be using Canvas. The address is: <http://elearning.ufl.edu/>. You log-in using your Gatorlink ID and password and the course should automatically appear as one of your e-learning options. If it does not, check to make sure you are properly registered for the course. If that is not the issue, contact the UF Computing Helpdesk at: <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/>. Do not contact me about access issues. I cannot help you and the help you do need will only be delayed if you do. Most course materials and grades will be posted here.

## IMPORTANT:

1. You are expected to apply what you learn in class during exams. Exams will not be the same as the practice exercises. You will be expected to be able to apply the framework learned in class to other contexts.
2. I provide curves to exams when necessary. For this reason I do not round grades up at the end of the term under any circumstances. I am aware that certain jobs, and even graduation require you to have a grade above a certain level. I will be more than happy to help you study and prepare for exams, but I will not, under any circumstances, raise your grade because you need a high grade for a job or graduation. Grades are earned, not negotiated. Furthermore, one course is not to blame for you missing a grade cut off. Preparing just for the last exam is not sufficient. I will help you prepare for exams if you ask for help throughout the term. I cannot help you if you come to my office the last two weeks of class trying to learn an entire semester of lectures in a few weeks.
3. I will not repeat lectures during office hours. It is your responsibility to attend lectures and to understand your handwriting. If you do not attend, it is your responsibility to obtain class notes from a classmate. Office hours are for asking questions about the material and are not a substitute for class.
4. I will answer emails within 2 business days from the day in which I receive them. If you email me on a Friday, you won't hear back until Monday unless there is an exam on Monday.
5. For exams: With the exception of cases where the points have been added wrong, if you want me to regrade an exam question, I will regrade the entire exam. Sometimes a mistake is made,

and regrading is called for. The following system has been instituted to ensure that my time is spent re-reading exams where there has been a serious mistake and not spent re-reading correctly graded exams: if, on regrading, the grade does not rise by at least 1 point, 1 point will be subtracted from the old grade; grade improvements of at least 1 point will be added to the old grade.

6. All Exams are closed book. The exams consist of short essay questions and problems. Partial credit will be given for partially correct answers in your exams, so make sure you answer every question. Cellular phones or programmable calculators may not be used during the exams as calculators or for any other reason. Exams will be curved if the class average is below 70%. Some exams may (or may not) have multiple choice questions.

7. I am always happy to answer questions you may have via email, but that does not mean you can send me test banks you found on the internet and expect me to provide answers for them or ask me to help you solve a question from a homework/quiz/study guide for a different course (with a different instructor).

8. If you are stressed out or experiencing difficulties, UF offers several services such as the Counseling and Wellness Center and GatorWell. Please see page 4 for relevant phone numbers.

9. Expectations: You are responsible for all the material covered in class, and all the reading material posted on Canvas.

13. The research paper must be submitted via Canvas. There's a 15 point penalty for each day that you are late submitting your paper.

Some lecture slides, notes or exercises used in this course may be the property of the textbook publisher or other third parties. All other course material, including but not limited slides developed by the instructor, the syllabus, assignments, course notes, course recordings, and examinations or quizzes are property of the University or of the individual instructor who developed them. Students are free to use this material for study and learning. Republishing or redistributing this material, including uploading it to web sites or linking to it through services like iTunes or CourseHero, violates the rights of the copyright holder and is prohibited. There are civil and criminal penalties for copyright violation.

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