

Environmental Economics and Resource Policy

Fall 2020

Online

Section 1092 meets Mondays and Wednesdays 9:35am-11:30am Online*

Section 297A meets Mondays and Wednesdays 11:45am-1:40pm Online*

** The lecture videos are posted on Youtube. I recommend that you watch them during our scheduled course time, but you have the flexibility to watch them at a different time during the scheduled day. The exams are taken during our scheduled course time (same day and time as your scheduled class).*

INSTRUCTOR

Michelle A. Phillips, Ph.D.

michellephillips@ufl.edu

Regular Office Hours:

Monday 6:15pm-8:45pm via Zoom - Phillips

Thursday 11:30am-1:30pm via Zoom – Alpergin

The Zoom links are announced on Canvas

Extra office hours during exam week:

Announced on Canvas

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	30%
Exam 2	30%
Weekly Quizzes	15%
Homework	20%
Discussions	5%

EXAM POLICY

Exams will be taken with HonorLock. Exams are closed notes, closed to friends and closed internet. You cannot use any notes from any source for exams. You cannot ask anyone for help during an exam. Honorlock no longer supports Windows 8, Windows 8.1, MacOSX10.11 and Mac OSX10.12. Please test your system [here](#). More information about honorlock is provided on our Canvas site.

Important: Using notes of any type, the internet (including quizlet) or communicating with students or tutors during an exam is an honor code violation. If you do this, you will get a grade of 0 in the course.

HOMEWORK POLICY

Homework will be given throughout the term. You can submit homework 1 day late, but with a 50% penalty.

QUIZ POLICY

Quizzes are due every week and are based on the class videos and reading material. You can take each quiz twice, and keep the highest score. Note: Quiz questions will vary from quiz to quiz (you won't get the same questions the second time you take the quiz). Important: You should always take class notes when you are watching the class videos, you can use these notes to answer the quizzes. Quizzes are open notebook. You can use your notebook and reading materials to answer quiz questions. Quizzes are untimed. I will not reset quizzes unless there's an outage of Canvas.

ABSENCE POLICY FOR GRADED COMPONENTS OF THE COURSE

For an exam absence that is known ahead of time (i.e., religious holidays, surgery), 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. Documentation is required for excused absences. Any issues for which documentation cannot be obtained should be directed to the Dean of Students Office.

Since quizzes are open for an entire week, if you miss a quiz, you would need a note for the entire time the quiz was open. The same is true for assignments and discussion boards.

INTERNET CONNECTIVITY ISSUES

I only offer make-up assignments or exams when there are known system-wide outages. These are the only outages that I can verify. I cannot verify individual connectivity problems, and thus, cannot accommodate them. This is why I drop quizzes and provide ample time for assignments to be submitted.

You are responsible for verifying that any online assignment submission has properly been submitted through Canvas. As a best practice, after submitting any assignment, close your browser, reopen Canvas, and check that your assignment properly appears. As an additional best practice, never submit an

assignment through the Canvas mobile app.

You must have a strong and reliable internet connection to take online exams using Honor Lock. When taking online exams, some general best practices are:

1. Use a hardwired ethernet connection if possible.
2. If you must use WiFi, you should ensure that you have a strong and stable internet connection. As a rule of thumb, if you have trouble streaming videos, you will not be able to take an online exam.
3. If you must use WiFi, ask others to refrain from using the internet during your exam if possible.
4. Public WiFi and Hotspots are not suitable for taking online exams.

Note: This class uses honorlock for Exams. It is not used for Quizzes.

CLASS Demeanor

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.

Each module has a Q&A section which I will access several times a week. Please write down any questions you have during the lectures on that discussion board.

I will monitor the Canvas Discussion Board for Questions but I will *not* monitor the Discord board or voice chat room. Discord is meant for students to communicate with each other and get to know each other. So any questions that you have for me, should be asked on the discussion board or via email. If you email me a question, I will post it on the discussion board in case other students had the same question.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Note: Dates may be slightly adjusted based on unforeseen circumstances (ex: hurricane). I highly recommend that you watch the video lectures during the scheduled class time. I have provided a discord link so that you can chat with classmates during that time in case you want to find study buddies or discuss what you've learned. The discord channel is open at all times but presumably you will be more likely to find a classmate during the scheduled class time.

MODULE	MONDAY	WEDNESDAY	ASSESSMENT	DUE DATE
1	Syllabus, Calculus Review	Law and Economics	Discussion, Quiz	Sept 4
2	Revealed Preferences	Revealed Preferences	Discussion, Quiz	Sept 11
3	Stated Preferences	Practice Problem Sets	Quiz	Sept 18
4	Social Choice	Social Choice	Homework, Quiz	Sept 25
5	Externalities	Types of goods, Practice Problem Sets	Quiz	Oct 1
6	Transportation Case Study	Pollution and Health, Pollution and Baseball, Pollutants	Homework, Quiz	Oct 9
7	Exam Review	Exam 1 on Oct 14 during our scheduled class time (synchronous)	Exam 1 on Oct 14 during our scheduled class time	Oct 14, during scheduled class time

8	Correcting Market Failures	Public Goods, Private Markets and the Environment	Homework, Quiz	Oct 23
9	Coase Theorem, Government Policy	Government Policy, Cap and Trade	Discussion, Quiz	Oct 30
10	Economic Growth and the Environment, Enforcement and Political Economy	Voluntary Actions, Moral Hazard	Quiz	Nov 10
11	Exam 2 Review	Exam 2 on Nov 18 during our scheduled class time (synchronous)	Exam 2 on Nov 18 during our scheduled class time	Nov 18, during scheduled class time
12	Energy Efficiency, Pollution in China Case Study	Holiday	Quiz	Nov 24
13	Net Present Value	Net Present Value Practice Exercises	Quiz	Dec 4
14	Electricity Case Study	Wrap Up	Quiz, Homework	Dec 9

COURSE EVALUATION

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

GRADING POLICY

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

Name:	Range:	
A	100 %	to 94.0%
A-	< 94.0 %	to 90.0%
B+	< 90.0 %	to 87.0%
B	< 87.0 %	to 84.0%
B-	< 84.0 %	to 80.0%
C+	< 80.0 %	to 77.0%
C	< 77.0 %	to 74.0%
C-	< 74.0 %	to 70.0%
D+	< 70.0 %	to 67.0%
D	< 67.0 %	to 64.0%
D-	< 64.0 %	to 61.0%
F	< 61.0 %	to 0.0%

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center. Click [here](#) to get started with the Disability Resource Center. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester. Accommodations should be requested at least 2 days before an exam (earlier is better). I cannot provide accommodations for you if you let me know you need them halfway through an exam.

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.

Important: Using notes of any type, the internet (including quizlet) or communicating with students during an exam is a honor code violation. If you do this, you will get a grade of 0 in the course.

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. All 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. Office hours are for asking questions about the material and are not a substitute for class.
3. I will typically answer emails within 1 business days from the day in which I receive them (during busy times it may be 2 business days).
4. 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.

5. 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).

6. If you are stressed out or experiencing difficulties, UF offers several services such as the Counseling and Wellness Center and GatorWell. Please see this syllabus for relevant phone numbers. Your mental health is very important.

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

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, Reddit, Chegg, 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: This is syllabus version 1.0.