# **ECP3302: Environmental Economics and Resource Policy**

**Summer A, 2024** 

**Instructor:** Dr. Michelle A. Phillips

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The best way to contact me is to talk to me after or during class. Email is generally faster than the phone. Please note that I will respond to all emails within 2 business days. If it has been more than 2 business days and you have not heard back from me, email me again. If it has been less than 2 business days, please refrain from resending your email, as it makes overall email response slower. Business days are Monday-Friday 8am-5pm.

**Teaching Assistant:** Angel Gonzalez Smith.

**Office Hours:** 

Thursdays Time: 9:00am -10:40am Location: MAT 336

Class Location: Matherly Hall 103

Class Meeting Time: M, Tu, W 9:30-10:45am (75 minutes)

M, Tu, W 11am-12:15pm (75 minutes) Th 11am-12:15pm (75 minutes)

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.

### **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 recorded. All exams will take place in person, during our scheduled class times. The exam dates are listed on this syllabus (see Schedule section). All spot quizzes (classwork) are in person during our lecture (times for spot quizzes are not announced in advance).

## **Grading weights:**

Exam 1	35%
Exam 2	35%
Spot quizzes/Classwork <sup>1</sup>	30%

Grade		<b>Grade Points</b>
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%

<sup>\*\*</sup>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</u> <u>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</u> <u>Attendance Policy</u>. Absences related to religious holidays and worship do not require this documentation but <u>must be given ahead of time</u> if 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. Please do not email me asking to excused an exam over a wedding, family dinner, etc. These are not valid excuses to miss an exam.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This includes, but is not limited to: in-class quizzes, in-class group work, in-class statistical analysis work, and other in class activities.

Make Up Exams will be given at set dates<sup>2</sup>. 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: <a href="https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx">https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx</a>

**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 asked 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.

**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. 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 asked otherwise.

**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.

Students Requiring Accommodations: Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disabilities Resource Center (392-8565; <a href="https://disability.ufl.edu/">https://disability.ufl.edu/</a>), 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.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Make Up for Exam 1 and for Exam 2 will take place on Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>. Please email me for the location/time.

**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: <a href="https://umatter.ufl.edu/office/teaching-center/">https://umatter.ufl.edu/office/teaching-center/</a>.

# 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:** <a href="http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc">http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc</a>, 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 <a href="http://www.police.ufl.edu/">http://www.police.ufl.edu/</a>.

**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/).

## **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 on the Canvas Syllabus page

### **Course Schedule**

Note: The pace of the course will vary depending on several factors. **However, the Exam dates are set.** Our Canvas Website has a list of what is covered and when that is updated as the term progresses.

# **Order of Topics Covered:**

Week 1 Syllabus/Introduction Environmental Law Revealed Preferences Stated Preferences Social Choice and Welfare

Week 2 Social Choice and Welfare (continued) Externalities

Week 3 Externalities (continued) Types of Goods Case Studies

Week 4
Case Studies (continued)
Hedonic Pricing experiential learning (Excel work)
Correcting Market Failures
Public Goods, Private Markets and the Environment

Week 5

Public Goods, Private Markets and the Environment (continued)

Coase Theorem
Government Policy

Cap and Trade

**Economic Growth** 

Week 6

Special Topics: Border tax adjustments, environmental clubs, international agreements

If have time: Enforcement and Political Economy

If have time: Voluntary Actions

# **Important Dates:**

Monday, May 13 First lecture

Monday, May 27 Holiday (No Lecture)

Monday, June 3 Exam 1

Monday, June 17 Exam 2

Wednesday June 19 Holiday (No Lecture)

Thursday, June 20 Last lecture

Unannounced dates Classwork / Spot quizzes\*

<sup>\*</sup>Classwork / Spot quizzes are graded and will generally not be announced in advance.