

Economics 2J03 - Environmental Economics

Key Course Information

Term: Winter 2017
Classroom: HSC 1A1
Time: Mondays 11:30-12:20, Wednesdays 11:30-12:20 & Fridays 1:30-2:20
Instructor: Bradley Minaker
Office: Kenneth Taylor Hall 433
Email: minakeb@mcmaster.ca
Office Hours: Mondays 12:30-1:30 & Wednesdays 10-11 or by appointment
Teaching Assistants: Daniela Napolitano, Zubair Parkar
TA Office Hours: TBA
Course Website: Avenue to Learn
Prerequisite: ECON 1B03
Approved Calculator: Casio FX-991

Course Text (*Optional but recommended*): B.C. Field and N.D. Olewiler: Environmental Economics; 4th Canadian edition (2015) McGrawHill Ryerson Limited
The textbook is useful for reinforcing concepts covered in class. The textbook is not required but is recommended.

Course Description

This course examines the relationship between the environment and the economy. Topics covered include public goods, externalities, pollution, common property resources, cost-benefit analysis, taxes and subsidies, and environmental policy in Canada.

Course Outline

1. Section One (Chapters 1-5)
Introduction, Pollution, Supply and Demand, Markets
2. Section Two (Chapters 6-11)
Cost-Benefit Analysis, Evaluation, Property Rights,
3. Section Three (Chapters 12-15)
Taxes and Subsidies, Permits, Environmental Policy in Canada
4. Other Topics (time dependent)

Final Grade Calculation

The course grade will consist of two midterms and a final. Your overall course grade will be calculated using either Scheme 1 or Scheme 2, depending on which scheme results in a higher final grade. **HOWEVER**, in order to use Scheme 2 you must have written both Midterm 1 and Midterm 2. If you do not write one or both of the midterms then you will be graded using Scheme 1.

	Scheme 1	Scheme 2	Date
Midterm 1	25%	10%	February 8
Midterm 2	25%	10%	March 15
Final	50%	80%	TBD

Missed Work Policy

The assigned weight of any missed midterm will be **added to the weight of the Final**.

Email Policy

Email communication must be from your McMaster email account (see [here](#) for the policy). I will try to answer emails as soon as I can. Please include “Econ 2J03” in the subject line. Answering questions during office hours or scheduling an appointment is my preferred method of support.

Course Modification

The course outline is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Students will be given notice in class and on the course website of any changes.

Recording

Should you wish to record the lectures, please seek permission from the instructor before recording.

Policy on Academic Dishonesty

All students are expected to abide by the McMasters Academic Integrity Policy. The student’s section can be found at <https://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity/students/index.html>. You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process.

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in **serious consequences**, e.g. the **grade of zero on an assignment**, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty.