EC 332U: Economics of Environmental Issues  
Department of Economics, Portland State University  
Syllabus

Class Meetings: MW 10 am–11:50 am  
Instructor: Arnab Mitra, E-mail: amitra@pdx.edu  
Office: Cramer Hall 241N  
Office Hours: MW 2:30 pm–3:30 pm  
Teaching Assistant: Timothy Campbell-Bigham, E-mail: campt@pdx.edu

Course Materials:  
URL: https://create.mheducation.com/shop/#/catalog/details/?isbn=9781308315355  
The first book is available at PSU Bookstore. I shall provide you with all other materials through the course website in the D2L system.

Course Description:  
EC 332U is intended to be an introductory course that provides you with an overview of the economics of some pertinent (and pressing) environmental issues. Most events that have relevance for the environment can be viewed from various aspects, such as philosophical, sociological, political, managerial, economic etc. This course will start off by focusing mostly on the economic aspects of environmental decision-making. At a later stage of the course, we shall bring in some of the other aspects in our discussions.

Grading:  
The final grade will be based on a weighted average of your performance, as shown in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Examination</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes (4)</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Take Home Assignments (2)</td>
<td>15%</td>
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Midterm: Considering the spring term as a ten-week period, the midterm examination will be held in the sixth week, and it will be based on all the materials we shall discuss by that week.

Final: The final examination will be held during the finals week, and it will be based on all the materials we shall discuss in the course. However, the materials covered after the midterm will be given more importance.

Quizzes: There will be 4 quizzes, based on multiple-choice and one/two short/intuitive questions. The quizzes will be administered every alternate week, starting from the 3rd week. For each student, the worst quiz will not be considered for grading.

1 The syllabus is subject to change. Please consult the course webpage on D2L for the latest version.
Questions: There will be 2 take home assignments, mostly based on descriptive answer type questions. For each assignment, I will announce the topic at an appropriate time.

D2L Materials: Besides the indicated chapters from the textbooks, you should check the course contents on D2L, at least twice a week. I shall post additional materials, which you are expected to read and understand.

Practices: Each week, I shall go over examples and practice problems to help you understand the materials and to prepare you for the quizzes/exams. Also, for purposes of grading, I shall drop your worst performance in quiz.

Late Policy:
Unless a documented PRIOR arrangement is made, late submissions will not be accepted. If you happen to miss out a quiz due to an undocumented emergency, you may take advantage of the policy of dropped quiz.

Accommodation of Disability:
Students who need special accommodations are suggested to contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC). It is the responsibility of those who need special accommodation to contact the DRC and obtain the necessary notification.

Academic Honesty:
It is expected that each student will strictly abide by the norm of academic honesty. Suspected academic dishonesty will be referred to the appropriate authority that deals with such issues at PSU. Given the scheme of grading, the take home assignments will receive the maximum amount of scrutiny.

Course Topics:
It is your responsibility to go over the textbook chapters indicated below. Some quiz/exam questions will be drawn from these chapters.

1. Introduction: Some Basic Economic Concepts (D2L Reading—“Limits, Alternatives & Choices”)
2. Basic Concepts continued: Demand, Supply & Equilibrium (D2L Reading—“Demand, Supply & Equilibrium”)
4. Understanding Some Common Environmental Issues Through the Lens of Economics (KO: 2, 3, CR: 3)
5. Natural Resource and Environment (KO: 6, 7, CR: 4, 5)
6. Environmental Policy Choice and Instruments (KO: 8, 9, 10)
7. Economic Development and Environment (KO: 11, CR: 7, 8, 10)

For each topic listed above, additional reading materials will be posted on D2L.