

**Department of Economics**  
**Colorado State University**  
**ECON/AREC 240: Issues in Environmental Economics**  
**Spring 2009, Section 001**  
**1:00 – 1:50 MWF, SHEP 102**

**Chian Jones**  
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**Office: Clark C309C**  
**Office Hours: MWF 10-11pm (or by appointment)**

**Course Objectives**

1. To gain an understanding of the environmental problems we face from an economic perspective
2. To demonstrate the application of economic principles in evaluating environmental issues
3. To explore the different forms of environmental decisions, policies, and behavior that are sensible at both the individual and social level

**Readings**

There will be two sources of readings for this class; of which students are responsible for both:

1. Chapters from *Environmental Economics: An Introduction*, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, Field & Field, McGraw-Hill, 2009
2. Additional readings that are available on E-reserve or RamCT

**Expectations**

Read the Syllabus	You are required to read and become aware of all the requirements and responsibilities associated with the class.
Check RamCT	All grades will be posted on RamCT. It is your responsibility to check RamCT frequently to make check for any announcements, changes to the course, and to make sure that yours grades are correctly posted. If a grade is not correctly posted within three days after the assignment is returned in class, it is your responsibility to discuss the discrepancy with me immediately.
Late Assignments	Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the assigned day. Late assignments will be penalized 25 percent each day that they are late.
Exams	There will be no early or make-up exams permitted without an official excuse. Any scheduling conflicts need to be discussed with me before the exam.
Academic Integrity	Each student is required to behave with honesty and integrity. Any evidence of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to plagiarism, falsification, or cheating on exams, will be penalized in accordance to University policy and may lead to a failing grade for the course and will be reported to the Office of Student Affairs. See the University General Catalog for further information. <a href="http://www.catalog.colostate.edu/front/policies.aspx">http://www.catalog.colostate.edu/front/policies.aspx</a>

**Course Assignments**

Exams – 100 pts each	There will be four in-class exams; three mid-terms and a final. Each test will be worth 100 points. Students will be able to <b>drop their lowest grade from the first three exams</b> . The score on the final exam will count towards the student's final grade. <b>If a student does not take the final, even if all other in-class tests were taken, that student will receive a score of 0 for the final exam.</b>
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Writing Assignment-  
200 pts

There will be one outside writing assignment that should be a maximum of six double-spaced typed pages. This assignment will be broken into four sections. An abstract will be due in the early stages of the paper process and will be worth 25 points. The second stage will involve an outline worth 25 points. During the third stage a rough draft will be due that will be worth 50 points. Students will receive feedback from each stage to prepare for the final paper that is worth 100 points. Evaluation will be based on appropriate use of class material, both class lectures and assigned readings, along with proper use of sources, citations, and vocabulary. Grading will also be based on the ability to synthesize information and develop and communicate logical arguments in standard written English. Students also must display an ability to apply information from class sources and be able to reference them appropriately. Please use APA or MLA for citation formatting. Further assistance is available at the CSU Writing Center <http://writing.colostate.edu/wcenter/>.

**Course Grades**

Grades for the course will be determined by the following:		Letter grades are assigned on the scale:		
Mid-term exams (2*100)	200pts	A	90-100%	500-445pts
Abstract	25pts	B	80-89%	444-400pts
Outline	25pts	C	70-79%	399-350pts
Rough Draft	50pts	D	60-69%	349-300pts
Final Paper	100pts	F	59% or less	≤299pts
Final Exam	100pts			
<b>Total</b>	<b>500pts</b>			

+/- may be assigned in certain cases

**Class Schedule (subject to change)**

	<b><i>Introduction to Environmental Economics</i></b>
1/20-2/16	<i>What are the connections between economics and the environment?</i> Chapters 1 and 2
	<i>How are economic decisions made?</i> Chapter 3
	<i>What decisions are best for society?</i> Chapter 4
	<b>Test Monday Feb. 16<sup>th</sup></b>
	<b><i>How environmental decisions should be analyzed</i></b>
2/18-3/13	<i>How do we measure the benefits and costs of pollution?</i> Chapter 5
	<i>How are these costs and benefits analyzed?</i> Chapter 6
	<i>How are benefit-costs analyses used?</i> Chapters 7 and 8
	<b>Test Friday March 13<sup>th</sup></b>

3/23-4/13

***Economic solutions to pollution control***

*What are the market-based solutions?*

Chapter 10

*Should government be involved in the solution?*

Chapters 11, 12, and 13

**Test Monday April 13th**

4/15-5/8

***Other important environmental issues***

*How are non-market goods valued?*

Assigned reading

**Paper Abstract Due 4/17**

*What does 'sustainable' mean?*

Assigned reading

**Paper Outline Due 4/22**

*How is the environment a global issue?*

Chapters 19, 20, and 21

**Rough Draft Due 4/29**

**Final Paper Due 5/8**

***Final May 14<sup>th</sup> 1:30 – 3:30***