

SMEA 536: Applied Microeconomics for Marine Affairs

Lectures:

T/R 9:00-10:20 AM

Classroom: SAV 264

Instructor:

Sunny Jardine

Email: jardine@uw.edu

Office: MAR 229

Office Hours: [W 1:30- 2:30 Lin external site.](#) OR [by appointment external site.](#)

Course Overview

This course provides a survey of environmental economics including how economists define environmental issues, how economists evaluate market-based and alternative solutions to environmental problems, and how economists analyze the tradeoffs inherent in improving environmental quality. The course is organized in [5 sections](#): (1) [Fundamentals of Economic Markets](#), (2) [Externalities and their Solutions](#), (3) [Public Goods Problems and their Solutions](#), (4) [Non-market Valuation](#), and (5) [Tools for Evaluation](#).

Course Objective

The objective of this course is to stimulate critical thinking about contemporary environmental challenges and policies designed to overcome them.

Course Structure

At the beginning of each class you will take a short ungraded quiz. The purpose of the quiz is to focus and reflect on the material we have learned during a previous lecture. Next, there will be 1 hour of lecture with a ~10 minute break after ~30 minutes.

Readings

Lectures draw heavily from the following text:

B. C. Field and M. K. Field. Environmental Economics: an Introduction. Boston : McGraw-Hill Irwin, 7th edition or later.

To a lesser extent, lectures also make use of:

N.G. Mankiw. Principals of Microeconomics. South-Western Cengage Learning, 6th edition or later.

Hereafter I will refer to the two texts as F&F and Mankiw respectively. You are not required to read these texts, but you may find them a useful complement to your class notes.

Additionally, lecture concepts will be supplemented with required readings from journal articles, news articles, videos, and online articles (made available through our course website).

Notes

Most of the course content will be delivered via a lecture coupled with notes on the whiteboard. You are responsible for taking notes. I believe that taking your own notes benefits you as: (1) good note taking is a life skill; and (2) taking careful notes is a form of active listening that will enhance your learning in the class. Note that if you are absent, you will be responsible for obtaining notes from a classmate.

Quizzes

I will give short ungraded quizzes at the beginning of each course to assess your understanding of the material from the previous lecture.

Grading

Final grades will be calculated as follows: problem sets (30%), a midterm exam (35%), and a final paper (35%). Each of these components is described in detail below. At the end of the course, points in the course will be converted into a [4-point scale Links to an external site.](#)

Problem Sets (30 %): There will be 3 problem sets where you will explore applications of lecture concepts, analyze the course readings and research talks. The problem sets are dynamic in the sense that I will add questions to the problem sets as we go through the material. You will work on the problem sets in assigned groups. However, it is important that each individual understand the answers to the problem sets as your individual understanding of concepts will be tested on the midterm exam and in your term paper assignment.

Problem sets are due at 5 PM on their due date. Problem sets must be uploaded through Canvas as a PDF file for full credit.

Midterm Exam (35 %): The in-class exam will be used to assess your individual understanding of course concepts. The midterm will be comprised of multiple choice questions, short answer questions, and multi-part questions. The midterm will be held on Thursday, February 16th during the normal class period.

Final Paper (35 %): You will write a short paper on a specific environmental issue, i.e. a externalities problem or a public goods problem, [to which you are assigned](#) (People->Groups->Final Paper). Your paper will be limited to 800 words and one figure. The paper is due on March 14th at 5:00 PM, and can be submitted electronically as a PDF through our course website. [More details can be found in the assignment instructions.](#)

Course Expectations

1) Take responsibility for your learning

- Ask questions to understand the content
- Ask questions to evaluate the content

2) Create a space and community to support learning

- Realize it's OK to be wrong.
- Being wrong is not a reflection of one's fixed intelligence

Office Hours

Schedule virtual office hours as needed, at least 24 hours in advance, using my calendar: <https://calendly.com/sl jardine> [Links to an external site..](#)

Class Conduct

I am dedicated to providing a welcoming and supportive learning environment for all students, regardless of their background, identity, physical appearance, or manner of communication. Any form of language or behavior used to exclude, intimidate, or cause discomfort will not be tolerated. This applies to all course participants (instructor, students, guests). In order to foster a positive and professional learning environment, I ask the following:

- Please let me know if you have a name or set of preferred pronouns that you would like us to use
- Please let me know if anyone in class says something that makes you feel uncomfortable

In addition, I encourage the following kinds of behaviors:

- Use welcoming and inclusive language
- Show courtesy and respect towards others
- Acknowledge different viewpoints and experiences
- Gracefully accept constructive criticism

Although I strive to create and use inclusive materials in this course, there may be overt or covert biases in the course material due to the lens with which it was written. Your suggestions about how to improve the value of diversity in this course are encouraged and appreciated.

Please note: If you believe you have been a victim of an alleged violation of the Student Conduct Code or you are aware of an alleged violation of the [Student Conduct Code Links to an external site.](#), you have the right to [report it to the University Links to an external site.](#)

Policies

Online Lecture Recordings: In response to COVID-19 some courses may be held online using Zoom. These Zoom class sessions will be recorded. The recording will capture the presenter's audio, video and computer screen. Student audio and video will be recorded if they share their computer audio and video during the recorded session. The recordings will only be accessible to students enrolled in the course to review materials. These recordings will not be shared in the public, and will be deleted after the course ends.

UW-IT and Zoom have a Business Associates Agreement (BAA) to protect the security and privacy of UW Zoom accounts and is [FERPA compliant Links to an external site.](#) Students who do not wish to give consent to being recorded should:

1. Choose a Zoom username that does not include any personal identifying information like their name or UW Net ID.
2. Never share their computer audio or video during their Zoom sessions.

By enrolling in this class, all students agree to never upload the recordings to other platforms.

Grading Policy: All assignments will be graded on a curve.

Extra Credit Policy: There are no possibilities for extra credit.

Late Policy: Assignments are due by the time posted on Canvas. If an assignment is submitted 72 hours late, the late assignments will receive a 10% reduction in points for each 24 hours the submission date exceeds the due date. After 72 hours the assignment cannot be submitted for credit.

Cell Phone Policy: Cell phones should be turned off before class begins and must not be used in class at any time.

Academic Integrity: At the University level, passing anyone else's scholarly work (which can include written material, exam answers, graphics or other images, and even ideas) as your own, without proper attribution, is considered academic misconduct. Plagiarism, cheating, and other misconduct are serious violations of the University of Washington Student Conduct Code (WAC 478-120). I expect that you will know and follow university policies on cheating and plagiarism. Any suspected cases of

academic misconduct will be handled according to university regulations. For more information, see the College of the Environment's Academic Misconduct Policy and the Community Standards and Student Conduct website.

Students with Disabilities: To request academic accommodations due to a disability, contact Disability Resources for Students, 448 Schmitz, 206-543-8924 (V/TTY). If you have a letter from that office indicating that you have a disability which requires academic accommodations, present the letter to me so that we can discuss the accommodations needed for the class.

Religious Accommodations: Washington state law requires that UW develop a policy for accommodation of student absences or significant hardship due to reasons of faith or conscience, or for organized religious activities. The UW's policy, including more information about how to request an accommodation, is available at [Religious Accommodations Policy Links to an external site.](https://registrar.washington.edu/staffandfaculty/religious-accommodations-policy/) ([https://registrar.washington.edu/staffandfaculty/religious-accommodations-policy/ Links to an external site.](https://registrar.washington.edu/staffandfaculty/religious-accommodations-policy/)). Accommodations must be requested within the first two weeks of this course using the [Religious Accommodations Request Links to an external site.](https://registrar.washington.edu/students/religious-accommodations-request/) form ([https://registrar.washington.edu/students/religious-accommodations-request/ Links to an external site.](https://registrar.washington.edu/students/religious-accommodations-request/)).