

Dalhousie University – Economics Department
ECON 3335. Environmental Economics
May 5 – June 18, 2025

Dalhousie University is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq. We are all Treaty people. We acknowledge the histories, contributions, and legacies of the African Nova Scotian people and communities who have been here for over 400 years.

Instructor:

Prof. Catherine Boulatoff

boulatoff@dal.ca

M W 13:35 – 15:55

Econ A11

LSC 234

Office Hours:

Online office hours are available on weekdays with 24 hours' notice; email your instructor to make an appointment.

Course Delivery:

Lectures will be delivered in person and notes will be posted on Brightspace.

Course Objective: In this course, we will investigate the interactions between the environment and the economy. We will apply economic tools to analyze the causes and effects of environmental degradation of water and air in particular, and examine the different policies that have been used to improve environmental quality (with special emphasis on the U.S. in the book).

Course Prerequisites:

Econ 2200: Intermediate Microeconomics

Course Materials:

Required books:

Callan S. and Thomas J. (2013) Environmental Economics & Management: Theory, Policy, and Applications (6th ed.) Thomson/ Southwestern (\$151.62) hard copy, \$78.96 Ebook at the bookstore).

Other sources:

Hanley (N), Jason Shogren, and Ben White (2019) Introduction to Environmental Economics. 3d ed. Oxford.

Tietenberg T. and Lynne Lewis (2008) Environmental & Natural Resource Economics. 8th Ed. Addison-Wesley.

Stavins (2021) Economics of the Environment (\$89.71 at the bookstore, also available (cheaper) online.

Articles from peer reviewed journals, or magazines, and/or videos.

Grading Scheme:

Quizzes (4/5)	25% of final grade	in class
Participation & Discussion (3/4)	25% of final grade	Printed and due Wednesday in class
Final Exam:	50% of final grade	June 18 (Wednesday)

Note: See the Course Schedule below for the dates of assignments, participation & discussions, and exam.

Course requirements:

Quizzes (25%):

- There will be 5 quizzes this term.
- All quizzes will be held in class.
- The best 4 quizzes will count toward your final grade.
- No make-up quiz will be given.

Participation & discussions (25%):

There will be two parts to Participation & discussions. The first one will take place after we watch a short video, in class (10%). For the second part, in pairs, you will submit, on the following class period, a one-page document (typed, with both your names on the document) where you will (a) summarize in your own words the discussion we had the previous class time, and (b) discuss one of the topics raised by the video. For that discussion, you will read/ learn about the topic and use the information just gathered [do make sure to include a reference list of at least three different sources]. Finally, (c) you will conclude your discussion by articulating your thoughts on the topic.

Final Exam (50%)

- A 1 hour comprehensive exam will take place on the last day of classes, June 18 (W)
- The exam will be held in person.
- The exam will be based on everything covered during the term (lecture notes and readings or videos).
- It will include 30 multiple choice questions.

This course has a Brightspace page for all registered students; see <https://dal.brightspace.com> for details.

Class materials, marks, and announcements will be posted to Brightspace. It is essential that you familiarize yourself with how to use the Brightspace system.

Important Dates:

May 19 Victoria Day, university closed

Grading Scale:

A+	90 - 100%	B+	75 – 79.9%	C+	62 – 64.9%	D	50 – 54.9%
A	85 – 89.9%	B	70 – 74.9%	C	58 – 61.9%	F	< 50
A-	80 – 84.9%	B-	65 – 69.9%	C-	55 – 57.9%		

Students may request accommodation as a result of barriers related to disability, religious obligation, or any characteristic under the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act. Students who require academic accommodation for either classroom participation or the writing of tests, quizzes and exams should make their request to the Office of Student Accessibility & Accommodation (OSAA) (by phone at 494-2836, by email at access@dal.ca or by dropping in at the Mark A. Hill Accessibility Centre, 6227 University Avenue) prior to or at the outset of each academic term (with the exception of X/Y courses). Please see www.studentaccessibility.dal.ca for more information and to obtain Form A - Request for Accommodation. A note taker may be required to assist a classmate. There is an honorarium of \$75/course/term. If you are interested, please contact OSAA at 494-2836 for more information. Please note that your classroom may contain specialized accessible furniture and equipment. It is important that these items remain in the classroom so that students who require their usage will be able to participate in the class.

Course Policies:

Academic integrity: To maintain academic integrity, students are expected to do their own work on assignments, quizzes, and midterms, without reference to colleagues or online sources.

Email policy: I will do our best to respond to email within 24 hours on a weekday, 48 hours on a weekend. Note: I may not reply to emails that request information that can be found on Brightspace, the syllabus, or in lectures, so you should check those places first.

Health and safety: All students are required to comply with health and safety requirements on campus, and should be considerate of others' health concerns. Non-compliance may be reported under the Code of Student Conduct.

Course Schedule:

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, and Deliverables
1.	May 5	(M): Chapter 1: Introduction Video 1: on plastics 101 National Geographic https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ggh0Ptk3VGE (6 minutes) (W): Chapter 3: Modelling Market Failure Submit: Discussion 1 (based on (M) due Wednesday, May 7) <i>In class Quiz 1 (on chapter 1)</i>
2.	May 12	(M): Chapter 4: The Command-and-Control Approach Experiment 1 (W) Chapter 5: The Market Approach (part 1) <i>In class Quiz 2 (on chapters 3 and 4)</i>
3.	May 19	(M) Victoria day (W) May 21: Landfill facility tour
4.	May 26	(M) Chapter 5: The Market Approach (part 2) Experiment 2 Submit: Discussion 2 (based on the tour) due Monday, May 26 (W) Chapter 6: Environmental Risk and Behavior <i>In class Quiz 3 (on chapter 5)</i>
5.	June 2	(M) Chapter 7: Assessing Benefits for Environmental Decision Making Video 2: on Fast Fashion (W) Chapter 8: Assessing Costs for Environmental Decision Making Submit: Discussion 3 (based on (M) video) due Wednesday, June 4 <i>In class Quiz 4 (on chapter 7)</i>
6.	June 9	(M) Chapter 9: Benefit-Cost Analysis for Environmental Decision Making Video 3: on “the magic washing machine” (W) Chapter 13: Global Air Quality: Policies for Ozone Depletion and Climate Change Submit: Discussion 4 (based on (M) video) due Wednesday, June 11 <i>In class Quiz 5 (based on Chapter 9)</i>
7.	June 16	(M) Chapter 20: Development, Poverty, and the Environment (W) Submit: Exam, June 18

Deliverable Due Dates

Assignments

Assignment 1	Sunday, May 15, 11:59 pm.: Stavins, paper #1.
Assignment 2	Sunday, May 22, 11:59 pm: Video on fast fashion
Assignment 3	Sunday, May 29, 11:59 pm.: Stavins, paper #4.
Assignment 4	Sunday, June 5, 11:59 pm: video on bicycle paths
Assignment 5	Sunday, June 12, 11:59 pm.: Video, Food Inc.

Comments (each on 2 presentations)

Comments 1	Tuesday, May 17, 11:59 p.m.
Comments 2	Tuesday, May 24, 11:59 pm.
Comments 3	Tuesday, May 31, 11:59 pm.
Comments 4	Tuesday, June 7, 11:59 pm.
Comments 5	Tuesday, June 14, 11:59 pm.

University Policies and Statements

This course is governed by the academic rules and regulations set forth in the University Calendar and by Senate.

Academic Integrity

At Dalhousie University, we are guided in all of our work by the values of academic integrity: honesty, trust, fairness, responsibility and respect (The Center for Academic Integrity, Duke University, 1999). As a student, you are required to demonstrate these values in all of the work you do. The University provides policies and procedures that every member of the university community is required to follow to ensure academic integrity.

Information: https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity.html

Accessibility

The Advising and Access Services Centre is Dalhousie's centre of expertise for student accessibility and accommodation. The advising team works with students who request accommodation as a result of a disability, religious obligation, or any barrier related to any other characteristic protected under Human Rights legislation (Canada and Nova Scotia).

Information: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/accessibility.html

Student Code of Conduct

Everyone at Dalhousie is expected to treat others with dignity and respect. The Code of Student Conduct allows Dalhousie to take disciplinary action if students don't follow this community expectation. When appropriate, violations of the code can be resolved in a reasonable and informal manner—perhaps through a restorative justice process. If an informal resolution can't be reached, or would be inappropriate, procedures exist for formal dispute resolution.

Code: https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/student-life/code-of-student-conduct.html

Diversity and Inclusion – Culture of Respect

Every person at Dalhousie has a right to be respected and safe. We believe inclusiveness is fundamental to education. We stand for equality. Dalhousie is strengthened in our diversity. We are a respectful and inclusive community. We are committed to being a place where everyone feels welcome and supported, which is why our Strategic Direction prioritizes fostering a culture of diversity and inclusiveness

Statement: <http://www.dal.ca/cultureofrespect.html>

Recognition of Mi'kmaq Territory

Dalhousie University would like to acknowledge that the University is on Traditional Mi'kmaq Territory. The Elders in Residence program provides students with access to First Nations elders for guidance, counsel and support. Visit or e-mail the Indigenous Student Centre (1321 Edward St) (elders@dal.ca).

Information: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/indigenous.html

Important Dates in the Academic Year (including add/drop dates)

https://www.dal.ca/academics/important_dates.html

University Grading Practices

https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/grading-practices-policy.html