

Dalhousie University – Economics Department
ECON 3335. Environmental Economics
Winter 2022

Dalhousie University is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq. We are all Treaty people.

Instructor:

Prof. Catherine Boulatoff

boulatoff@dal.ca

M W 14:35 – 15:25

Econ B25

McCain 1116

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 online on Brightspace for the month of January in the form of asynchronous videos, and will then move in person starting in February, supplemented by videos posted on Brightspace if needed throughout the term.

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 (\$136.25 hard copy, \$77.96 Ebook at the bookstore).
- Stavins (2021) Economics of the Environment (\$89.71 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.

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

Grading Scheme:

Assignments (8/10)	40% of final grade	Every week (almost) due Sunday 11:59 pm
Presentations (8/10)	8% of final grade	Every week (almost) due Sunday 11:59 pm
Participation: (7/10)	7% of final grade	Every week (almost) due Monday 11:59 pm
Quizzes (5/6)	25% of final grade	Every other week due Thursday 8 pm
Final Exam:	20% of final grade	Scheduled by Registrar (April 8 - 28)

Note: See the Course Schedule below for the dates of assignments, quizzes, and exam.

Course requirements:

Assignments (40%):

- Assignments are based on articles from Stavins, videos, or experiments.
- Assignments are due every week (almost), on Sunday by 11:59pm. You have one week to complete each assignment.
- There will be 10 assignments total. The best 8 will count toward your grade.
- All assignments are to be individual work. You may discuss with others, but the writing must be done in your own words.
- Please refer to the Assignments document for a more detailed list of each assignment.
- To upload onto Brightspace (under Assessments/ Assignments)
- No late assignment allowed.

Presentations (8%):

- For each assignment you will complete, you will also submit (on the same date) a summary video of the assignment.
- There will be 10 presentations total. The best 8 will count toward your grade.
- In this short video, you will use one slide only, and have 5 minutes max to summarize your assignment for that week. Ideally, we should see the slide, and your face when presenting.
- Upload your video onto Brightspace (Assessments/ Presentations)
- No late presentations allowed.

Participation (7%):

- Each one of you will comment on 2 other presentations (see above). Your (written) comments should include (a) a title (the name of the student you are reviewing), (b) one specific positive comment on their presentation (i.e. avoid sweeping statements such as “great presentation”), and (c) one specific constructive criticism that they could use to improve their presentation(s) in the future.
- Your comments will be due on Monday by 11:59pm (a day after the due date of the assignment).
- There will be a total of 10 comments due (x2 each time). Only 7 will count toward your final grade.
- Upload your comments onto Brightspace (Assessments/ Comments)
- No late comment submission allowed.

Quizzes (25%):

- Short quizzes will be given at the end of every other week, on Thursday.
- Each quiz will be graded out of 5 questions.
- You will have 10 min to complete each quiz (available from 8 am to 8 pm Halifax Time).
- There will be a total of 6 quizzes. The best 5 quizzes will count toward your grade.
- Any missed quiz will earn a grade of zero.
- All quizzes are to be individual work.
- Open books are allowed.

Final Exam (20%)

- A 2 hour comprehensive exam will take place during finals week.
- The exam will be based on everything covered during the term (lecture notes and assignments).
- The exam will be scheduled by the Registrar’s Office during the final exam period (April 8 - 28). Do not make travel arrangements during this period.

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:

January 14	Last day to add winter term courses Last day for late registration
January 28	Last day to drop winter term courses with no financial implications Last day to change winter term courses from audit to credit (and vice versa) Last day to drop winter term courses without a “W”
March 7	Last day to drop winter term courses with a “W”

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:

Missed assignments: Considering that you have one week to complete each of the assignments, and that your lowest two assignment marks will be dropped, I will not accept any excuses for missed or late assignment submissions. I do not accept the Student Declaration of Absence form for missed assignments.

Missed presentations: Considering that you have one week to complete each of the presentation, and that your lowest two presentation marks will be dropped, I will not accept any excuses for missed or late presentation submissions. I do not accept the Student Declaration of Absence form for missed presentations.

Missed Comments: Considering that you have one week to complete each of the comments, and that your lowest three comments marks will be dropped, I will not accept any excuses for missed or late comments submissions. I do not accept the Student Declaration of Absence form for missed comments.

Missed quizzes: Considering that you have 12 hours to complete each of the quizzes, and that your lowest 1 quiz mark will be dropped, I will not accept any excuses for missed or late quiz submissions. I do not accept the Student Declaration of Absence form for missed quizzes.

Videos: If class is cancelled due to a holiday, instructor illness, or a campus closure, or if a given week's course material cannot be completed during class time for any reason, the material will be presented in asynchronous videos that will be uploaded to Brightspace.

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.	January 3	Introductory class session
2.	January 10	Chapter 1: Introduction Read: Environmental Economics & Management, Chapter 1. Submit: Assignment 1 (Stavins, paper #1, due Sunday, January 16, 11:59 p.m.
3.	January 17	Chapter 3: Modelling Market Failure Read: Environmental Economics & Management, Chapter 3 Submit: Quiz 1 (Chapters 1&3), due Thursday, January 20. Submit: Assignment 2 (video on fast fashion), due Sunday, January 23, 11:59 p.m.
4.	January 24	Chapter 4: The Command-and-Control Approach Read: Environmental Economics & Management, Chapter 4. Submit: Assignment 3 (Stavins, paper #12, due Sunday, January 30, 11:59 p.m.
5.	January 31	Chapter 5: The Market Approach Read: Environmental Economics & Management, Chapter 5. Submit: Quiz 2 (Chapters 4&5), due Thursday, February 3. Submit: Assignment 4 (Permit trading), due Sunday, February 6, 11:59 pm.
6.	February 7	Chapter 6: Environmental Risk and Behavior Read: Environmental Economics & Management, Chapter 6. Submit: Assignment 5 (Stavins, paper #4, due Sunday, February 13, 11:59 p.m.
7.	February 14	Chapter 7: Assessing Benefits for Environmental Decision Making Read: Environmental Economics & Management, Chapter 7. Submit: Quiz 3 (Chapters 6&7), due Thursday, February 17.
8.	February 21	Winter Study Break
9.	February 28	Chapter 8: Assessing Costs for Environmental Decision Making Read: Environmental Economics & Management, Chapter 8. Submit: Assignment 6 (Stavins, paper #14, due Sunday, March 6, 11:59 p.m.
10.	March 7	Chapter 9: Benefit-Cost Analysis for Environmental Decision Making Read: Environmental Economics & Management, Chapter 9. Submit: Quiz 4 (Chapters 8&9), due Thursday, March 3. Assignment 7 (video), due Sunday, March 13.
11.	March 14	Chapter 13: Global Air Quality: Policies for Ozone Depletion and Climate Change Read: Environmental Economics & Management, Chapter 13.

Submit: Assignment 8 (Stavins, paper #24, due Sunday, March 20, 11:59 p.m.

12. March 21 Chapter 18: Managing Municipal Wastes
Read: Environmental Economics & Management, Chapter 18.
Submit: Quiz 5 (Chapters 13&18), due Thursday, March 24.
Assignment 9 (Video), due Sunday March 27, 11:59 pm.
13. March 28 Chapter 20: Development, Poverty, and the Environment
Read: Environmental Economics & Management, Chapter 20.
Submit: Assignment 10 (Stavins, paper #31, due Sunday, April 3, 11:59 p.m.
14. April 4 Last day of classes: Wednesday, April 6 (Friday classes will be held).
Submit: Quiz 6 (Chapter 20), due Wednesday, April 6.

Deliverable Due Dates

Assignments and presentations

Assignment 1	Sunday, January 16, 11:59 pm.: Stavins, paper #1.
Assignment 2	Sunday, January 23, 11:59 pm: Video
Assignment 3	Sunday, January 30, 11:59 pm.: Stavins, paper #12.
Assignment 4	Sunday, February 6, 11:59 pm: Permit trading.
Assignment 5	Sunday, February 13, 11:59 pm.: Stavins, paper #4.
Assignment 6	Sunday, March 6, 11:59 pm.: Stavins, paper #14.
Assignment 7	Sunday, March 13, 11:59 pm: Video
Assignment 8	Sunday, March 20, 11:59 pm.: Stavins, paper #24.
Assignment 9	Sunday, March 27, 11:59 pm: Video
Assignment 10	Sunday, April 3, 11:59 pm.: Stavins, paper #31.

Comments (on 2 presentations)

Comments 1	Monday, January 17, 11:59 p.m.
Comments 2	Monday, January 24, 11:59 pm.
Comments 3	Monday, January 31, 11:59 pm.
Comments 4	Monday, February 7, 11:59 pm.
Comments 5	Monday, February 14, 11:59 pm.
Comments 6	Monday, March 7, 11:59 pm.
Comments 7	Monday, March 14, 11:59 pm.
Comments 8	Monday, March 21, 11:59 pm.
Comments 9	Monday, March 28, 11:59 pm.
Comments 10	Monday, April 4, 11:59 pm.

Quizzes

Quiz 1	Thursday, January 20, 11:59 p.m.: Chapters 1&3
Quiz 2	Thursday, February 3, 11:59 p.m.: Chapters 4&5
Quiz 3	Thursday, February 17, 11:59 p.m.: Chapters 6&7
Quiz 4	Thursday, March 3, 11:59 p.m.: Chapters 8&9
Quiz 5	Thursday, March 24, 11:59 p.m.: Chapters 13&18
Quiz 6	<u>Wednesday</u> , April 6, 11:59 p.m.: Chapter 20

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