

Economics 797E: The Political Economy of the Environment

Electronic version - with links to online materials¹

This course is a one-semester introduction to the political economy of the environment – that is, the analysis of how scarce environmental and natural resources are allocated not only among competing ends, but also among competing individuals, groups, and classes. It is intended for graduate students with prior background in microeconomics and resource economics.

Books: The following books are available at Amherst Books (8 Main St, Amherst). These are also available at the W.E.B. DuBois Library's reserve room:

Boyce, James K. (2002) *The Political Economy of the Environment*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.

Boyce, James K. and Barry G. Shelley, eds. (2003) *Natural Assets: Democratizing Environmental Ownership*. Washington, D.C., Island Press.

Boyce, James K., Sunita Narian, and Elizabeth A. Stanton, eds., *Reclaiming Nature: Environmental Justice and Ecological Restoration*. London and Chicago: Anthem Press

Cole, Daniel H. (2002) *Pollution & Property: Comparing Ownership Institutions for Environmental Protection*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.

De Canio, Stephen (2003) *Economic Models of Climate Change: A Critique*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Martinez-Alier, Joan (2003) *The Environmentalism of the Poor: A Study of Ecological Conflicts and Valuation*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.

Watts, Michael and Nancy Peluso, eds. (2001) *Violent Environments*. Ithaca, Cornell University Press.

Two additional books for background reading are available at Amherst Books:

Goodstein, Eban (2004) *Economics and the Environment*. New York: Wiley & Sons.

Guha, Ramachandra (2000) *Environmentalism: A Global History*. New York: Longman.

¹ Some links to articles might expire. If so, to get the article go to the library catalog [<http://umlibr.library.umass.edu>], enter the journal title, and select the link to the online version.

I. DISTRIBUTION

(a) Power and environmental protection

* Boyce, James K. (2002) *The Political Economy of the Environment*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, chs. 1, 4, 6, 8. [On Print Reserve]

* Princen, Thomas (1997) 'The Shading and Distancing of Commerce: When Internalization Is Not Enough,' *Ecological Economics*, 20, 235-253. Reprinted in T. Princen *et al.*, eds., *Confronting Consumption*, Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2002, ch. 5. [On Ereserve]

Pargal, Sheoli and Wheeler, David (1996) 'Informal Regulations in Developing Countries: Evidence from Indonesia,' *Journal of Political Economy*, 104(6), 1314-1327. <http://www.jstor.org.silk.library.umass.edu:2048/cgi-bin/jstor/printpage/00223808/di980623/98p0059c/0.pdf?backcontext=table-of-contents&dowhat=Acrobat&config=jstor&userID=8077a870@umass.edu/01cc99333c00501e56842&0.pdf>

Oates, Wallace P. and Portney, Paul R. (2003) 'The Political Economy of Environmental Policy,' in Karl-Goran Maler and Jeffrey Vincent, eds., *Handbook of Environmental Economics*, Volume 1. Amsterdam: Elsevier, ch. 8. <http://www.rff.org/Documents/RFF-DP-01-55.pdf#search=%22oates%20portney%22>

(b) Environmental justice

* Pastor, Manuel (2003) 'Building Social Capital to Protect Natural Capital: The Quest for Environmental Justice,' in James K. Boyce and Barry G. Shelley, eds., *Natural Assets: Democratizing Environmental Ownership*. Washington, DC: Island Press, ch. 4. [On Print Reserve]

* Boyce, James K. (2007) 'Inequality and Environmental Protection,' in Jean-Marie Baland, Pranab Bardhan, and Samuel Bowles, eds., Inequality, Collective Action, and Environmental Sustainability. Princeton: Princeton University Press, pp. 314-348. [On Print Reserve]

* Ash, Michael and T. Robert Fetter (2004) 'Who Lives on the Wrong Side of the Environmental Tracks?' *Social Science Quarterly* 85(2): 441-462. http://www.peri.umass.edu/fileadmin/pdf/working_papers/working_papers_1-50/WP50.pdf

Bouwes, Nicolaas *et al.* (2003) 'Information for Empowerment: The EPA's Risk-Screening Environmental Indicators Project,' in James K. Boyce and Barry G. Shelley, eds., *Natural Assets: Democratizing Environmental Ownership*. Washington, DC: Island Press, ch. 6. [On Print Reserve]

Szasz, Andrew and Meuser, Michael (1997) 'Environmental Inequalities: Literature Review and Proposals for New Directions in Research and Theory,' *Current Sociology*, 45(3), 99-120. [On Ereserve]

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(c) Disaster vulnerability

* Wisner, Ben, Piers Blaikie, Terry Cannon and Ian Davis (2004) *At Risk: Natural Hazards, People's Vulnerability and Disasters*. 2nd edn. London and New York: Routledge, chs. 1-2 [On Print Reserve].

* Boyce, James K. (2002) *The Political Economy of the Environment*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, ch. 2. [On Print Reserve]

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<http://www.russellsage.org/news/060515.528528>

(d) The 'environmental Kuznets curve'

* Grossman, Gene M. and Krueger, Alan B. (1995), 'Economic Growth and the Environment,' *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 110(2), 353-377.

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* Boyce, James K. (2002), *The Political Economy of the Environment*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, ch. 5. [On Print Reserve]

Barrett, Scott and Kathryn Graddy (2000), 'Freedom, Growth, and the Environment,' *Environment and Development Economics*, 5, 433-456.

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II. VALUATION

(a) Benefits and costs

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(b) Commensurability

* Heinzerling, Lisa and Ackerman, Frank (2002) *Pricing the Priceless: Cost-Benefit Analysis of Environmental Protection*. Washington: Georgetown Environmental Law and Policy Institute.

<http://www.sactaqc.org/Resources/Literature/funding/pricefnl.pdf>

* Dorman, Peter (1996) *Markets and Mortality: Economics, dangerous work, and the value of human life*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, ch. 3. [On Print Reserve]

Costanza, Robert *et al.* (1997) 'The Value of the World's Ecosystem Services and Natural Capital,' *Nature* 387: 253-260.

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Martinez-Alier, Joan (2003) *The Environmentalism of the Poor: A Study of Ecological*

Conflicts and Valuation. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, esp. ch. 2. [On Print Reserve]

III. PROPERTY

(a) Property as social process: theory

* Cole, Daniel H. (2002) *Pollution & Property: Comparing Ownership Institutions for Environmental Protection*, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, chs. 1-4. [On Print Reserve]

Sterner, Thomas (2003) *Policy Instruments for Environmental and Natural Resource Management*. Washington: Resources for the Future, chs. 5 & 10. [On Print Reserve]

Bromley, Daniel (1991) *Environment and Economy: Property Rights and Public Policy*. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell, chs. 1-3. [On Print Reserve]

(b) Property as social process: illustrations from US history

* Friedman, Gerald (2003) 'A Question of Degree: The Sanctity of Property in American Economic History,' in James K. Boyce and Barry G. Shelley, eds., *Natural Assets: Democratizing Environmental Ownership*. Washington, DC: Island Press, ch. 2. [On Print Reserve]

* Raymond, Leigh (2003) *Private Rights in Public Resources: Equity and Property Allocation in Market-Based Environmental Policy*. Washington, DC: Resources for the Future, chs. 1-3. [On Print Reserve]

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(c) Free-market environmentalism

* Coase, Ronald (1960) 'The Problem of Social Cost,' *Journal of Law and Economics* 3(1): 1-44.

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(d) Common property

* Cole, Daniel H. (2002) *Pollution & Property: Comparing Ownership Institutions for Environmental Protection*, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, chs. 6-9. [On Print Reserve]

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(e) Building natural assets

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IV. GLOBALIZATION

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(b) Governance

* Mol, Arthur P.J. (2001) *Globalization and Environmental Reform: The Ecological Modernization of the Global Economy*. Cambridge, MA, MIT Press, ch. 3. [On Ereserve]

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Fairhead, James (2001) 'International Dimensions of Conflict over Natural and Environmental Resources,' Michael Watts and Nancy Peluso, eds., *Violent Environments*, Ithaca, Cornell University Press, ch. 9. [On Print Reserve]

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V. POLICY: SELECTED ISSUES(a) The precautionary principle

* Tickner, Joel A. (1999) 'A Map Toward Precautionary Decision Making,' in Carolyn Raffensperger and Joel A. Tickner, eds., *Protecting Public Health & the Environment: Implementing the Precautionary Principle*. Washington, DC: Island Press, ch. 9. [On Print Reserve]

* Sunstein, Cass R. (2003) 'Beyond the Precautionary Principle,' *University of Pennsylvania Law Review* 151: 1003-1058.
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* Nash, Jonathan R. (2000) 'Too Much Market? Conflict between Tradable Pollution Allowances and the "Polluter Pays" Principle,' *Harvard Environmental Law Review* 24: 465-535. [Available on LexisNexis.]

* OECD Joint Working Party on Trade and Environment (2002) 'The Polluter-Pays Principle as It Relates to International Trade,' Paris: OECD Environment Directorate and Trade Directorate, December. Available at:
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Bovenberg, A. Lans (1999) 'Green Tax Reforms and the Double Dividend: An Updated Reader's Guide,' *International Tax and Public Finance* 6: 421-443. [Ereserve]

(c) Certification

* Conroy, Michael (2007) 'Certification Systems as Tools for Natural Asset Building' in James K. Boyce, Sunita Narian, and Elizabeth A. Stanton, eds., *Reclaiming Nature: Environmental Justice and Ecological Restoration*. London and Chicago: Anthem Press, ch. 10. [On Print Reserve]

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(d) Global climate change

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(e) Cultivated biodiversity and resilience

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* Boyce, James K. (2006) ‘A Future for Small Farms? Biodiversity and Sustainable Agriculture,’ in James K. Boyce *et al.*, eds. *Human Development in the Era of Globalization: Essays in Honor of Keith B. Griffin*. Northampton: Edward Elgar, ch. 4 [Ereserve]

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