



Sample Course Syllabus

OSU Ag Program at EOU

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AREC 351: Natural Resource Economics and Policy General Syllabus

IMPORTANT NOTE

This syllabus is designed to give students a general idea of the content and style of this course. A syllabus for specific to each term the course is offered will be available to registered students on the course Blackboard site. Changes may have be made to this syllabus, please be sure to read all the materials provided on the course Blackboard site.

Course Description: Application of principles of economics to identify the causes, consequences, and ways of dealing with natural resource problems, including problems associated with fisheries, forests, water problems, and land. Conceptual topics and policy applications are presented with emphasis is on developing students' skills in applying "economic way of thinking" about natural resource management. **Prerequisites:** Econ 201; Math 111. (Bacc Core Course)

Student Learning Goals

1. Develop critical thinking skills and apply them to the evaluation of resource management decisions.
2. Develop an understanding of the role and application of economics in natural resource management.
3. Develop an understanding of the diversity of perspectives toward resources management.
4. Develop knowledge of the variety of resource issues in the past, present and future.
5. Analyze resources management issues and their relationship to: property rights, externalities, market structure, discount rates, and equity.
6. Gain a basic understanding of the economic analysis tools and valuation techniques used in natural resource economics and management.
8. Gain experience in preparing different types of writing.

How This Course Works: This syllabus is for students who are taking AREC 351 through OSU Ecampus. Lectures are available on the Blackboard site for those with Broadband/DSL or you may purchase a DVD (see **Required Materials** below). These lectures will discuss some of the topics of the course. On the course outline you will find topics for which there is an associated lecture designated as such (**L**). Some topics will have PowerPoint slides (**PP**) available on the website and are also noted on the outline. Not all topics have either.

Please read this syllabus carefully as items are explained which may prevent questions later on. Questions which still arise may be sent directly to the me at my email address above or posted on the "Q and A" Forum (Discussion Board) on the AREC 351 Blackboard site. You should also familiarize yourself with this web site.

Required Materials:

% Web Site for course materials, handouts and Discussion Board: OSU Blackboard
<http://my.oregonstate.edu/>

This course is offered through Oregon State University Extended Campus. For more information, contact:
Web: ecampus.oregonstate.edu Email: ecampus@oregonstate.edu Tel: 800-667-1465

% Text: *Natural Resource Economics: An Introduction*. Barry C. Field. Long Grove, IL: Waveland Press, Inc. 2005.

% This course is offered by streaming media. If you do not have access to Broadband/DSL you may purchase a set of DVDs. These DVDs are sold as optional through the OSU Bookstore 800-595-0357. These DVDs are subject to all copyright regulations. ***Be aware - once the DVDs are opened you will not be able to return them!***

% Cadillac Desert Video: Link provided on the Blackboard Site

% Textbook Web Site: <http://www.mhhe.com/economics/field/>

What is the policy on academic dishonesty at OSU?

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and considered a violation of the Student Conduct Regulations. It includes cheating, the intentional use of unauthorized materials, information, or study aids); fabrication, assisting in dishonesty or tampering (intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another commit an act of dishonesty or tampering with evaluation instruments and documents); and plagiarism, intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another person's as ones' own. For more information see:

<http://success.oregonstate.edu/study/honesty.cfm>

Distribution of Points:

Proctored Quizzes (4@40 pts): 160 pts

Your Choice of 3 Short Papers (3 @ 30 pts):

90 pts

Science Fiction

Fact Sheet

Property Rights Failure

Analysis Proposal

Final: 40 pts

Participation/Disc Board: 30 pts

TOTAL: 320 pts

Final Grade:

89-100% = A;

79-88.9% = B; 59-68.9% = D;

Proctors: This course requires that you have

a proctor who will receive and return your quizzes and the final exam. The proctor must meet the requirements posted on the AREC 351 Blackboard site. Please complete the **Proctor Form** on the AREC 351 Blackboard site and email back to me directly. Return envelopes will be provided to proctor or they may be faxed; or scanned and emailed. For more proctor information see http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/services/proctoring/individualized_proctor.htm.

Quizzes: Proctored quizzes will cover readings, lecture, and PowerPoint material. They may require short answer/essay, graphing, math, and definition of terms.

Web Discussion Board: On the Blackboard site listed above there is a discussion board link. Both on and off-campus students will be using this site. I will submit discussion forums and monitor the site for content as well as participation. You must submit a minimum of **two relevant and thoughtful contributions** for each forum, before its posted closing date to receive full participation credit. Entries after the closing date are welcome but do not count toward your grade.

Assignments: Instructions for assignments are on the Blackboard site. I prefer assignments be placed in the Drop Box on the Blackboard site. I will make comments on your file and return it to your Drop Box.

Assignment Rewrite Policy: It is strongly recommended that students have all writing assignments proofread by another student and/or reviewed by the writing center at their institution. This includes initial and revised papers.

All writing assignments in the course may be revised once. Revised papers may be turned in at anytime during the term or as a set at the end of the term, **but no later than Thursday, of week 10**.

Revised papers may receive up to one scoring level higher, than on the initial assignment, on all or some of the scoring categories found on the scoring rubric. When sending revised papers it is not necessary to send the original (I have copies) but please label the file appropriately, for example: *Fact_diebelrevised.doc*

Final: The final will include an essay and selected questions from the term's quizzes. The essay will require students to pre-read a posted item and then address a general question using the tools gained in the class. The quiz section will require students to answer 2 of 3 questions selected from the quizzes previously given during the term.

Deadlines: The attached schedule lists the topics in order, as well as giving deadlines for quizzes and assignments.

Incomplete Policy: OSU operates on a 10-week term schedule. Grades are submitted the Monday following the completion of Finals week. Students may arrange with the instructor to receive an Incomplete grade (I) **if 50% of the coursework is completed before the Friday of Finals Week**. Grades will be changed from an I to the current grade held by the student **3 weeks following the end** of the registered term.

AREC 351 TOPIC OUTLINE

Topics	Readings
I. Overview of Natural Resource Economics (NRE) A. The NRE Discipline B. World Views of NRM C. Classifying NR D. Year 3000: Natural Resource Issues <i>Cadillac Desert: Mulholland's Dream</i>	
II. Economic Concepts in NRM A. Economic Concepts / Market Efficiency B. Sources of Inefficiency 1. Poorly Defined Property Rights 2. Externalities 4. Divergence of Social and Private Discount Rates 5. Imperfect Market Structures C. Equity Issues <i>Cadillac Desert: An American Nile</i>	
IV. Natural Resource Analysis and Valuation A. Types of Analysis B. Valuation of Resources 1. Market 2. Non-Market <i>Cadillac Desert: The Mercy of Nature</i>	

V. Application for Economics in NRM Issues

A. Non-Renewable

1. Mineral Extraction

B. Renewable

1. Timber Management

2. Fisheries Management

3. Water Resources Management

Cadillac Desert: Last Oasis

Plagiarism

You are expected to submit your own work in all your assignments, postings to the discussion board, and other communications, and to clearly give credit to the work of others when you use it. Academic dishonesty will result in a grade of "F." Link to Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct: <http://oregonstate.edu/admin/stucon/achon.htm>.

Students with Disabilities

Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty and Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). Students with accommodations approved through SSD are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through SSD should contact SSD immediately at 541-737-4098.

Course evaluation

We encourage you to engage in the course evaluation process each term – online, of course. The evaluation form will be available toward the end of each term, and you will be sent instructions by Ecampus. You will login to "Student Online Services" to respond to the online questionnaire. The results on the form are anonymous and are not tabulated until after grades are posted.