**ECON 4302: Environmental Economics**  
Fall 2020  
Syllabus

Instructor: Timothy A. Wunder  
Office: COBA 319  
Hours: online by appointment  
Email: tim.wunder@uta.edu

**Class Expectations:**
1. I expect that you will read this syllabus and abide by the information in it. Continuation in this class implies that you have read this syllabus and agree to the terms within.
2. I expect that you will come to class having covered all materials assigned prior to class meetings. Since class meetings will be limited, they will be used mostly to answer questions rather than to introduce new materials. If you haven’t covered the materials, you will have few other opportunities to get clarifications. The class will not meet every week and the total number of meetings will be eight. You can find all the weeks the class will meet in the schedule below. Attendance is mandatory ONLY for the two midterms, all other attendance is at the choice of the student, though attendance is highly recommended.
3. I expect academic integrity. Cheating on exams, plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty will be dealt with in the severest possible manner.
4. I expect you to be here on exam days. Prior arrangements are possible, but emergencies require written verification to allow a make-up exam.
5. All assignments are to be handed in by 11:59 on the day due. They will be turned in through Canvas.
6. You should expect to gain a basic understanding of economic thinking with respect to environmental goals and policy.
7. **Student Learning outcomes.** By the end of the class you should be able to do the following: Module learning objectives can be found on Canvas at the top of each module
   - The student will be able to explain and apply models that explore the interplay of the environment and the economy. (Course outcome 1)
   - The student will be able to assess the consequences of environmental policy  
   (Course outcome 2)
   - The student will be able to evaluate the importance of political economy considerations involved with environmental regulation as well as use differing models of environmental. (Course outcome 3)
   - The student will be able to summarize models of regulation and explain the strengths and weaknesses of these models. (Course outcome 4)

**Text:**
The text for this class is *Economics and the Environment* 7th ed. by Eban S Goodstein.

**Grading:**
Grading will be in the following form:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Letter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90+</td>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>80-89</td>
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<td>70-79</td>
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I reserve the right to lower these boundaries, but I will never raise them. Any disputes on grading shall be brought to my attention within one week of having the item handed back to the class. You may bring such disputes verbally or in written form.

This class will have the following ways to achieve points:

1. There will be 3 exams each worth 100 points. These three exams are scheduled in the syllabus. Two will be in person and one will be turned in online via Canvas. All exams are to be done individually with only prescribed tools. Working with others to prepare for the exams is acceptable but the exams must be taken individually. Close matches on answers on the exams may be considered cheating and academic dishonesty procedures will be implemented.
2. There will be up to least 50 points for assignments. Assignments may be done with others but please use your own words to answer the questions. Exact reproduction of assignments will be considered academic dishonesty and dealt with as such.

Schedule is listed by weeks.

Section 1: Measuring environmental policy from an efficiency standpoint.

August
23   Class will meet for introductions and for dissemination of information.
     Lecture 1: Four questions about global warming
     Lecture 2: Ethics and economics

30   Lecture 3: Pollution and degradation as externalities

September
6    Class will meet for review of lectures 1 through 3. Students should have accomplished all modules in canvas prior to this meeting.
     Lecture 4: The efficiency standard

13   Lecture 5: Measuring the benefits of environmental protection

20   Lecture 6: Measuring the costs of environmental protection
     Class will meet for review of lectures 4 through 6. Students should have accomplished all modules in canvas prior to this meeting.

27   Class will meet for exam 1
     Test 1
Section 2: Safety, fairness, and sustainability as standards.

October
4 Lecture 7: The safety standard
Lecture 8: The sustainability standard

11 Lecture 9: Measuring sustainability
Class will meet for review of lectures 7 through 9. Students should have accomplished all modules in canvas prior to this meeting.

18 Lecture 11: Is more really better? consumption and welfare
Lecture 12: The political economy of environmental regulation.

Class will meet for review of lectures 11 through 13. Students should have accomplished all modules in canvas prior to this meeting.

November
1 Class will meet for exam 2
Test 2

Section 3: The empirical record on environmental policy in the US and around the world

8 Chapter 14: The regulatory record: achievements and obstacles.
Chapter 15: Incentive-based regulation: theory.

15 Chapter 16: Incentive-based regulation: practice.

22 Chapter 17: Promoting clean technology: theory.
Class will meet for review of lectures 14 through 17. Students should have accomplished all modules in canvas prior to this meeting. This will be the last meeting as per university policy. The final will be done online and turned in through canvas

29 Chapter 18: Promoting clean technology: practice.
Chapter 19: Poverty, population, and the environment.

December
6 Chapter 21: The economics of global agreements.

Final will be due December 14th at 11:59 pm. It will be turned in via canvas.
UT Arlington Syllabus Institutional Policies

UTA students are encouraged to review these institutional policies and informational sections and reach out to the specific office with any questions.

**Drop Policy**
Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships.

**Observance of Religious Holy Days**
A student who misses an examination, work assignment or other project because of an observance of a religious holy day will be given the opportunity to complete the work missed within a reasonable time after the absence provided the student has properly notified each instructor. To meet the proper notification requirements, students must notify each instructor in writing of classes scheduled on the dates they will be absent in observance of a religious holy day. **Notification must be made within the first 15 class days and either personally delivered, acknowledged and dated by the instructor, or sent certified mail, return receipt requested.** The student may not be penalized for these excused absences, but the instructor may appropriately respond if the student fails to complete satisfactorily the missed assignment or examination within a reasonable amount of time after the excused absence. A “religious holy day” means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20 of the Tax Code. [https://www.uta.edu/catalog/2001/general/academicreg.html](https://www.uta.edu/catalog/2001/general/academicreg.html)

**Disability Accommodations**
UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting: The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD) or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at the OSD website.
**Non-Discrimination Policy**

The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit Equal Opportunity Services.

**Title IX Policy**

Title IX is a federal law that protects against sex and gender based discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, sexual misconduct, dating/domestic violence, sexual exploitation and stalking at federally funded educational institutions. UT Arlington is committed to fostering a learning and working environment free from discrimination in all its forms. When sexual misconduct occurs in our community, the university can:

1. Intervene to prevent harmful behavior from continuing or escalating
2. Provide support and remedies to students and employees who have experienced harm or have become involved in a Title IX Investigation
3. Investigate and discipline violations of the university’s relevant policies.

Faculty members and certain staff members are considered “Responsible Employees” or “Mandatory Reporters,” which means that they are required to report violations of Title IX to the Title IX Coordinator. I am a Responsible Employee and must report any Title IX related incidents that are disclosed in writing, discussion, or one-on-one. Before talking with me, or with any faculty or staff member about a Title IX related incident, be sure to ask whether they are a responsible employee. If you want to speak with someone for support or remedies without making an official report to the university. For more information about policies, reporting options and resources, visit the Title IX website: www.uta.edu/titleix or contact the Title IX Coordinator Michelle Willbanks at: titleix@uta.edu.

**Academic Integrity**

Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System Regents’ Rule 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at Student Conduct. Faculty are encouraged to discuss plagiarism and share the following library tutorials Copyright & Fair Use: Plagiarism and Acknowledging Sources.

**Electronic Communication**

UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at OIT: Student MavMail.
**Campus Carry**

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit News Center: Campus Carry.

**Final Review Week**

Final Review Week for semester-long courses, a period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the class syllabus. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

**Student Feedback Survey**

At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students’ anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit Student Feedback Survey.

**Active Shooter**

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by UTA Police regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit Crime Prevention: Active Shooter.

**Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)**

CAPS is available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives. Visit Counseling and Psychological Services or call 817-272-3671.

**Student Support Services**

UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring by appointment, drop-in tutoring, mentoring (time management, study skills, etc.), major-based learning centers, counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at Resource Hotline.