ADVANCED NATURAL RESOURCE ECONOMICS
NRM 730
FALL 2008

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Graduate course in natural resource economics with an emphasis in applying economic principles and decision making tools to natural resource and environmental problems. Special attention will focus on developing effective policy tools, regulatory action and developing harmony between the economic good and the environment.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
Upon completion of this course, students will be versed in:

1. Basic economic decision making.
2. Understand the common problems associated with natural resource goods and the resulting market failures.
3. Develop economic solutions to natural resource issues.
4. Understand the role that energy plays in the economy.
5. Develop and understand policy formulation and implementation.

TEXTBOOKS & REQUIRED READING

Various journal and popular press articles to be assigned by the instructor

GRADING SCALE
A   90% and above
B   80% - 89%
C   70% - 79%
D   60% - 69%
F   Below 60%
GRADING

- Midterm Exam 25%
- Final Exam 25%
- Quizzes 25%
- Research Paper 25%

Course Policies & Procedures

Exams: There will be 2 exams given in the course. There will be no make-ups for these exams.

QUIZZES: We will take electronic quizzes approximately every week during this course. These will be reflective of the material be covered in the lecture for the week. Make sure you have time to complete the quiz before logging into the session.

RESEARCH PAPER: Each student will be required to write a research paper covering a topic in natural resource economics. I expect you to cover complete economic coverage of your topic. All papers must contain peer reviewed references and is to be no longer than 20 pages in length (including tables and figures). The paper will be due DECEMBER 3, 2008 AT 12:00 NOON! All papers will be turned in through the Safe Assignment link through the Blackboard course link.

Below is an example of peer reviewed journals that may be helpful.


NRM 730
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF MATERIAL

1. Introduction to economic thought
2. Basic economics primer
3. Market failures and their causes
4. Economic tools for determining the value of natural resources
5. Understanding the role of time in our analysis
6. The relationship of agriculture to the environment
7. The impact of population the environment
8. Alternative energy and energy issues
9. Finding market solutions to environmental problems
10. Environmental risk
11. Sustainable development