Eco 240 Spring 2008

Location: Comenius 213
Time: 7:30-8:40 Tuesday and Thursday
Instructor: Jason M. Hockenberry
Email: jmhockenberry@moravian.edu
Office: Comenius 210 (In the Economics Dept Office Suite)
Phone: 610.625.7702
Office Hours: Tuesday, 2-4; Thursday, 2-4 and MWF by appointment
Textbook: Kolstad, Charles Environmental Economics
Other texts: You will also be required to read:
- Stroupe, Richard L. Eco-nomics
- Other journal and popular press readings as assigned

Objectives: Our three main objectives for the semester is to ensure you as a student
- develop familiarity with the principles by which economists deal with issues of scarcity as they relate to the natural environment
- develop an understanding of the economic issues related to the environment, and become familiar with the economics literature on the subject
- develop the ability to analyze economic arguments/regulations/policies related to the environment and to think critically about their benefits and consequences

Evaluation: Your performance evaluation in this course will be based on three components
- Mid Semester Evaluation (30%)
- End of Semester Evaluation (30%)
- Response, Analysis and/or Position papers (30%)
- Contribution to the classroom community (10%)

Community: Because contribution to the classroom community is counted as 10% of your grade, regular attendance is necessary but not sufficient to receive full credit in this category. You need to be an active and willing participant in order to receive maximum credit in this category.

Classroom: It is an incredibly technologically advanced society we live in and I appreciate that each student has the ability to communicate with just about anyone at anytime. However, this technological capacity comes with the responsibility to use it in a manner that will not infringe upon the rights of others. As such I ask you to silence cellphones, twoways, pagers, etc. If your life/livelihood or the life/livelihood of others depends on you being able to respond to these devices, please minimize the disruption to the best of your ability. With respect to laptops, I do not forbid their use, I do however suggest you evaluate whether this is an effective method for accumulating knowledge, particularly in a class where graphs and formulas are regularly used.
Accommodation: Should you have any individual concerns regarding any disability including, but not limited to hearing, speech, vision, or seating, please discuss this with me during the first week of class in person or via email. Individuals from the counseling center will work with you to verify your need for accommodation and will help determine the environment in which you will have the opportunity to succeed in this course.

Integrity: The policy listed in the student handbook is the reference for any questions related to this topic.

Readings: Below are the readings for the course. Readings should be done before class. This list may change as the semester goes on, but I will provide updates.

Key to where to find the reading:
Kolstad—should be self explanatory
* On BB or via Email
** JSTOR
*** Lexis Nexis

The Role of Government
Kolstad, Chapters 1, 2

Economic Efficiency and Benefit-Cost Analysis
Kolstad, Chapters 3 and 4
Kelman, Steven, “Cost-Benefit Analysis: An Ethical Critique” with replies*
“What Creating Incentives,” Economist, May 29, 1993 ***

Public Goods and Externalities
Kolstad, Chapters 5, 6
The Optimal Regulation of Pollution

Kostad, Chapters 7, 8, 9, 10, 11


“Clean and Green, or Lean and Mean?,” Economist June 28, 1997.***

“Taxes for a Greener Environment,” Economist June 28, 1997.***

Risk, Uncertainty, and Liability

Koistad, Chapters 12

Environmental Regulation and Economic Activity

Koistad, Chapter 13


Costs of Environmental Regulations

Kolstad, Chapter 14


Measurement of Benefits

Kolstad, Chapter 15


“A Price on the Priceless?” *Economist* August 17, 1991.***

Kolstad, Chapter 16


Household Production

Kolstad, Chapter 17

Contingent Valuation

Kolstad, Chapter 18

