ENVS 25: Environmental Policy and Economics
Winter 2015
M/W/F 3.30-4.40pm, Media Theater M110

Instructor: Prof. Adam Millard-Ball
Office hours: Monday 10-12, ISB 459

Teaching Assistants:
Rachel Voss
Office hours: Wednesday 1-3pm, NatSci2 413
Emily Reisman
Office hours: Thursday 1-3pm, NatSci2 485

Please send all course-related e-mail to envs25@yahoo.com.
Please allow 2-3 business days for a reply.

Course Description
This course introduces you to the policy and economic dimensions of some of the most pressing environmental challenges facing us today. Through case studies on topics such as population, water and transportation, we will examine the economic underpinnings of environmental problems, and the extent to which policy responses have been successful.

Course Goals
After completing this course, you should be able to:
• Employ key concepts from philosophy, politics, law and economics that help us understand today’s environmental problems
• Understand the different ways in which environmental policy can be made
• Have sufficient policy and economic literacy to participate in interdisciplinary conversations
• Appreciate some of the tradeoffs between different policy goals, and the imperfections of some environmental policies

Reading
There is no required textbook for this course. All readings will be available on eCommons.

iClickers
You must bring an iClicker to class every day. We will use the clickers to record attendance, for in-class quizzes, and for in-class discussion-based questions.

It is your responsibility to remember your clicker and to ensure that it is fully functioning. If you choose to use the smartphone app version, it is your responsibility to make sure you have internet connectivity.

iClickers can be purchased at the Bay Tree Bookstore. An app for Android and iPhones is also available. See www1.iclicker.com/purchase-response-devices for more information. (Either version of the iClicker is fine.)
**Assessment**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight (%)</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and quizzes</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Online and/or section participation</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Weds February 4, in class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>Weds March 18, 7.30-10.30pm</td>
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**Attendance and quizzes**

We will have regular in-class quizzes. These will be used to both record attendance and to test your knowledge of the readings or lecture material. We will also have several quizzes administered via eCommons.

Each student has four “free passes” for attendance (after the first day of class). These passes cover all illnesses, family emergencies, forgetting your clicker, and other reasons for not being present AND using your clicker. Use them wisely!

**Online and/or section participation**

There are three ways for you to participate outside of lecture: weekly discussion sections, Modified Supplemental Instruction, and the discussion forums on eCommons. See below for more details.

**Midterm and Final Exam**

Questions on the midterm and final exams may address any of the material in the course, including readings and lectures. The final exam will be cumulative. You are expected to listen actively and take notes in class. If you miss a class, please talk with another student. All slides will be posted on eCommons, but you are expected to take your own, more detailed notes to complement the text on the slides.

There will be no makeup dates for the midterm and final examinations. If you have other commitments on these dates, please do not enroll in the course.

**Class Schedule**

The class schedule indicates the broad sequence of modules. The lecture slides (posted on eCommons in advance of each module) will give more details about the precise topics. Required readings will also be posted in advance of each module. You can expect 2-3 readings per class, with an average of 30-50 pages of reading per week.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of classes</th>
<th>Module</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-6</td>
<td>Population, food and resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>5-6</td>
<td>Protecting nature</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Feb 4: Midterm</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>4-5</td>
<td>Water</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>Climate change</td>
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<tr>
<td>5-6</td>
<td>Transportation and urban development</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sustainability and environmental futures</td>
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Discussion Sections

The weekly discussion sections will focus on applying the concepts introduced in lecture and readings to current events, as well as some review of the lecture material. The discussion sections are designed to give you an opportunity to talk through your ideas, understand the viewpoints of others, and to gain a deeper understanding of the course materials.

Attendance is optional, but will count towards your participation grade and will also help you do well on the midterm and final exams.

Sections will be led by the graduate teaching assistant or undergraduate teaching interns. The interns are juniors or seniors who previously performed well in this course, and have additional experience in environmental policy and/or education. A schedule will be posted the first week of class.

eCommons Discussion Forum

The eCommons discussion forums provide an opportunity to ask questions and clarify the lecture material and readings, and to debate how the concepts introduced in lecture apply to other real-world examples. The teaching staff will participate as well. Your contributions will count towards your participation grade, but quality (i.e., well thought out questions or responses) is more important than quantity.

Please remember to use professional language and show respect for the viewpoints of others.

Modified Supplemental Instruction

Modified Supplemental Instruction (MSI) is also available for this class. It gives students the opportunity to learn together in small groups led by an advanced Student Learning Assistant. MSI is guaranteed study/learning time facilitated by someone who has already been successful in the class. For more information, see http://www2.ucsc.edu/lss/msi.shtml

The MSI schedule is here: http://eop-apps.ucsc.edu/msi/msischedule.cfm

In contrast to the discussion sections, MSI will focus more on reviewing and explaining concepts from the lectures.

The Student Learning Assistant for this course is Amanda Jones. You can contact her at amajones@ucsc.edu
**Academic Integrity**

Students are expected to adhere to the UCSC policy on academic integrity: [http://www.ucsc.edu/academics/academic_integrity/](http://www.ucsc.edu/academics/academic_integrity/). Unless otherwise stated in writing, all assignments should be written individually and be original works for this class. All academic integrity violations (e.g. plagiarism, cheating, multiple submissions, facilitating dishonesty) will be prosecuted if encountered.

Academic integrity include the use of iClickers. Asking another student to “sign in” for you with your clicker, or doing that yourself for another student, is a serious academic integrity violation.

**Accessibility and Disabilities**

If you qualify for classroom accommodations because of a disability, please submit an Accommodation Authorization from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) to Prof. Millard-Ball **within the first two weeks of the quarter**. You may submit these outside of class (e.g., office hours) to ensure anonymity. Contact DRC at 831-459-2089 (voice), 831-459-4806 (TTY), or [http://drc.ucsc.edu](http://drc.ucsc.edu) for more information on the requirements or process.