**Econ 4340 Syllabus**

**Prof. M. Finney**

This course, entitled *Environmental Economics*, studies the relationship between economic activity and environmental quality. The environmental problem is treated by the discipline of economics as a misallocation of scarce resources. We will study market and non-market approaches to solving environmental problems.

The textbook for the course is **Environmental Economics** (7th edition) by Barry Field and Martha Field.

**Econ 4340** meets in room SH 238 from 4:30 to 5:45pm on Monday/Wednesday. My office hours are 3:30 to 4:15pm Monday and 5:50 to 6:15pm Wednesday.

Office Location: Simpson Tower Room 909

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**[Learning Outcomes](http://milesfinney.net/434/Learning.htm)**

**I. Introduction to Environmental Economics** [notes](http://milesfinney.net/434/lecture/scarce_resources.docx)

Chapters 1 and 2

**II. Markets and the Concept of Economic Efficiency** [notes](http://milesfinney.net/434/lecture/Market.docx)[notes](http://milesfinney.net/434/lecture/Negative_Externality.docx)

Chapters 3 and 4

**III. The Economics of Pollution Control** [notes](http://milesfinney.net/434/lecture/general_model.docx)

Chapter 5

**IV. Assessing the Value of Environmental Goods** [notes](http://milesfinney.net/434/lecture/Measuring_benefits.docx)

Chapter 7

**V. Approaches to Solving Environmental Problems**

**A. Command and Control** [notes](http://milesfinney.net/434/lecture/command_control.docx)

Chapter 11

**B. Market Oriented Solutions** [notes](http://milesfinney.net/434/lecture/Incentive.docx)

Chapter 12

**VI. Public Advocacy and Individual Demands for Environmental Goods** [lecture](http://milesfinney.net/434/lecture/greens.pptx)[article](http://milesfinney.net/434/articles/greens.pdf)

[**Midterm**](http://milesfinney.net/434/schedule.html)

**VII. Federal Air Pollution Control Policy / CO2 Emissions Trading** [notes](http://milesfinney.net/434/lecture/fed_air_policy.docx)[notes](http://milesfinney.net/434/lecture/sulfur.docx)

Chapter 15, Chapter 13, p. 245-257

**VIII. Topics on Air Quality**

**A. Air Quality in Los Angeles** [lecture](http://milesfinney.net/434/lecture/Los_Angeles_Air_Quality.pptx) [article](http://milesfinney.net/434/handouts/Progress.htm)

**B. An Examination of the Health Effects of Poor Air Quality** [lecture](http://milesfinney.net/434/lecture/Steel_Mill.pptx)[article](http://milesfinney.net/434/articles/steel_mill.pdf)

**IX. Federal Policy on Toxic and Hazardous Substances** [notes](http://milesfinney.net/434/lecture/hazard_substance1.docx)

Chapter 16

**X. Efficiency and Equity in Pollution Control** [notes](http://milesfinney.net/434/lecture/equity_demographics.docx)

Chapter 9

**XI. International Cooperation and Ozone Depletion** [lecture](http://milesfinney.net/434/lecture/Ozone.pptx)

Chapter 19, p. 396-401

**XII. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and the Environment**

**A. Global Warming** [lecture](http://milesfinney.net/434/lecture/global1.pptx)

Chapter 18

**B. California’s Climate Policies** [notes](http://milesfinney.net/434/lecture/California%20Energy%20and%20Climate%20Policies.docx)

**C. Urbanization and Greenhouse Gas Emissions** [notes](http://milesfinney.net/434/lecture/Urbanization_CO2.docx)[article](http://milesfinney.net/434/articles/green_cities.pdf)

**XIII. Developing Countries and the Environment** [notes](http://milesfinney.net/434/lecture/development.docx)

Chapter 21

**[Final Exam](http://milesfinney.net/434/schedule.html)**

You will take a midterm and final exam. Both exams will consist of some problem solving as well as short essay questions. Take-home essay assignments will replace a formal paper requirement. I will give you two questions that you will answer in essays. You will receive five points extra credit for the individual essay if you prepare it early and allow me to review it with you. In any case, you will lose substantial credit if you turn in incoherent work. There will be two assignments (Manufacturing and Corona) in which you will look up economic/environmental data and report simple statistics. Three multiple choice quizzes will also be assigned, as well as one homework.

**Grade Distribution**

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| Midterm | 25% |
| Final Exam | 30% |
| Essay Assignments | 25% |
| Homework | 4% |
| Quizzes | 6% |
| Manufacturing Assignment | 5% |
| Corona Problem | 5% |