

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** (2024 release) by Barry Field and Martha Field.

Econ 4340 meets in room SH 139 from 6:00 to 7:15pm on Monday/Wednesday. My office hours are 3:00-4:00pm Monday and Wednesday; and 3:15-3:45pm Friday.

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[Learning Outcomes](#)

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- I. **Introduction to Environmental Economics** [notes](#)
Chapters 1 and 2
 - II. **Markets and the Concept of Economic Efficiency** [notes](#) [notes](#)
Chapters 3 and 4
 - III. **The Economics of Pollution Control** [notes](#)
Chapter 5
 - IV. **Assessing the Value of Environmental Goods** [notes](#)
Chapter 7
 - V. **Approaches to Solving Environmental Problems**
 - A. **Command and Control** [notes](#)
Chapter 11
 - B. **Market Oriented Solutions** [notes](#)
Chapter 12
 - VI. **Public Advocacy and Individual Demands for Environmental Goods** [lecture](#) [article](#)

[Midterm](#)

- VII. **Federal Air Pollution Control Policy / CO2 Emissions Trading** [notes](#) [notes](#)
Chapter 15, Chapter 13
- VIII. **Topics on Air Quality**
 - A. **Air Quality in Los Angeles** [lecture](#) [article](#)
 - B. **An Examination of the Health Effects of Poor Air Quality** [lecture](#) [article](#)
- IX. **Federal Policy on Toxic and Hazardous Substances** [notes](#)
Chapter 16

- X. Efficiency and Equity in Pollution Control** [notes](#)
Chapter 9
- XI. International Cooperation and Ozone Depletion** [lecture](#)
Chapter 19
- XII. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and the Environment**
- A. Global Warming** [lecture](#)
Chapter 18
 - B. Urbanization and Greenhouse Gas Emissions** [notes](#) [article](#)
 - C. California's Climate Policies** [notes](#)
- XIII. Developing Countries and the Environment** [notes](#)
Chapter 21

Final Exam

You will take a midterm and final exam. Both exams will consist of some problem solving as well as short essay questions. A longer in-class essay assignment dealing with a public policy question will replace a formal paper requirement. The essay will be assigned as part of the final exam. There will be two assignments (Manufacturing and Corona) in which you will look up economic/environmental data and interpret simple statistics. Three multiple choice quizzes will also be assigned, as well as one homework.

Grade Distribution

Midterm	30%
Final Exam	35%
Essay Assignment	10%
Homework	4%
Quizzes	6%
Manufacturing Assignment	5%
Corona Problem	5%
Ozone Level Assignment	5%