



## ECON-250 – Environmental Economics

University Arts and Science

**Effective Term & Year:** Fall 2025  
**Course Outline Review Date:** 2030-03-01

**Program Area:** Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

### Description:

This course introduces the concepts and methods of analysis in environmental economics. It applies microeconomic principles to the examination of market failures and how social welfare can be improved through incentives or policy. Topics include valuing the environment, cost-benefit analysis, and a significant amount of environmental policy analysis (standards, emissions taxes, transferable emissions permits). Current global and Canadian environmental issues and policies are discussed.

### Program Information:

This course can be used as an elective in the business management diplomas and the Bachelor of Business Administration – Sustainable Business Practices. It can also be used as an elective in various University Arts and Science programs.

**Delivery Methods:** Hybrid – On-campus (Face-to-Face) and Online

**Credit Type:** College of the Rockies Credits

**Credits:** 3

**Course type/s:** Social Sciences

### Instructional Activity and Hours:

Activity	Hours
Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction	45

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Seminar/Tutorials	
Laboratory/Studio	
Practicum/Field Experience	
Co-op/Work Experience	
Other	
Total	45

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**Course Requisites:**

- Completed the following:
  - **ECON101** – Microeconomics (3)

**Prior Learning and Recognition: Yes**

Students are able to request formal recognition of their prior learning or experience outside the classroom. Challenge examination, portfolio-assisted assessment, work-based assessment or a combination of assessments that is appropriate to identify, assess, and recognize prior skills, competencies, and knowledge to achieve course credit. Tuition fees apply, refer to Policy 2.5.5 [Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition \(PLAR\)](#) or contact an education advisor for more information.

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**Course Transfer Credit:**

For information about receiving transfer credit for courses taken at either British Columbia or Alberta institutions, please see <https://www.bctransferguide.ca/> or <https://transferalberta.alberta.ca> . For more transfer credit information, please visit <https://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>

All requests for course transfer credit from institutions in British Columbia or elsewhere should go to the College of the Rockies Enrolment Services office.

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**Textbook Resources:**

Textbook selection varies by instructor and may change from year to year. At the Course Outline Effective Date the following textbooks were in use:

Field, Barry and Martha Field (2024) *Environmental Economics: An Introduction*, 9th edition. New York: McGraw Hill.

*Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online text calculator*

<https://textbook.cotr.bc.ca/> for a complete list of the currently required textbooks.

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### **Learning Outcomes:**

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- define environmental economics;
  - discuss the relationship between the economy and the environment;
  - investigate benefit-cost analysis;
  - examine various environmental policies;
  - discuss environmental policy in Canada; and
  - discuss global-environmental issues.
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### **Course Topics:**

- Introduction to Environmental Economics
- Link Between the Economy and the Environment
- Analytical Tools
- Benefit-Cost Analysis
- Command-and-Control Policies
- Market-Based Policies
- Environmental Policy in Canada

- Canadian and Global Environmental Issues

See instructor's syllabus for the detailed outline of weekly readings, activities and assignments.

## Evaluation and Assessments

### Assessment Type: On-Campus (face-to-face) and Online, or Hybrid

Assessment Type	% of Total Grade
Attendance/Participation	0% – 10%
Assignments	10% – 30%
Term Test(s)	15% – 30%
Term Paper and/or Presentation	15% – 30%
Final Exam	20% – 40%
Total	100%

## Grade Scheme

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
>=90	89-85	84-80	79-76	75-72	71-68	67-64	63-60	59-55	54-50	<50

**Pass requirements:** None

**Evaluation Notes:** A grade of "D" grants credit, but may not be sufficient as a prerequisite for sequential courses.

### Evaluation Notes Comments:

Please check your certificate, diploma and degree program outlines regarding minimum course grades and program average grades that are required.

*Please see instructor's syllabus for assessment values.*

### Exam Attendance:

Students must attend all scheduled exams at the appointed time and place. Instructors may approve an alternate exam to accommodate an illness or personal crisis. Department heads will consider other written requests. Any student who misses a scheduled exam without prior approval will receive a "0" on the exam.

**Academic Policies:**

College of the Rockies policies related to courses can be found at <https://cotr.bc.ca/about-us/college-policies/> and include the following:

- Policy 2.1.4 Course Audit
  - Policy 2.4.1 Credential Framework
  - Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
  - Policy 2.4.4 Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct
  - Policy 2.4.8 Academic Performance
  - Policy 2.4.9 Student Feedback and Concerns
  - Policy 2.4.11 Storage of Academic Works
  - Policy 2.5.3 Student Appeal
  - Policy 2.5.5 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)
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**Course Changes:**

The College of the Rockies updates course outlines regularly to meet changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The instructor will notify students in writing of any updates to this outline during the semester. The instructor reserves the right to revise, add or delete material while meeting the learning outcomes of this course outline.