GROSSMONT COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

Curriculum Committee Approval: 11/29/2022

Approved by GCCCD Governing Board: 12/13/2022

ECONOMICS 135 - ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS

1. Course Number Course Title Semester Units

 ECON 135 Environmental Economics 3

Semester Hours

3 hours lecture (48-54 hours); 96-108 outside-of-class hours; 144-162 total hours

1. Course Prerequisites

None

Corequisite

None

Recommended Preparation

None

1. Catalog Description

This course intends to provide an analytical framework for understanding the nature of environmental issues such as pollution and global warming and investigate the apparent conflict between economic needs and ecological requirements. In this context, economic tools like cost/benefit analysis applied to environmental policies and projects will be applied.

1. Course Objectives

The students will:

1. Understand the relationship between the economic system and the environment.
2. Demonstrate that there is a potential trade-off between the consumption of goods and services and the environmental amenities that sustain us.
3. Use cost/benefit analysis for evaluation of environmental goods like clean air and the relevant government policies.
4. Investigate the effectiveness of government policies on mitigation and control of different types of pollution.
5. Investigate social inequities associated with different approaches to environmental and economic problems.

1. Instructional Facilities

Standard Classroom

1. Special Materials Required of Student

None

1. Course Content
2. Building a foundation.
3. The big picture.
4. Efficiency and choice.
5. Market failure.
6. The role of government.
7. Trade-offs and the economy.
8. Issues and approaches.
9. Environmental quality.
10. Energy.
11. Sustainability.
12. Population, poverty, and growth.
13. Biodiversity and valuation.
14. International and global issues.
15. Policy and Procedure.
16. Perspectives on environmental policy.
17. Natural resource management: renewable resources.
18. Natural resource management: depletable and replenishable resources.
19. Environmental dispute resolution.
20. Morals and motivation.

1. Method of Instruction
2. Lecture
3. Discussion
4. Essays

1. Methods of Evaluating Student Performance
2. Students will be evaluated based on their understanding of the subject matter presented in the required reading, lectures, class discussions, reports, and quizzes. For example, students may be asked to discuss how they would place an economic value on a whale. They might also be expected to offer a brief report on a topic such as ecotourism and its economic impacts on the economy of Timor Leste.

1. Outside Class Assignments
2. Textbook readings.
3. Selected articles from major new resources such as *Foreign Affairs*, *the New York Times*, etc. These articles might deal with subjects such as deforestation, pollution, biodiversity, etc. The students may bring the knowledge they get from these readings to in-class discussions or online discussion boards.

1. Representative Texts

  a. Representative Text(s):

1) Anderson, David A. *Environmental Economics and Natural Resource Management*. 5th ed., Routledge Publishing, London, 2019.

2) *The New York Times.* New York.

b. Supplementary texts and workbooks:

1) *The Economist, Foreign Affairs, World Politics Review*, etc.

Addendum: Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, our students will be able to do the following:

1. Discuss the economic reasons for the potential trade-off between economic growth and environmental resources and quality.
2. Apply cost-benefit analysis in assessing policy decisions affecting resource allocation in environmental areas.
3. Use tools of economics to evaluate environmental goods such as clean air and natural parks and environmental damages such as health cost of pollution.
4. Demonstrate how environmental problems like pollution can be dealt with by government policies such as taxes and subsidies.