



AREC 365 COURSE OUTLINE

NATURAL RESOURCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS

In Winter 2022, AREC 365, *Natural Resource and Environmental Economics*, is being offered at Yukon University as part of the Northern Environmental and Conservation Sciences, B.Sc. Program. All students registered in AREC 365 must adhere to the requirements outlined in this course syllabus. University of Alberta students must also be aware of, and adhere to, the University's Code of Student Behaviour, referenced in the outline.

INSTRUCTOR:	DEREK PARKER, M.SC. Dept. of Renewable Resources, U of Alberta, and Northern Environmental and Conservation Sciences Program, Yukon University
INSTRUCTOR:	PAUL McCARNEY, PH.D., Dept. of Renewable Resources, U of Alberta, and Northern Environmental and Conservation Sciences Program, Yukon University
OFFICE HOURS:	By appointment
OFFICE LOCATION:	Phone or On-Line
TELEPHONE/E-MAIL:	(867) 332-6636
E-MAIL :	pmccarney@yukonu.ca

LECTURES: Mondays & Wednesdays from 10:30 to 11:20 AM from January 5 to April 11, 2022 in classroom A2204. While COVID-19 restrictions are in place, lectures will be accessible via ZOOM at:
<https://yukonu-ca.zoom.us/j/86870490676>

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

An introduction to economic analysis of natural resource issues and environmental management, including understanding of resource valuation, the role of economic incentives, and the implications of market failure in natural resource use and policy. Emphasis will be placed on analysis of economic aspects of current natural resource issues and policy, with special focus on the northern Canadian context. The course highlights three key points:

1. human beings exhibit predictable economic behavior in their interaction with the human-built and natural environments,
2. economic analysis can inform the crafting of environmental strategies and policies, and
3. recognizing and measuring environmental non-market goods and services can be useful in mitigating contemporary environmental problems.

COURSE PREREQUISITES AND/OR CO-REQUISITES:

Prerequisite(s): Registration in Yukon University, University of Alberta B.Sc. in Environmental and Conservation Sciences degree program and successful completion of U of Alberta ECON 101, Yukon University ECON 100, or an equivalent Introduction to Microeconomics course.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

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

- Understand the linkage between economics and environmental problems and solutions (i.e. policies, regulations, or market-based solutions).
- Understand how environmental goods and services can be incorporated into cost-benefit analyses.
- Understand the rationale and basic processes for valuing environmental goods and services.

COURSE FORMAT

The course consists of two 1-hour Zoom lectures twice per week. The course lectures will focus on: (a) reviewing and refining understanding of economics, as it relates to the environment, through lectures and textbook readings over the first 6-7 weeks; (b) environmental economics team research projects and report preparation from mid-February to April 4, 2022 and; (c) a brief review of course learnings and an end-of-term test.

EVALUATION

The course grade will be determined as follows:

Assignment	Percent
Course Textbook Readings, Reflection & Questions	30%
Research Paper	50%
AREC 365 Year-End Test	20%
Total:	100%

Assignments and tests

To engage in subject material and demonstrate ongoing learning commitment, students are to write and submit brief reflections on chapter readings from the course textbook. Students are also required to include a minimum of one question associated with these readings to highlight learning points that are not clear or to express personal views of agreement or disagreement with text or lecture material. The schedule of readings will be discussed in the first week of lectures.

Assignments are to be submitted to the instructor's email address noted above.

Students will also form small teams and, by early February, select one northern environmental economic research topic from a list provided by the instructor. Research teams will be required to select unique research projects. Students must adhere to the citation style used by the Council of Science Editors in all written assignments

(https://guides.library.ualberta.ca/ld.php?content_id=16869133).

One final 20% test will be administered on the final day of classes (April 11, 2022). A list of course learning objectives will be added to the class website identifying topics that should be studied to prepare for this test.

Due Dates and Late Assignments

Unless otherwise specified, reflections and question(s) are due by 11:59 pm Sunday (local time) for the week in which a chapter reading has been assigned. Late assignments will lose 5% of their mark per day that they are late. The team research paper will be due at 11:59 pm local time on April 4, 2022.

Assignment of grades

The total numerical score will be converted to a grade on the following letter grading system:

Letter grade	Percent
A+	95-100
A	90-94
A-	85-89
B+	79-84
B	75-78
B-	71-74
C+	67-70
C	64-66
C-	55-63
D	50-54
F	0-49

COURSE WITHDRAWAL INFORMATION

Students should refer to the UAlberta calendar for time-sensitive withdrawal information (see: calendar.ualberta.ca).

TEXTBOOK:

Required: Fisher B, Naidoo R, Ricketts T. 2015. *A Field Guide to Economics for Conservationists*. Roberts and Company Publishers. ISBN 978-1-936221-50-9.

Copies of this textbook will be available to AREC 365 students (Winter-2022) for term-long sign-out in the YukonU library.

COURSE WEBSITE

Lectures, announcements, additional reading, and other material will be available on University of Alberta's eClass system (<https://eclass.srv.ualberta.ca/portal/>) for download or viewing. Information and support for eClass is available here: <https://support.ctl.ualberta.ca/index.php?/Knowledgebase/List/Index/22/eclass>.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Yukon University Academic Standards and Regulations

Students are expected to contribute toward a positive and supportive environment and are required to conduct themselves in a responsible manner. Academic misconduct includes all forms of academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, fraud, deceit, using the work of others without their permission, aiding other students in committing academic offences, misrepresenting academic assignments prepared by others as one's own, or any other forms of academic dishonesty including falsification of any information on any Yukon University document.

Please refer to YukonU Academic Regulations & Procedures for further details about academic standing and student rights and responsibilities.

University of Alberta Academic Integrity and Code of Student Behaviour

The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at www.governance.ualberta.ca) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

All students at the University of Alberta are subject to the Code of Student Behaviour, as outlined at:

<http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/en/CodesofConductandResidenceCommunityStandards/CodeofStudentBehaviour.aspx> Please familiarize yourself with it and ensure that you do not participate in any inappropriate behavior as defined by the Code. Key components of the code include the following statements.

30.3.2(1) No Student shall submit the words, ideas, images or data of another person as the Student's own in any academic writing, essay, thesis, project, assignment, presentation or poster in a course or program of study.

30.3.2(2) c. No Student shall represent another's substantial editorial or compositional assistance on an assignment as the Student's own work.

PROFESSIONALISM AND CLASSROOM RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

Students are expected to attend all lectures when possible, be engaged and courteous in all course activities, and to be on time for class. Please do not use cell phones during class. Laptops are permitted for note taking and in-class work; however, please do not use laptops in class for non-class-related activities.

RECORDING OF LECTURES, LABS, ETC.

Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Please note that some classes in the B.Sc. Northern ENCS Program may be recorded using web conferencing software, and links to recordings may be posted on the class website.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION:

Reasonable accommodations are available for students requiring an academic accommodation to fully participate in this class. These accommodations are available for students with a documented disability, chronic condition or any other grounds specified in section 8.0 of the Yukon University Academic Regulations (available on the Yukon University website). It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations by contacting the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC): LearningAssistanceCentre@yukonu.ca.

TOPICS:

- Intersection of microeconomics, human behaviour and the environment
- Relevance of economic theories and tools to understanding contemporary resource and environmental problems
- Market failure, non-market valuation methods and the concept of utility
- Economic incentives for conservation purposes
- Ecosystem services