



UNIVERSITY OF
ALBERTA



AREC 365

NATURAL RESOURCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS

In Winter 2020, AREC 365, *Natural Resource and Environmental Economics*, is being offered at Yukon College 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.
Sessional Instructor, Dept. of Renewable Resources, U of Alberta, and
Northern Environmental and Conservation Sciences Program, Yukon College

OFFICE HOURS: By appointment

OFFICE LOCATION: TBA

E-MAIL: derek.parker@gmail.com

CLASS DAYS & TIMES: Tuesdays from 5:30-7:30 PM and Thursdays from 12:00-1:00 PM

CLASS LOCATION: A2101

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course provides an overview of how economics can be applied to modern day environmental and natural resource concerns. Economic theory and tools will be applied to issues such as climate change and the management and preservation of healthy ecosystems. Concepts for discussion and study include market failure, non-market valuation techniques, environmental goods and services, human economic behaviour as it relates to environmental impacts, and environmental economic policy considerations.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND COMPETENCIES:

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

- apply economic thinking and tools to address natural resource and environmental issues.
- identify economic policy options for current-day natural resource and environmental problems.
- assess economic dimensions of climate change mitigations.

COURSE FORMAT (3-0-0):

The course consists of one 1-hour and one 2-hour lecture per week.

Audio or video recording of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as part of an approved accommodation plan. Recorded material 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 instructor.

COURSE PREREQUISITES AND/OR CO-REQUISITES:

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

TEXTBOOKS/MATERIALS:

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.

Required (available free on-line):

Project Drawdown available at: <https://www.drawdown.org/> .

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> .

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND CODE OF STUDENT BEHAVIOUR

Academic Integrity

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.

Code of Student Behaviour

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, 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.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS/EVALUATION:

Participation

To engage in subject material and demonstrate ongoing learning commitment, students are to write and submit brief weekly reflections of class readings.

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).).

Unless otherwise specified, assignments are due by 11:59 pm local time on the date that they are due. Late assignments will lose 5% of their mark per day that they are late. Assignments are to be submitted to the instructor's email address noted above.

Team project

Students review a "solution" listed on Project Drawdown's website (drawdown.org) and explore its economic dimensions. Graded components include a project concept presentation and a final paper. Teams of two or three will be created and individuals will be graded on individual project components (i.e. individuals are responsible for drafting and presenting one or more report section each). Students are expected to draft 3-4 pages (approximately 250 words/page) and present components of project concept (approximately 10 minutes per person).

Assignments, Quizzes and Exams

There will be one assignment, two quizzes and one comprehensive final exam. The assignment will be due on February 13, 2020. The quizzes will be scheduled during class time on January 21 (Quiz #1) and March 5, 2020 (Quiz #2). The final exam will take place on April 21, 5:30-8:30 PM in Room A2101.

Evaluation

The course grade will be determined as follows:

Assignment	Percent
Participation	20%
Quiz #1	10%
Assignment	5%
Quiz #2	10%
Team Project Concept Presentation (March 10 & 12, 2020)	10%
Team Project Paper (due March 30, 2020)	15%
Final Exam	30%

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

YUKON FIRST NATIONS CORE COMPETENCY:

Yukon College recognizes that a greater understanding and awareness of Yukon First Nations history, culture and journey towards self-determination will help to build positive relationships among all Yukon citizens. As a result, to graduate from ANY Yukon College program, you will be required to achieve core competency in knowledge of Yukon First Nations. For details, please see www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/yfnccr.

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 College Academic Regulations (available on the Yukon College website). It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations. If a student requires an academic accommodation, he/she should contact the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC) at (867) 668-8785 or lassist@yukoncollege.yk.ca.

YUKON COLLEGE LORENE ROBERTSON WRITING CENTRE:

All students are encouraged to make the Writing Centre a regular part of the writing process for coursework. The Writing Centre offers half-hour writing coaching sessions to students of all writing abilities. Coaching sessions are available in person and through distance technologies (e.g., email plus Skype or phone). For further information or to book an appointment, visit the Centre's website: www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/student_info/pages/writing_centre or email writingcentre@yukoncollege.yk.ca.

TOPICS:

- The intersection of economics, human behaviour and the environment
- The 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
- Existence values
- Ecosystem services