Economics 4230-001: The Economics of Ecology  
Fall Semester 2012  
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:00 PM – 2:25 PM  
FCB 257  
CRN 92725

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Office Hours: Wednesdays, 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm or by appointment

Text: The Economics of Ecology  
Daly and Farley  
2nd Edition  

Prerequisite:  
Economics 2020 (Introduction to Microeconomics) or equivalent with a final grade of C or better

courseware  
Course information, such as the syllabus, homework assignments, review sheets, and test grades will be available via courseware. If you have problems accessing courseware, let me know and I will see what I can do.

Course Description:  
Ecological economics examines the market system of resource allocation in the larger context of the natural world and ecological system. Rather than assuming, as does neoclassical economics, that the market exists in an open world free of natural resource constraints and concerns about the ecosystem, ecological economics begins with a closed world in which there are limits on the sustainable size of the market. The concept of sustainability will be discussed at length, and students will gain a greater appreciation not just of the market and how it works, but also the natural world in which the market exists. Particular attention is paid to questions of international development and sustainability in other countries. The course is writing-intensive and involves written exams, homework assignments, and a term paper.

Grading/Make-up Policy:  
The grading scale is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90 - 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80 - 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70 - 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60 - 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt; 60</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

I will of course round up to the nearest whole number when assigning grades, such that an 89.5 is an A, 79.5 a B, and so on. There might or might not be a curve, but that depends on the final averages and grades. I am hesitant to commit to one now, but I am open to that possibility as the semester progresses.

In general though, I do not grade on a curve. It is entirely possible that two students could end the semester with the same final average, but due to extra effort made inside or outside of class (i.e. participating in class discussions, attending office hours, regular attendance, and so on), one of those students might receive the benefit of a curved final grade, while the other may not. Effort counts, and that more than anything else will determine whether or not an individual student will receive a curved grade. Curves are thus determined on an individual and not class-wide basis.
Attendance Policy
Attendance will be taken daily but does not factor directly into your grade. However, attending class regularly is important and will ultimately affect your final grade. If you miss class, you are responsible for finding out what you missed. Note that some opportunities to earn extra points will require your presence in class – missed opportunities for extra points cannot be made up.

I do expect you to be here on time. Lateness is strongly discouraged.

Classroom Decorum
In the interest of promoting a classroom environment that is conducive to learning, you must turn off your cell phones and pagers before entering the room. Additionally, there will be no eating in class, unnecessary exits, excessive talking, or disruptive behavior.

Exams, Homework Assignments, and the Final
There will be three midterm exams and a final. The final will be comprehensive and is mandatory – it cannot be dropped or avoided.

The midterm exams will be a combination of definitions, short-answer questions, and essays. Review sessions in class will be scheduled, time permitting. The tests should take approximately one hour. You can drop your lowest midterm exam score.

Because you can drop your lowest midterm exam score, there will be no make-up exams. If you know in advance that you will be out of town on the day of an exam, let me know and I will schedule an alternate time for you to take the test.

There will also be approximately five homework assignments. The assignments will consist of questions from the text or other sources. You will be given 5-7 days to complete each assignment. The assignments will be issued as the material dictates. All assignments taken together will account for 10% of your final grade.

Finally, you’ll be required to write a 10 – 12 page term paper this semester. The paper topic will be chosen from a list of suggested topics I’ll post on ecourseware in the coming weeks. The final draft is due on the last day of class, Tuesday, 4 December. No late papers will be accepted under any circumstances. This assignment is worth 10% of your final grade.

The tests and other assignments are weighted as follows in determining your final grade:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams One, Two and Three</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework Assignments</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term Paper</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course Schedule
Following is an approximate schedule for the semester. The schedule is subject to revision as necessary. The exam dates listed are not likely to change, only the material covered on each day or on each exam. (Note that if there is no chapter listed for a particular day, this does not mean that there will be no class that day, just that what we cover that day is undetermined as of the beginning of the semester.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Meeting</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Material Covered/Text Chapters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>28-Aug</td>
<td>Introduction and Overview, Ch. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>30-Aug</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>4-Sep</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>6-Sep</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>11-Sep</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Final Exam: Thursday, 13 December, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Notes
1. Any inquiries about grades sent via email must be sent from your University of Memphis email account. I cannot respond to questions about grades sent from any other email service.
2. Incompletes will only be given to students who are passing the course, and even then, only in very special circumstances. In the case where an incomplete is awarded, it must be removed within 45 days of the end of the term that the student received the incomplete or it will automatically turn into an F.
3. The midpoint of this term is Friday, 19 October 2012. A student who withdraws after the first two weeks of class but before the midpoint of the term is assigned a grade of "W" and will receive no refund on payments. There are no drops allowed after the midpoint. The last day to drop this class and receive a refund is Friday, 7 September 2012.
4. Expectations for academic integrity and student conduct are described in detail on the website of the Office of Student Judicial and Ethical Affairs. Please take a look, in particular, at the sections about “Academic Dishonesty,” “Code of Rights and Responsibilities,” and “Examples of Disruptive Behaviors.” I expect students to be aware of these guidelines and to conduct themselves accordingly. Any incidents of academic dishonesty (i.e. cheating on a test, plagiarizing, etc.) will result in a final grade of “F” for the course.
5. Any student who might need class or exam accommodations based on a disability is encouraged to talk to me privately to discuss needs. Students with disabilities should contact Student Disability Services (SDS) at 110 Wilder Tower, (901) 678-2880. SDS coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.
6. Unless required by the University to do so, as when completing official paperwork, do not write your SSN, in whole or in part, on any exam, assignment, or other work you complete for this class. As required by University policy, I retain all uncollected papers and exams for one year after the semester is over. Then I take the papers and have them recycled. (I personally shred any official University paperwork collected over the course of the semester, but nothing else.) In order to reduce the likelihood of having your identity stolen, be very cautious with your SSN.
7. This course syllabus provides a general plan for the semester; deviations might be necessary.