



**EC/ENV 315-01-1  
Environmental Economics  
Fall 2020  
Course Syllabus**

**Instructor:** Dr. Guanlin Gao  
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(Email is the best way to reach me.)  
**Phone:** (808) 739-4609  
**Office:** Kieffer Hall Room 22

**Class meets:** Monday 3:00 PM - 6:20 PM  
at Kieffer Hall Room 10. Online classes  
will be delivered asynchronously on  
Canvas.  
**Office Hours:** By appointment only for  
Fall 2020.

**Course description:** This course focuses on natural resource economics and environmental issues. Topics include air and water pollution, toxic waste, deforestation, soil erosion, biodiversity, global warming and sustainable development. The course provides students the opportunity to develop skills in applying economic tools to understand and evaluate current environmental issues and their consequences.

**Prerequisites:** EC 202 or ENV 201/ ENV 201L.

**Reference books:** (1) Barry Field & Martha Field, Environmental Economics: An Introduction, 7th edition. McGraw-Hill Education, 2016. ISBN 978-0-07-802189-3 (6th edition acceptable). (2) Scott Callan & Janet Thomas, Environmental Economics & Management: Theory, Policy, and Applications, 6th edition. Cengage, 2013. ISBN 978-1-111-82667-3 (5th edition acceptable). (3) Tom Tietenberg and Lynne Lewis. Environmental and Natural Resource Economics, 10th edition, 2014. Pearson Addison Wesley. ISBN 978-0-13-347969-0. (4) Journal articles and other supplemental reading materials will be posted on the Canvas course website. You are expected to complete the reading assignments ahead of each class.

**Course objectives:** By the end of the course, you will be able to

- describe the economic aspects of natural resource and environmental issues
- understand the economic justification for regulatory action in allocating, managing, and protecting the environment and natural resources
- apply analytical tools (rhetorical, graphical, and mathematical) to describe natural resource and environmental issues
- evaluate various solutions to natural resource and environmental problems
- apply the economic way of thinking to a wide range of social issues

**Course delivery:** This course will be delivered asynchronously online via Canvas until the University decides it is safe to return to face-to-face instruction.

1. **Online classes:** You are responsible for completing the weekly course modules

on Canvas at <https://chaminade.instructure.com/courses/12732>. All course materials including slides, videos, announcements, assignments, and exams are available in these modules. Missing announcements or emails are not valid reasons for not completing any course requirements.

- 2. Hybrid classes:** The class will transit into a hybrid format when it is safe to return to campus. You will either attend class face-to-face on Mondays or Wednesdays and join the rest of the class online synchronously or asynchronously outside your selected days. I will provide more information on how this will be done in a one-on-one consultation with you.

**Communication:** Since we do not see each other as often as we normally would in a regular semester, staying communicated with the instructor and your peers are highly important for your success in this course at this particular time. Remember, nobody is an isolated island. If you have any questions regarding the class material or the course plan, please do not hesitate to contact me. You can reach me by email or schedule a Zoom meeting with me.

- 1. Email:** When emailing me, please include your name and class information so I know which class you are in. Make sure you use your Chaminade student email so your email will not be filtered by the system. Please expect a reply within 24 hours on weekdays and 48 hours on weekends.
- 2. Zoom meetings:** You can email me to schedule a Zoom meeting and use this link <https://chaminade.zoom.us/j/7126167636> to join. Or you can join Zoom by calling (312) 626-6799 and enter the Zoom meeting ID: 712 616 7636.

**Grading Policies:** Your grade is composed of the following three items:

- **Quizzes and discussions:** 20 points each \* 10 quizzes = 200 points  
You have one quiz or discussion due on Canvas every week, except for the first week of school and in the weeks with a major assignment due. All quizzes are due every Monday at 11:59 pm unless announced differently. You have two attempts for each quiz, and only the highest score will be recorded. Group work is strongly encouraged on these weekly quizzes. You are also encouraged to comment on each other's discussion posts.
- **Field classes:** 100 points each\* 2 required attendance = 200 points  
We will have four field classes this semester. Depending on how the COVID-19 situation evolves, we may physically visit these green businesses, including Tour de Trash, PVT Land Company LTD, The Honolulu Board of Water Supply Waihee Tunnel Tour, and Ka Papa Lo'i O Kānewai, or have virtual tours of these businesses if social distancing is still required. More details on the date and time of these visits and address codes will be provided ahead of time before our visit during the semester.

You are expected to attend at least two out of the four field classes. If you cannot attend these field classes, you will be given an alternative assignment to make up for the grade.

- **Group Report and Presentation:** 200 points

Select a green business we have visited this semester, write and present your business report in a group of 3-4 people. This report should briefly describe the nature of the business, identify the economic environment, and analyze the current and future challenges and opportunities faced by the business. This report should also discuss the relationship between the business profit and social responsibility of the business and provide advice for the business and policymakers.

You are expected to do a group presentation on your report, including a 15-minute presentation and a 5-minute Q&A. More details about the time schedule and grading rubrics will be posted on Canvas.

### Grading Scales:

Total Points	Letter Grade
$\geq 540$	A
480 - 539	B
420 - 479	C
360 - 419	D
$\leq 359$	F

**Course Policies:** You are expected to use common sense, practice respect and aloha, and act in a professional manner in this class. Please treat others how you want to be treated.

### Course Schedule

Week		Topic
1	8/24-8/30	Class orientation and individual consultation
2	8/31-9/6	Principles of economics
3	9/7-9/13	The market economy
4	9/14--9/20	Public goods and common pool resources
5	9/21--9/27	Field class 1
6	9/28-10/4	Natural resources
7	10/5-10/11	Field class 2
8	10/12-10/18	Externalities
9	10/19-10/25	Field class 3
10	10/26-11/1	Environmental issues
11	11/2-11/8	Field class 4
12	11/9-11/15	The past: greedy business
13	11/16-11-22	The future: green business

*Note: This course schedule provides a general plan. Deviations may be necessary.*

## Technical Assistance for Canvas Users:

- Search for help on specific topics or get tips in [Canvas Students](#)
- [Live chat with Canvas Support for students](#)
- Canvas Support Hotline for students: +1-833-209-6111
- Watch this [video to get you started](#)
- [Online tutorials](#): click on “Students” role to access tutorials
- Contact the Chaminade IT Helpdesk for technical issues: [helpdesk@chaminade.edu](mailto:helpdesk@chaminade.edu) or call (808) 735-4855

## Tutoring and Writing Services

Chaminade is proud to offer free, one-on-one tutoring and writing assistance to all students. Tutoring and writing help is available on campus at Kōkua ‘Ike: Center for Student Learning in a variety of subjects (including, but are not limited to: biology, chemistry, math, nursing, English, etc.) from trained Peer and Professional Tutors. Please check Kōkua ‘Ike’s website at <https://chaminade.edu/advising/kokua-ike/> for the latest times, list of drop-in hours, and information on scheduling an appointment. Free online tutoring is also available via Smarthinking. Smarthinking can be accessed 24/7 from your Canvas account. Simply click Account – Notifications – Smarthinking. For more information, please contact Kōkua ‘Ike at [tutoring@chaminade.edu](mailto:tutoring@chaminade.edu) or (808) 739-8305.

## University Policies:

### Marianist Values:

1. Educate for Formation in Faith
2. Provide an Integral Quality Education
3. Educate in Family Spirit
4. Educate for Service, Justice, and Peace
5. Educate for Adaptation and Change

### WASC Core Competencies:

1. Written Communication
2. Oral Communication
3. Quantitative reasoning
4. Critical Thinking
5. Information Literacy

**Academic Honesty Statement:** Violations of the Honor Code are serious. They harm other students, your professor, and the integrity of the University. Alleged violations will be referred to the Office of Judicial Affairs. If found guilty of plagiarism, a student might receive a range of penalties, including failure of an assignment, failure of an assignment and withholding of the final course grade until a paper is turned in on the topic of plagiarism, failure of the course, or suspension from the University.

Violations of Academic Integrity: Violations of the principle include, but are not limited to:

- Cheating: Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, notes, study aids, or other devices in any academic exercise.

- Fabrication and Falsification: Intentional and unauthorized alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. Falsification is a matter of inventing or counterfeiting information for use in any academic exercise.
- Multiple Submissions: The submission of substantial portions of the same academic work for credit (including oral reports) more than once without authorization.
- Plagiarism: Intentionally or knowingly presenting the work of another as one's own (i.e., without proper acknowledgment of the source).
- Abuse of Academic Materials: Intentionally or knowingly destroying, stealing, or making inaccessible library or other academic resource materials.
- Complicity in Academic Dishonesty: Intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of academic dishonesty.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:

- Copying or borrowing liberally from someone else's work without his/her knowledge or permission; or with his/her knowledge or permission and turning it in as your own work.
- Copying of someone else's exam or paper.
- Allowing someone to turn in your work as his or her own.
- Not providing adequate references for cited work.
- Copying and pasting large quotes or passages without properly citing them.

## **Disability Access**

If you need individual accommodations to meet course outcomes because of a documented disability, please speak with me to discuss your needs as soon as possible so that we can ensure your full participation in class and fair assessment of your work. Students with special needs who meet criteria for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) provisions must provide written documentation of the need for accommodations from the Counseling Center by the end of week three of the class, in order for instructors to plan accordingly. If a student would like to determine if they meet the criteria for accommodations, they should contact the Kōkua 'Ike Coordinator at [ada@chaminade.edu](mailto:ada@chaminade.edu) or (808) 739-8305 for further information.

## **Title IX Compliance**

Chaminade University of Honolulu recognizes the inherent dignity of all individuals and promotes respect for all people. Sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse will NOT be tolerated at CUH. If you have been the victim of sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse, we encourage you to report this matter promptly. As a faculty member, I am interested in promoting a safe and healthy environment, and should I learn of any sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse, I must report the matter to the Title IX Coordinator. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources by visiting Campus Ministry, the Dean of Students Office, the Counseling Center, or the Office for Compliance and Personnel Services.