



STUDY GUIDE

ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS AND POLICY

Organised by

University of Catania





1. IDENTIFYING DATA.

• Course Name.	<i>Environmental Economics and Policy 9796122</i>
• Coordinating University.	<i>University of Catania</i>
• Partner Universities Involved.	
• Course Field(s).	<i>Economics</i>
• Related Study Programme.	<i>Economics</i>
• ISCED Code.	<i>0311</i>
• SDG.	<i>SDG 15 Life on land</i>
• Study Level.	<i>Third year Bachelor degree</i>

• Number of ECTS credits allocated.	<i>6</i>
• Mode of Delivery.	<i>Online live</i>
• Language of Instruction.	<i>English</i>
• Course Dates.	<i>From 01/10/2024 to 23/12/2024</i>
• Schedule of the course.	<i>Total duration: 42 hours. Periodicity: 4 hours/ week</i>
• Key Words.	<i>Sustainability, Externalities, Policy Tools, Climate Change</i>
• Catchy Phrase.	<i>Discover the power of economics in shaping a greener tomorrow - your journey starts here!</i>

• Prerequisites and co-requisites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Although not compulsory a background in microeconomics is desirable.</i> - <i>The study levels this course is available for Bachelor;</i> - <i>Required linguistic skills: B2 level of English</i>
• Number of EUNICE students that can attend the Course.	
• Course inscription procedure(s).	<i>EUNICE website</i>

2. CONTACT DETAILS.

• Department.	<i>Department of economics and business</i>
• Name of Lecturer.	<i>Lea Nicita</i>
• E-mail.	<i>lea.nicita@unict.it</i>
• Other Lecturers.	





3. COURSE CONTENT.

The course is designed to introduce students to the origins of the sustainability problem, the foundations of environmental economics and the formation of environmental policy. Students will learn concepts related to market failures for environmental goods and the tools of economic policy to address them. Approaches for measuring economic value for the environment and cost-benefit analysis will be also presented. The course covers recent and current applications.

4. LEARNING OUTCOMES.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING AND THEIR APPLICATION: At the end of the course, students will have a comprehensive understanding of the sustainability issues from an economic perspective. They will be able to apply insights from the economic theory to evaluate environmental problems and to assess the fundamental economic tools for environmental policy analysis and management.

MAKING JUDGEMENTS: The course will foster the comprehension of complex problems related to modern environmental problem. Learning outcomes from the course can be used to assess critically specific environmental policy areas such as climate change.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS: Students will receive intensive training to improve both written and oral communication skills.

LEARNING SKILLS: By the end of this course, students will be able to express an informed view on the role, contribution, and limitations of economic tools in providing policy guidance on environmental issues.

5. OBJECTIVES.

1. Understanding the concept of sustainability and its implications for economic decision-making.
2. Understanding the fundamental principles of environmental economics.
3. Analyzing the economic drivers of environmental issues.
4. Examining the role of market failures in environmental degradation.
5. Applying economic tools and models to analyze environmental issues and policy solutions.
6. Evaluating the effectiveness of policy instruments in addressing environmental challenges.
7. Assessing the costs and benefits of environmental regulation and policies.

6. COURSE ORGANISATION.

UNITS

1. Overview of environmental economics



	The origins of the sustainability problem
2.	Markets and environmental externalities Common property and Public goods
3.	Valuing the environment Benefit-Cost Analysis Environmental policy analysis
4.	Policies for Sustainable Development Global climate change Population and the environment Agriculture food and the environment Biodiversity conservation
LEARNING RESOURCES AND TOOLS.	
<i>Microsoft Teams platforms, virtual classroom activities, e-learning (Eunice Moodle).</i>	
PLANNED LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND TEACHING METHODS.	
<i>Lectures</i>	

7. ASSESSMENT METHODS, CRITERIA AND PERIOD.

Grade will be determined by three different factors.
Exams (one mid-term and one final) 70%
Assignment 15%
Class participation 15%

OBSERVATIONS.

8. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND TEACHING MATERIALS.

Environmental and Natural Resource Economics: A Contemporary Approach, Fifth Edition by Jonathan M. Harris and Brian Roch, Routledge (2022)
Environmental economics: an introduction, Eight edition by Barry C. Field, Martha K. Field, McGraw Hill (2021)
Lecture notes