

Ec 101 Selected Topics course, 9 units (3-0-6); third term. Prerequisite is Ec 11. Taught by Laura Taylor.

*This is an introductory course in environmental economics, with a focus on understanding how economists, governments and businesses approach environmental policy-making and analysis. The course will also introduce examples of applied methods for empirically analyzing environmental questions from an economic perspective. We will begin by introducing the tools that economists use to value goods that are not typically traded in markets, such as clean air and water, biodiversity, and endangered species, amongst others. We will then learn how societies and policy makers make decisions about inherent tradeoffs between these goods and development, and the uses of renewable and non-renewable resources. The course will then present practical, applied methods for empirically studying both big and small questions about environmental management and policy implementation, including the frontier of where applied economic science meets technological advances in data collection and use. Included are principles of environmental and resource economics. Instructor: Taylor*