Module Specification

Environmental Economics

Version: 2023-24, v2.0, 25 Jan 2023

Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: Environmental Economics

Module code: UBGMJQ-15-2

Level: Level 5

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

Faculty: Faculty of Environment & Technology

Department: FET Dept of Geography & Envrnmental Mgmt

Partner institutions: None

Delivery locations: Frenchay Campus, Global College of Engineering and Technology (GCET)

Field: Geography and Environmental Management

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: Environmental economics is about how economic activity may affect the environment in which we live through processes of valuation, transaction and industrial transformation.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: This module provides you with theoretical and methodological tools that allow you to apply principles of economics to study how natural resources can be managed to better achieve policy outcomes. Contemporary environmental problems, such as climate change, sustainable development and transboundary pollution are discussed using the concepts introduced in the first part of the module.

Outline syllabus: The module will introduce key concepts from environmental economics: markets; market failures; government regulation; cost-benefit analysis; and will encourage debate over whether the environment represents capital or an asset. It considers strategic interactions, such as Coase theorem; tragedy of the commons; transactions costs and institutions. The module will consider thoughts and practices surrounding the valuing of the environment and will consider, as a result, welfare and public goods economics; efficiency and optimality in allocation; approaches to environmental evaluation; environmental ethics; and sustainable development. Consideration will be given environmental policy instruments and implementation, building upon knowledge developed at level one. In doing so, focus will be directed to common and control policies in different areas, such as water; policy design and implementation; biodiversity; and trade. The application of environmental economics will be aligned to the following domains: water; tropical deforestation and poverty; preservation and conservation; climate change; carbon trading; and international co-operation.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: See Educational Aims and Assessment.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Apply fundamental concepts, such as market failure, household behaviour, transaction costs and willingness to pay to the study of environmental economics

MO2 Understand key concepts used by environmental economists, and political scientists

MO3 Apply the main tools used to value environmental goods and services

MO4 Use economic arguments to discuss environmental policy proposals

MO5 Understand the interdisciplinary nature of environmental economics

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 114 hours

Face-to-face learning = 36 hours

Total = 150

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Exam - seen examination to help reinforce research and critical writing skills. Questions will be provided in advance of the examination to allow focused research and revision. Questions will be structured in a way that will require students to refer to ideas and reading across the broader module. Guidance and feedback on exam techniques will be provided in advance of the assessment, including discussions over how to approach mock questions.

Resit Exam - a similar brief to that described above, which may include some topic changes.

Assessment components:

Examination (First Sit)
Description: Seen Exam (2 Hours)
Weighting: 100 %
Final assessment: Yes
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Examination (Resit)

Description: Seen Exam (2 Hours)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Environmental Management and Practice {Foundation} [Feb][FT][GCET][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Environmental Management and Practice {Foundation} [Oct][FT][GCET][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22