

EXPECTATIONS AND READINGS

CLASS PARTICIPATION: You are expected to attend every class, and to take part in discussions and class exercises throughout the semester. Your participation grade will be based on your attendance, on your active contributions to class discussion (raising questions – and alternative points of view – in a way that is respectful to everyone in the class), and on your presentation of your benefit-cost analysis (See WRITING ASSIGNMENTS).

REQUIRED READING:

Boardman, Greenberg, Vining and Weimer, **Cost-Benefit Analysis: Concepts and Practice**, second edition, Prentice-Hall, 2001. Ordered through the PSU bookstore.

Another book is provided by all taxpayers (at no additional charge to you), and will be distributed during the first class:

EPA, **Guidelines for Preparing Economic Analysis**. This is also available at <http://yosemite.epa.gov/ee/epa/eed.nsf/webpages/Guidelines.html>

The third required “book” is available only through the internet: EPA, **A Framework for the Economic Assessment of Ecological Benefits**, 2002. <http://epa.gov/osa/spc/htm/feaeb3.pdf> It is 175 pages long. You are welcome to print part or all of it, or just use it on a computer. (My printout has a few glitches with figures over text, but I like to make margin notes.) The Schedule and Reading Assignments list shows that we shall use most of this book. Both of these documents can be reached through <http://epa.gov/osa/spc/htm/eaeb.htm>

Another useful resource: <http://ecosystemvaluation.org/>

Additional readings are in the Reserve Reading Room of Pattee Library; the “Schedule and Reading Assignment” indicates which are required and many that are optional (called “supplemental.” These may be helpful for your writing assignments.). To find the list of materials, go to <http://www.lias.psu.edu/> and click on the ‘Course Reserves’ button at the top of the screen. In Step 1 (Enter Search Terms), enter Fisher and click on ‘Instructor’ as the search type. Then click on Fisher, Ann. This brings up the list of reserve items. You can get some of them by clicking on the detail button next to the reference and then selecting the Electronic Access link. Most of these readings are also in Room 112 Armsby, the office of my staff assistant, Rose Ann Alters (Hours: M-F; 7:30-4PM). You may ask her where the readings for AG EC 431W are located, sign out the copy you are taking and bring it back **within 2 hours**. Overnight checkouts may be made after 3:30PM and must be returned no later than 9:00AM the following business day. You may make a copy for your own use or read the copy provided and take notes on your reading. Of course, you may purchase any of the supplemental books through web-browsers or a bookstore. A few additional readings may be assigned as the semester unfolds.

This is a writing intensive course, so you will be coached and evaluated on your ability to present economic analysis in writing. It will help to have the following when preparing written assignments: (1) a good dictionary and (2) a grammar and style reference book. Choose any book that you like; you probably have one from an English or previous writing intensive course. If not, consult with other students, bookstore staff or the staff of the Writing Center, 219 Boucke Bldg. for suggestions. An excellent on-line source of grammar information is www.bartleby.com/141/; William Strunk, Jr., *The Elements of Style* -- an old, but good, book. You can find MANY on-line sources (some good, some ???) using the Search engines on the PSU web page.

ADDITIONAL READINGS : Many of these are optional and provide background for the class. They are available in 112 Armsby, in the Reserve Readings at Pattee Library, or online. I recommend that they be read early in the semester.

Ready, R., “Review of Economic Theory,” <http://www.personal.psu.edu/faculty/r/c/rcr10/429home.html> – this is a good review of ECON 302.

Anderson and Settle, **Benefit-cost Analysis**, Ch. 1-2.

Barbour, I.G., **Technology, Environment and Human Values**, Ch. 2-5, 6, 9. (general)

Lester, J.P. (ed.), **Environmental Politics and Policy**, Ch. 1-3. (general)

Hanley, Nick, Jason Shogren, and Ben White, **Introduction to Environmental Economics. (HSW)**

Hanley, Nick, and Clive L. Spash, 1993. **Cost-Benefit Analysis and the Environment**, Edward Elgar.

Krutilla and Fisher, **The Economics of Natural Environments**, Ch. 3-4.

Office of Management and Budget (OMB), **Circular A-4**, September 17, 2003. Available at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a004/a-4.pdf>

Pearce, David W., **Economic Values and the Natural World**, MIT Press.

Portney, Paul, ed., 1990, **Public Policies for Environmental Protection**.

Russell, Clifford S. 2001. **Applying Economics to the Environment**, Oxford.

Tietenberg, Tom. 2000. **Environmental Economics and Policy**, 3rd Edition. Boston: Addison Wesley (earlier editions will do), or

Tietenberg, Tom, 2000, **Environmental and Natural Resource Economics**, 5th Edition, Reading, Mass: Addison Wesley (earlier editions will do).

The above references are mostly about economics. For more on how to identify and measure ecological change (for input to BCA), read chapters 3 and 4 in the **Framework** report.

OTHER EXPECTATIONS: If you miss a test, a written excuse must be approved by me before a make-up test will be administered. Please note that the University has a filing period (Oct. 4-17) during which you can declare final exam conflicts. If you have questions about course requirements, procedures, or content, please ask; I want this to be a useful learning experience!

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: All course participants are expected to adhere to the University's Academic Integrity Policy <http://www.psu.edu/dept/ufs/policies/47-00.html#49-20>. For:

Written Assignments: You are encouraged to work together on written assignments, but the work you turn in must be your own. For example, several of you can work together on a problem or topic, but each of you must then write out the assignment by yourself -- no copying and no sharing of write-up computer files. As indicated in the WRITING ASSIGNMENTS handout, you are encouraged to consult a range of sources for your assignments. However, you are expected to provide references to the sources you use, and explicit citation when you quote another source.

Tests: While taking a test, you are not permitted to use notes, books, cheat sheets, or to copy someone else's answers (or allow anyone to copy yours). Do not plagiarize: Copying someone else's paper or buying a paper -- or even failing to site a reference from which you took ideas or quotes -- is cheating and will be handled according to University policies.