

# ECON\*2100 Economic Growth and Environmental Quality F 2014

## 0.5 Credit

### General Course Information

**Instructor:** Ross McKitrick

*Email* ross.mckitrick@uoguelph.ca  
*Office Location* MacKinnon 730  
*Web Page* <http://www.uoguelph.ca/~rmckitri/ross.html>  
*Office Hours* Wednesday 11 AM  
*Department/School* Economics and Finance

**TAs** ...

*Email* ...  
*Office Location* ...  
*Office Hours* ...  
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**Class Schedule:** Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning, 9:30 – 10:30 AM, MACK115

**FINAL EXAM:** Wednesday December 3, 2:30-4:30 PM.

**Pre-requisites:** ECON\*1050 or FARE\*1040

**Co-requisites:** ...

### Course Description

This course examines the implications of economic growth on the quality of the environment, employing the basic principles of economic analysis.

### Indicative Content

This course examines the process of economic development from a global perspective and focuses on its interaction with the environment. We will examine the historical record of economic development around the world, pollution emissions, resource depletion and other such indicators. We will examine questions such as: is economic growth bad for the environment? Why are some countries rich and others poor? Are we running out of resources? What does “sustainability” mean? And what kinds of policies can help us best manage the relationship between the environment and the economy?

Assignments and class work will focus on giving you practice at accessing useful data sources, using economic theory to work through issues in a systematic way, and entering constructively into debates on important topics.

## Course Assessment

			<b>Associated Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Due Date/ location</b>
<b>Assessment 1:</b>	15%	This will be distributed via Course Link in the first week of the course. You will access and use data from a variety of sources to prepare a set of graphs describing the historical and contemporary progress of economic development and environmental change.	<b>SKILLS</b> -Written Communication -Numerical Problem Solving -Analytical Problem Solving -Problem Solving in a Real World Context -Computer skills <b>KNOWLEDGE</b> - Historical and Global context	Sept. 29 in class
<b>Assessment 2:</b>	15%	This will be distributed via Course Link partway through the course. You will write a short essay on a given topic.	<b>SKILLS</b> -Written Communication -Analytical Problem Solving -Problem Solving in a Real World Context <b>KNOWLEDGE</b> - Microeconomic Modeling - Economic Policy and Regulation	Oct 27 in class
<b>Assessment 3:</b>	20%	This will be distributed via Course Link partway through the course. You may work alone or in pairs. You will write a report on an Ontario community assessing how its air and water quality has changed as it has grown.	<b>SKILLS</b> -Written Communication -Numerical Problem Solving -Analytical Problem Solving -Problem Solving in a Real World Context -Computer skills -Group Work <b>KNOWLEDGE</b> - Historical and Global context	Nov 24 in class
<b>MidTerm:</b>	10%			Oct 15 in class
<b>Final:</b>	40%			
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>			

## Course Sequence

	TOPIC	TITLE	READINGS
<b>Lectures</b>	1	Economic Growth: Historical trends	See Courselink
	2	Theories of Growth	See Courselink
	3	Resources and Environment	See Courselink
	4	Microeconomics, Efficiency	F-3, F-4
	5	Damages, Cost-Benefit Analysis	F-5, F-6
	6	Measuring Benefits & Costs	F-7, F-8
	7	Policy evaluation; Standards	F-9, F-11
	8	Taxes and Tradable Permits	F-12, F-13
	9	Climate Change: Science	See Courselink
	10	Climate Change: Policy	See Courselink

Note: 'F' = Field and Olewiler Text.

## Course Resources

### Required Texts:

You need to obtain a copy of *Environmental Economics* by Barry Field and Nancy Olewiler. You also need to obtain the course reading package from the bookstore. The rest of the material you need will consist of data sets and readings available on the internet.

### Recommended Texts:

### Other Resources:

You are required to consult the Courselink page regularly for this course. Data will be disseminated online, as will some publicly-available readings.

## Course Policies

### Grading Policies

Assignments are due (hard copy only) in class, at the start of class, on the indicated date. Late Assignments must be submitted to the Economics Main Office. Assignments received after class but prior to the end of the same day will receive a 15% penalty. Assignments submitted the following day will receive a 30% penalty. Assignments will not be accepted thereafter and will receive a grade of zero.

### Course Policy on Group Work:

Normally every member of a group will earn the same grade. If a group member believes he or she deserves greater credit than another, information supporting this claim must be presented to me at least a week prior to the due date. If groups are not functioning well please come to see me as early as possible so I can try to help sort out the problems.

### Course Policy regarding use of electronic devices and recording of lectures

You may **not** use Laptops, Ipads, Tablets, Smartphones, Blackberries, Google Glass or any other

electronic device, including recording devices, in class. If you have an electronic device with you when you arrive it must be powered down completely. I realize that some of you like to take notes on your laptops, but pen and paper will have to do. You will not be called upon to do anything in class that requires an electronic device.

## University Policies

### Academic Consideration

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the academic calendar for information on regulations and procedures for

Academic Consideration: <https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/2014-2015/>

### Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community, faculty, staff, and students to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring.

University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection. Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar:

- <http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

All students must sign, date and submit the Agreement Concerning Plagiarism and Academic Misconduct attached to this course outline, before any submitted work will be graded.

### Accessibility

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact the Centre for Students with Disabilities as soon as possible.

For more information, contact CSD at 519-824-4120 ext. 56208 or email [csd@uoguelph.ca](mailto:csd@uoguelph.ca) or see the website: <http://www.csd.uoguelph.ca/csd/>

### Course Evaluation Information

Please refer to: <https://www.uoguelph.ca/economics/course-evaluation>

### Drop date

The last date to drop one-semester courses, without academic penalty, is October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the Academic Calendar:

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/2014-2015/>

## Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successfully completing this course, you will have acquired the following:

<b>Skills</b>	Written Communication	<i>Ability to write about issues relating to the course based on evidence and clear analysis.</i>
	Real world problem-solving	<i>Ability to obtain relevant data, perform simple analyses and construct an argument for valid conclusions.</i>
	Group work	<i>Ability to coordinate effort in pairs or small groups and make an effective contribution.</i>
	Computing skills	<i>Ability to use data and spreadsheet software to compute valid results and presentable graphics.</i>

**Knowledge** Statistical and Econometric Methodology  
Historical and Global Context  
Economic Policy and Regulation

# Agreement Concerning Plagiarism and Academic Misconduct Rules

I hereby acknowledge that I have reviewed Departmental and University policy on Academic Misconduct and plagiarism as outlined at the following links:

- <http://www.uoguelph.ca/economics/node/1115>
- <http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c01/index.shtml>
- <http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

I acknowledge that I may not copy text, images or other material from internet sources, other students, or elsewhere, and present it as my own work. Any amount of text taken word-for-word from another source must either be presented as a quotation and its source acknowledged, or re-written in my own words. Failure to do so constitutes plagiarism and is an Academic Offence.

I acknowledge that rewriting must constitute a comprehensive rephrasing of source material. It is not sufficient merely to make trivial changes while retaining the original wording. For example, comparing the following two sentences:

Academic misconduct is behaviour that erodes the basis of mutual trust on which scholarly exchanges commonly rest, undermines the University's exercise of its responsibility to evaluate students' academic achievements, or restricts the University's ability to accomplish its learning objectives.

Academic misconduct is behaviour that generally erodes the basis of trust on which scholarly exchanges commonly rest. It also undermines the University's exercise of its responsibility to evaluate all students' academic achievements, or it restricts the University's ability to accomplish all of its learning objectives.

the second is a trivial modification of the first. I acknowledge that presenting one's own work after only a trivial modification of the original source is plagiarism.

I further acknowledge that it is the policy of the Department of Economics and Finance that all cases of suspected Academic Misconduct must be referred to the Dean's Office, and that no special arrangements for reduced penalties can be negotiated between faculty and students. It is my responsibility, if I am unsure whether I am in compliance with University rules on plagiarism, to seek advice from the faculty prior to submitting the work in question.

SIGNED:

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Name and student ID (print):

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Date:

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