

## Land Economics

The study of how humans, *within society*, allocate land and the consequences for health, wealth, and environmental quality.

### I. General Information

**Course Title:** Land Economics

**Credit Weight:** 0.5

**Course Code:** FARE\*4290

**Instructor Name:** Brady Deaton

**Academic Department:** Dept. of Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics (FARE), University of Guelph

**Instructor Email:** [bdeaton@uoguelph.ca](mailto:bdeaton@uoguelph.ca) (write "Fare4290" in subject line). I will typically respond within 2 working days.

**Class Format:** Synchronized online and in-class option. Students can access online class through the Zoom links available in the content section of [CourseLink](#).

**Online Class Schedule:** 8:30 – 10 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday. Zoom link available through CourseLink.

**In-Class Schedule:** 8:30 – 10 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday, Thornborough Rm. 1307. In-class Students are encouraged to bring computer and log on to zoom. This will facilitate discussion between all students in the zoom break out rooms.

The live-stream classes will not be recorded. Students are encouraged to identify other students with whom to share class notes in the event that they miss class. I will facilitate the building of relationships between students throughout the course.

**Virtual office hours on Zoom:** Friday from 1 p.m. to 2.p.m. or by appointment. Students will be able to attend regular office hours on Zoom via a link made available on CourseLink. If you make a separate appointment, I will provide you a zoom link for that meeting.

### II. Required Text & Readings

**Required Book:** De Soto, H. 2000. *The Mystery of Capital: Why Capitalism Triumphs in the West and Fails Everywhere Else*. New York: Basic Books.

*This book will be discussed on October 6th.* Print copies are available at the University Bookstore. Kindle version is available through [amazon.ca](http://amazon.ca) (ebook).

**Required Course Readings:** Most of the required readings involve journal articles. These will be made available on CourseLink by author last name. Additional readings may be assigned throughout the course.

**Other Resources:**

Faretalk podcasts: <https://www.uoguelph.ca/fare/institute/podcasts>

CourseLink: <https://courselink.uoguelph.ca/shared/login/login.html>

Library Resources: <https://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/>

**III. Learning Outcomes**

**General Learning Outcomes:** Information Literacy, Quantitative Literacy, Global Understanding, Written Communication, Reading Comprehension, Intellectual Independence

**Specific Learning Outcomes:**

The course is designed to develop your capacity to:

- (1) Apply key economic concepts to land use issues;
- (2) Understand key institutions and organizations that influence land use;
- (3) Apply economic theory and empirical methods to examine contemporary land use issues internationally and in Canada.

**IV. Student Assessments:**

Assessment	Due Dates	Contribution to Final Mark (%)	Learning Outcomes Assessed
Class Assignments	Throughout semester: (1) Calculus of the Anticommons (2) Aboriginal law (3) Hedonic Regression (4) TBD	20%	Information Literacy Quantitative Literacy
Reading Reviews (RR)	Due prior to the start of class on the date the reading is scheduled to be discussed.	30%	Reading Comprehension Global Understanding Writing Quality
Midterm	October 27 8:30-10:30 a.m. <i>Online on CourseLink</i>	20%	Information Literacy Quantitative Literacy Reading Comprehension
Final Exam	December 8 8:30-10:30 a.m. <i>Online on CourseLink</i>	30%	Information Literacy Quantitative Literacy Reading Comprehension Intellectual Independence

### Class Assignments 20%

There will be 4 assignments given throughout the course. These assignments will be posted on CourseLink, and due dates will be specified there. My primary goal in providing you with these class assignments is to support your efforts to engage in the quantitative and legal elements of this course.

### Critical Reading Reviews (RR) (30%)

Throughout the semester you must write a critical review of three readings/articles in the course. These reviews will need to be turned in to me on the CourseLink drop box **prior** to the class when the article is scheduled to be discussed.

You have the option to turn in as many as 4 reviews. However, I will only use the 3 highest grades. Not all assigned readings are eligible for Reading Reviews. Those that are eligible are marked **RR** in the course calendar.

Reading reviews will be graded on writing quality, style, content and creativity. A general guide to the way I will assess all writing assignments is available on CourseLink in the 'Content' folder, under the keyword 'Assessment.'

These assignments are typically between 3-5 double-spaced pages. Some helpful ideas for developing a general critical review can be found here:

<https://writing.wisc.edu/handbook/assignments/crinonfiction/>

Below are some examples of high quality critical reviews. All of these draw on some of the more general ideas identified in the link above:

- <https://www.westga.edu/~kielborn/studentexample.html>
- Deaton, B. James. 2014. Capital in the twenty-first century. *Journal of Economic Issues* 48 (3): 887-889. (This article is available on CourseLink: Deaton, 2014 "Capital...".)

### Exams (50%: Midterm 20% and Final 30%)

The primary focus of each exam is to assess comprehension of the material covered in the readings, class presentations, and quantitative assignments. Exam questions may address all course materials: e.g., assigned readings, in-class lectures, handouts, and discussions. Exams will include a combination of question formats including short response, multiple choice, definitions, and longer essay questions. The final exam is cumulative.

**V. Class Schedule:**

Date	Subject	Reading/Audio/Video (Author's Last Name)
<b>Property &amp; Economic Rent</b>		
<b>September 10</b>	Introduction to Course, Professor, and Syllabus	<p><u>Introduction to Professor:</u></p> <p>My early experiences in community organizing:  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GOK7viece9QU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GOK7viece9QU</a></p> <p>My commencement Speech: B. Deaton  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VIGK62gl7EU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VIGK62gl7EU</a></p> <p>My presidential address to the Canadian Agricultural Economics Society (CAES):            Deaton, B. "Agricultural Economics: Key Commitments and institutional alertness."  <a href="https://onlinelibrary-wiley-com.subzero.lib.uoguelph.ca/doi/full/10.1111/ciag.12192">https://onlinelibrary-wiley-com.subzero.lib.uoguelph.ca/doi/full/10.1111/ciag.12192</a></p> <p>Note: The above link requires you are "signed in" through your UofG account. I have made this available on CourseLink as well.</p>
<b>September 15</b>	Land & Property Rights	<p><b><u>RR1:</u></b> <i>Alchian &amp; Demsetz</i></p> <p>Listen to Faretalk Podcast: <i>The Economic Consequences of Farmland Policy on Farmland Values in Saskatchewan.</i>  <a href="https://www.uoguelph.ca/fare/institute/podcasts#consequences">https://www.uoguelph.ca/fare/institute/podcasts#consequences</a></p>
<b>September 17</b>	Coase Theorem & Transaction Costs	<p><u>Coase Theorem</u></p> <p>I will review the general issue of externalities and the Coase theorem in class today. Chapter 2 of Tietenburg and Lewis provides an overview of these ideas (available on CourseLink). I will develop these ideas more fully in class.</p> <p>Watch: <a href="https://gem.cbc.ca/media/cbc-docs-pov/season-4/episode-1/38e815a-012d99c9df9">https://gem.cbc.ca/media/cbc-docs-pov/season-4/episode-1/38e815a-012d99c9df9</a></p>

**V. Class Schedule (Continued)**

Date	Subject	Reading/Audio/Video (Author's Last Name)
<b>Property &amp; Economic Rent</b>		
<b>September 22</b>	Modeling Tragedies and Rent Dissipation Open Access  Class Assignment #1 Given	<b>RR2:</b> <i>Buchanan and Yoon</i>
<b>September 24</b>	Anticommons	Listen to Faretalk podcast: Duty to Consult <a href="https://www.uoguelph.ca/fare/institute/podcasts#dutytoconsult">https://www.uoguelph.ca/fare/institute/podcasts#dutytoconsult</a>
<b>September 29</b>	Modeling Tragedies and Rent Dissipation Anticommons	<b>RR3:</b> <i>Deaton 2007 "Intestate Succession and Heir Property"</i>
<b>October 1</b>	<b>No Class: Students Should Use Time to Read De Soto</b>	
<b>October 6</b>	Mystery of Capital	<b>RR4:</b> <i>De Soto</i> (Required Text)  Note: You are responsible for reading the remainder of the De Soto book on your own!  Contemporary Consideration:  Read: <a href="https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/n-s-supreme-court-land-title-systemic-racism-1.5654466">https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/n-s-supreme-court-land-title-systemic-racism-1.5654466</a>
<b>October 8</b>	Discussion of Applications: (e.g., Haiti)	<i>Schlager and Ostrom</i> (available on CourseLink). This is a required reading, but if you do a reading review it must be on the other required reading below.  <b>RR5:</b> <i>Kelly, Deaton, Amegashie (2019)</i> Download here: <a href="https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/00213624.2019.1644922">https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/00213624.2019.1644922</a>
<b>October 13: Fall Break</b>		

**V. Class Schedule (Continued)**

Date	Subject	Reading/Audio/Video (Author's Last Name)
<b>First Nations &amp; Land</b>		
<b>October 15</b>	Land Tenure and Ag. Productivity	<p><b>RR6:</b> <i>Anderson and Lueck</i></p> <p>Listen to Faretalk podcast: <i>First Nation's Land and Economies</i></p> <p>Listen to Faretalk podcast: <i>Beyond the Indian Act: Examining the Potential Role of Fee-Simple Ownership</i></p>
<b>October 20</b>	First Nations Land Management Act	<b>RR7:</b> <i>Doidge, Deaton, Woods</i>
<b>October 22</b>	Canada First Nations Studies	<b>RR8:</b> <i>Aarogon and Kessler</i>
<b>October 27</b>	<b>Midterm Exam</b>	
<b>October 29</b>	First Nations Water	<p><i>Lipka and Deaton</i></p> <p>Guest Lecture</p>
<b>Farmland Issues</b>		
<b>November 3</b>	<p>Introduction to Ontario Farmland Issues</p> <p>Class Assignment #2 Given</p>	<p><b>RR9:</b> <i>fdd201015</i></p> <p>Read: <i>Ontario Farmland Values and Cash Rental Rates</i></p> <p>Watch my testimony at the Canadian Senate:  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Bin2ESvPbM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Bin2ESvPbM</a></p>
<b>Nov 5</b>	<p>Hedonic Methods Regression Assignment</p> <p>Class Assignment #3 Given</p>	<b>RR10:</b> <i>Kohlhase</i>

**V. Class Schedule (Continued)**

Date	Subject	Reading/Audio/Video (Author's Last Name)
<b>Farmland Issues (Continued)</b>		
Nov 10	Hedonic and Turbines	<p><b>RR11:</b> <i>Vyn_1</i></p> <p>Listen to faretalk podcast:  <a href="https://www.uoguelph.ca/fare/institute/podcasts#windturbines">https://www.uoguelph.ca/fare/institute/podcasts#windturbines</a></p> <p><i>Henry Hazlitt reading</i></p>
November 12	Class Debate	<p>Wind Turbines</p> <p><b>RR12:</b> Comment &amp; Response (must review both):            Skaburskis'_ Comment &amp; Vyn-et. al Response            (Both readings on CourseLink)</p>
November 17	Farmland and Climate Change	<p>Nordhaus, W. 2019. "Climate Change: The Ultimate Challenge for Economics." <i>American Economic Review</i>. 109(6): 1991-2014</p> <p><b>RR13:</b> Mendelsohn, R. W. Nordhaus, D. Shaw. "The Impact of Global Warming on Agriculture: A Ricardian Analysis. <i>The American Economic Review</i> 84 (Sept): 753-771. [*Just read pages 753-755, and understand Figure 1*]</p> <p><u>Optional:</u></p> <p><i>Review: Climate Change and Land: IPCC</i>  <a href="https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2019/08/4.-SPM-Approved-Microsite-FINAL.pdf">https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2019/08/4.-SPM-Approved-Microsite-FINAL.pdf</a> [*Pay particular attention to Section C*]</p>
November 19	Hedonic & Climate Change	<p><i>Students will be assigned to groups, and each group will be assigned readings to review in class.</i></p>
November 24	Environmental Justice	<p>Reading to be assigned</p>
November 26		<p>TBD</p>
Dec 1		<p>TBD</p>
Dec 3		<p>TBD</p>

## **VI. Course Policies**

### **Assigned Readings:**

Assigned readings are available online or on CourseLink (unless otherwise noted). The articles are identified by the author(s)' last name. Readings identified as TBD will be provided to students at least two classes prior to the date they will be discussed.

### **Grading Policies:**

The grading policies are outlined above in Section III for key categories: (1) quizzes; (2) assignments; (3) reading reports; and (4) exams.

### **Late Assignments:**

- Late reading reviews will not be accepted. They must be deposited in the CourseLink drop box at some time prior to the start of class on the date when the assigned reading is scheduled to be discussed.
- Students may drop three quiz grades. This may include quizzes that are missed for any reason. However, there will be no makeup quizzes.
- Late class assignments will receive a reduction of 5 percentage points off of the total grade for each day that they are late.

### **Course Policy regarding recording and distribution of class lectures:**

Student recording of classes is expressly forbidden without consent of the instructor. When recordings are permitted, they are solely for the use of the authorized student and may not be reproduced, or transmitted to others, without the express written consent of the instructor.

## **VII. University Statements**

### **Email Communication:**

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

### **When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement:**

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. The grounds for Academic Consideration are detailed in the Undergraduate and Graduate Calendars.



Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Consideration and Appeals

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Grounds for Academic Consideration

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml> Associate

Diploma Calendar - Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/index.shtml>

### **Drop Date:**

Students will have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. The deadline to drop two-semester courses will be the last day of classes in the second semester.

This applies to all students (undergraduate, graduate and diploma) except for Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Associate Diploma in Veterinary Technology (conventional and alternative delivery) students. The regulations and procedures for course registration are available in their respective Academic Calendars. Undergraduate Calendar - Dropping Courses

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Registration Changes

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/genreg-reg-regchg.shtml> Associate Diploma Calendar - Dropping Courses

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

### **Copies of Out-of-class Assignments:**

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

### **Accessibility:**

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student. When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required; however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway. Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability. Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to book their exams at least 7 days in advance and not later than the 40th Class Day. For Guelph students, information can be found on the SAS website <https://www.uoguelph.ca/sas> For Ridgetown students, information can be found on the Ridgetown SAS website <https://www.ridgetownc.com/services/accessibilityservices.cfm>

### **Academic Integrity:**

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 encourages academic integrity. 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. Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml> Graduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

### **Recording of Materials:**

Presentations that are made in relation to course work - including lectures - cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a student, or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

### **Resources:**

The Academic Calendars are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies, and regulations that apply to undergraduate, graduate, and diploma programs. Academic Calendars <https://www.uoguelph.ca/academics/calendars>

### **Disclaimer:**

Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class email. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website (<https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/>) and circulated by email.

### **Illness:**

The University will not require verification of illness (doctor's notes) for the fall 2020 or winter 2021 semesters.

---