

Course Description

Globalization and the Natural Environment

Environmental Economics and Policy (EEP) 131

Fall 2006

This document gives you the following information on the course:

1. Course Objectives
2. How to reach me
3. Requirements for the course
4. Road-map of the course webpage

1. Objectives The environmental effect of increased globalization is a politically charged issue. The spectrum of views range from the position that globalization should be opposed because (among other things) it harms the environment, to the view that globalization brings many general benefits, and has a small, possible ambiguous but likely positive, effect on the environment. This course provide background that will help students make an informed assessment of these kinds of views. We will study the arguments made by proponents of different views. We will examine the objectives and the procedures of global institutions (such as the World Trade Organization) and review the environmental decisions that were actually made, and the manner in which these decisions were reported by various groups. We will examine case-study and statistical evidence for the relation between globalization and the environment.

2. My office is 313 Giannini Hall and my office hours are Wednesday 12.30 - 2 I am also available to meet outside office hours. To make an appointment send me email at karp@are.berkeley.edu or call at 642 7199. If

you have a specific, short question, the best way to get a quick answer is to send me email. In the subject line of your email always put “EEP 131” in addition to whatever other information you want to include.

3. The final grade is based on a final exam (40%), a writing project (45%) and student class participation (principally the oral group presentation) (15%). These percentages might be adjusted slightly to put more or less weight on class participation, depending on the size of enrollment. Class participation includes student presentations. *There is no midterm exam.* Final exams for the previous three years are posted on the website. Separate documents on the webpage contain information about the term paper and about class presentations..

4. In addition to this Course Description, the webpage contains the following material:

- The Outline of Topics contains readings grouped in 14 topics. The key on the syllabus tells you whether the reading is online (downloadable from this webpage) or in one of the two textbooks. The bibliography attached to the Outline of Topics contains full cites. We will not get to all of the topics on this syllabus.
- The Schedule for Reading contains a week-by-week schedule of the what you should plan to read. This schedule will be updated periodically.
- The Description of Term Paper provides information on the term paper that comprises 45% of your grade. This document also includes the schedule for the final project and for progress reports, and the penalties for late work.
- The document Student Presentations describes the panel presentations that each student is required to take part in.
- The final exams for the last three years are posted.

- A table contains links to all of the online readings. There are additional readings (those in the main text, the course reader, and in the library) that are not online. You need to check the Schedule of Reading and the Syllabus to know what you should be reading, and when.
- A table contains some notable student papers written for this course in 2004 and 2005. These provide sources of information, and examples of how to write a paper.