Tasmanian School of Business & Economics (TSBE) (School)

College of Business and Economics (College)

BEA101
ENVIRONMENTAL AND RESOURCE ECONOMICS 1

12.50 Credit points

Semester 2, 2019

Unit Outline

Unit Coordinator
Darla Hatton MacDonald
CONTACT DETAILS

Unit coordinator

Unit coordinator: Darla Hatton MacDonald
Campus: Sandy Bay campus
Email: Darla.HattonMacDonald@utas.edu.au
Phone: 6226 2303
Room location and number: Centenary Bld, Office 215
Consultation hours: Friday 2-3 or by appointment
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WHAT IS THE UNIT ABOUT?

Unit description

Practical, public policy-orientated lectures and workshops will explore a range of topics such as the management of water in a dry county, climate change, energy and biodiversity. This unit explores the concepts and theory for economic analysis, policy and related allocation of renewable and non-renewable resources. By the end of the unit, students will have engaged in discussion/analysis of the complex trade-offs involved in crafting policy responses to the environmental issues. Using international and Australian case studies and applications, students will gain an understanding of a range of economic tools that can be used in the management of resources.

BEA101 Environmental and Resource Economics 1 is a compulsory unit in the Bachelor of Economics (BEc) Environmental and Resource Economics Major. It is also a nominated elective in a wide range of other programs throughout the University of Tasmania. Combining this unit with virtually any area of science, engineering, social science or law can add considerable value to your education.

Intended Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Identify and apply economic approaches to the management of natural resources and the environment.
2. Describe environmental economic perspectives on the nature of environmental resources, relating to their relevance and utility for humans.
3. Analyse debates in the natural resource economic literature, establish a position within debates and defend that position orally and in written form.
Graduate Quality Statement

Successful completion of this unit supports your development of course learning outcomes, which describe what a graduate of a course knows, understands and is able to do. Course learning outcomes are available from the Course Coordinator. Course learning outcomes are developed with reference to national discipline standards, Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF), any professional accreditation requirements and the University of Tasmania’s Graduate Statement.

The University of Tasmania experience unlocks the potential of individuals. Our graduates are equipped and inspired to shape and respond to the opportunities and challenges of the future as accomplished communicators, highly regarded professionals and culturally competent citizens in local, national, and global society. University of Tasmania graduates acquire subject and multidisciplinary knowledge and skills, and develop critical and creative literacies and numeracies and skills of inquiry. They demonstrate the ability to apply this knowledge in changing circumstances. Our graduates recognise and critically evaluate issues of social responsibility, ethical conduct and sustainability, are entrepreneurial and creative, and are mindful of their own wellbeing and that of the community. Through respect for diversity and by working in collaborative ways, our graduates reflect the values of the University of Tasmania.

Alterations to the unit as a result of student feedback

Draft essays no longer required. The Ecosystem Service Report is now described as one task with separate components to clarify how the report comes together over the semester.

Prior knowledge &/or skills

BEA111 or approval of the approval of unit coordinator.
HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Assessment schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment task</th>
<th>Date due</th>
<th>Percent weighting</th>
<th>Links to Intended Learning Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Workshop Participation</td>
<td>weekly (week 2-13)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>LO1, LO2, LO3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecosystem Service Report</td>
<td>week 4, week 9, week 10, End of week 13</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>LO1, LO2, LO3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>week 11</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>LO1, LO2, LO3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examination - invigilated (externally - Exams Office)</td>
<td>Exam Period</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>LO1, LO2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assessment details

**Assessment Task 1: Workshop**

**Task description**

Workshop Participation - There will be assigned problems, often from the text, to do in the workshop. Workshops will also be used as a time for groupwork associated with Assessment 2.

Workshop discussion will also support Assessment Task #2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criterion Number</th>
<th>Criterion Description</th>
<th>Measures ILO:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Demonstrate knowledge of the assigned problem by actively participating in workshop discussion</td>
<td>LO1, LO2, LO3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Task Length**

Weekly workshop discussion

**Due Date**

Weekly participation
Assessment Task 2: Ecosystem Service Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ecosystem Service Report – Students will form groups to write-up an ecosystem service assessment (ESA). Components of the assessment will consist of:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Topic and Workplan – identify the marginal change which will shape your ESA as it relates to the fieldtrip site. Identify a preliminary list of ecosystem services which will be considered. Each group member will examine at least two ecosystem services. Final tasks of writing executive summary, introduction, conclusions will need to be divided among group members.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due end of week 4 (2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Write-up of a single ecosystem services by individual team members which fits in the Group Report Workplan ecosystem service #1 – due end of week 9 (Maximum 500 words) (10%) (submitted individually on MyLo).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Write-up of a single ecosystem services by individual team members which fits in the Group Report Workplan. ecosystem service #2 – due end of week 10 (Maximum 500 words) (10%) (submitted individually on MyLo).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Assembly of the Group Report and the Updated Workplan – using the individual ecosystem service write-ups already submitted, the team will finalise the group report by adding an Executive Summary, Introduction, Conclusions and References. To fit under the word limit, the analysis and discussion of Ecosystem Service (consisting of edited down individual team member contributions (see 2 &amp; 3 above) need to be edited.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Report and Updated Workplan (13%) – due end of week 13.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where team members have not actively engaged in how the report has come together in part 4, these non-engaged students will receive a lower mark on part 4 of the assessment and the students who excelled at facilitating groupwork and finalising the group report will receive a better mark on part 4.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and active participation in field trip is required.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criterion Number</th>
<th>Criterion Description</th>
<th>Measures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Clear identification and description of a marginal change</td>
<td>LO1, LO2, LO3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Employ economic concepts in the description and analysis of ecosystem services</td>
<td>LO1, LO2, LO3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Clear and concise write-up of the report in grammatical correct English in a formal style appropriate to Economics.</td>
<td>LO1, LO2, LO3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Task Length</strong></td>
<td>The group report should not exceed 2,500 words (excluding references).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Due by date</strong></td>
<td>end of week 13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Assessment Task 3: Presentation**

**Task Description**

Group Presentation - This is a group presentation on a topic drawn from Weeks 1-7. Groups will consist of 4-5 students. Each group will select a current issue in environmental resource economics, present a summary of the subject and how an economic instrument could be utilized to manage the problem. The presentation should be pitched to inform a public policy debate. Each member of the group will be expected to present on a different aspect of the problem/instrument. Presentations should demonstrate logical connections and arguments. Members of the group will receive a common mark. There is an opportunity to moderate the common mark if individual members of the group have not actively participated and contributed to the presentation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criterion Number</th>
<th>Criterion Description</th>
<th>Measures ILO:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Clarity and Coherence of Presentation</td>
<td>LO1, LO2, LO3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Correct use of economic principles in the demonstration of how a program works</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Task Length**

15 minutes and 5 minutes for questions

**Due by date**

Week 11

**Assessment Task 4: Examination - invigilated (externally - Exams Office)**

**Task Description**

Final Exam - The examination consists of a series of problem solving questions. It is a closed-book examination and it will cover all the topics delivered in weeks 1 to 13. Further information about the examination will be provided in week 11.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criterion Number</th>
<th>Criterion Description</th>
<th>Measures ILO:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>The final exam will assess your ability to apply relevant economic concepts to problems of environmental degradation and resource allocation.</td>
<td>LO1, LO2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Task Length**

3 hours

**Due by date**

Exam Period
How your final result is determined

To pass this unit, you need to demonstrate your attainment of each of the Intended Learning Outcomes.

Your grade will be determined in the following way:

Your overall mark in this unit will be determined by combining your results from each assessment task. These marks are combined to reflect the percentage weighting of each task. You need to achieve an overall score of at least 50% to successfully complete this unit. It is expected that you will seek help (from the unit coordinator in the first instance), well before the due date, if you are unclear about the requirements for an assessment task.

- PP (pass) at least 50% of the overall mark but less than 60%
- CR (credit) at least 60% of the overall mark but less than 70%
- DN (distinction) at least 70% of the overall mark but less than 80%
- HD (high distinction) at least 80% of the overall mark

All grades are provisional, until confirmation by the Assessment Board at the end of semester.

Submission of assignments

The act of submitting your assignment will be taken as certification that it is your own work.

Assignments must be submitted electronically through the relevant assignment tab in MyLO. You must ensure that your name, student ID, unit code, tutorial time and tutor’s name (if applicable) are clearly marked on the first page. If this information is missing, the assignment will not be accepted and, therefore, will not be marked.

Where relevant, Unit Coordinators may also request you to submit a paper version of your assignment. You will be advised by the Unit Coordinator of the appropriate process relevant to your campus.

Please remember that you are responsible for lodging your assessment items on or before the due date and time. We suggest you keep a copy. Even in a perfect system, items sometimes go astray.

Late Assessment and Extension Policy

Requests for extensions

In this Policy:
1. (a) ‘day’ or ‘days’ includes all calendar days, including weekends and public holidays;
(b) ‘late’ means after the due date and time; and
(c) ‘assessment items’ includes all internal non-examination based forms of assessment

2. This Policy applies to all students enrolled in TSBE Units at whatever Campus or geographical location.

3. Students are expected to submit assessment items on or before the due date and time specified in the relevant Unit Outline. The onus is on the student to prove the date and time of submission.

4. Students who have a medical condition or special circumstances may apply for an extension. Requests for extensions should, where possible, be made in writing to the Unit Coordinator on or before the due date. Students will need to provide independent supporting documentation to substantiate their claims.

Penalties

Late submission of assessment items will incur a penalty of 10% of the total marks possible for that piece of assessment for each day the assessment item is late unless an extension had been granted on or before the relevant due date.

Assessment items submitted more than five (5) days late will not be accepted.

Academic staff do NOT have the discretion to waive a late penalty, subject to clause 4 above.

Review of results and appeals

Review of Assessment is available to all students once the University has released the final result for a unit. If you are dissatisfied with your final result, you may apply to have it reviewed. Applications for a review of assessment are due within 10 working days of the release of the final result in the unit. When applying for a review, you must pay a $50 fee.

If you wish to have a piece of internal assessment reviewed as part of the review process, please state this clearly on the application form referred to above and include that assessment item with your application.

Please read and follow the directions provided by the University at:
Before starting your assignments, you are advised to familiarise yourself with the following electronic resources.

The first is the Harvard Referencing System Style Guide, which can be accessed from the UTAS library: [http://utas.libguides.com/content.php?pid=27520&sid=199808](http://utas.libguides.com/content.php?pid=27520&sid=199808). The Harvard style is the appropriate referencing style for this unit and the guide provides information on presentation of assignments, including referencing styles. In your written work you will need to support your ideas by referring to scholarly literature, works of art and/or inventions. It is important that you understand how to correctly refer to the work of others and maintain academic integrity.

Failure to appropriately acknowledge the ideas of others constitutes academic dishonesty (plagiarism), a matter considered by the University of Tasmania as a serious offence.

The second is the Tasmanian School of Business and Economics’ Writing Assignments: A Guide, which can be accessed at: [http://www.utas.edu.au/business-and-economics/student-resources](http://www.utas.edu.au/business-and-economics/student-resources). This guide provides you with useful information about the structure and style of assignments in the TSBE.

**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is a form of cheating. It is taking and using someone else's thoughts, writings or inventions and representing them as your own; for example, using an author's words without putting them in quotation marks and citing the source, using an author’s ideas without proper acknowledgment and citation, copying another student’s work.

If you have any doubts about how to refer to the work of others in your assignments, please consult your lecturer or tutor for relevant referencing guidelines. You may also find the Academic Honesty site on MyLO of assistance.

The intentional copying of someone else’s work as one’s own is a serious offence punishable by penalties that may range from a fine or deduction/cancellation of marks and, in the most serious of cases, to exclusion from a unit, a course or the University.

In your written work you will need to support your ideas by referring to scholarly literature, works of art and/or inventions. It is important that you understand how to correctly refer to the work of others, and how to maintain academic integrity.

The University library provides information on presentation of assignments, including referencing styles and should be referred to when completing tasks in this unit.

Please read the following statement on plagiarism. Should you require clarification please see your unit coordinator or lecturer.
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Plagiarism is a form of cheating. It is taking and using someone else's thoughts, writings or inventions and representing them as your own; for example, using an author's words without putting them in quotation marks and citing the source, using an author's ideas without proper acknowledgment and citation, copying another student's work.

If you have any doubts about how to refer to the work of others in your assignments, please consult your lecturer or tutor for relevant referencing guidelines. You may also find the Academic Honesty site on MyLO of assistance.

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The University and any persons authorised by the University may submit your assessable works to a plagiarism checking service, to obtain a report on possible instances of plagiarism. Assessable works may also be included in a reference database. It is a condition of this arrangement that the original author's permission is required before a work within the database can be viewed.

For further information on this statement and general referencing guidelines, see the Plagiarism and Academic Integrity page on the University web site or the Academic Honesty site on MyLO.

Academic misconduct

Academic misconduct includes cheating, plagiarism, allowing another student to copy work for an assignment or an examination, and any other conduct by which a student:

a. seeks to gain, for themselves or for any other person, any academic advantage or advancement to which they or that other person are not entitled; or

b. improperly disadvantages any other student.

Students engaging in any form of academic misconduct may be dealt with under the Ordinance of Student Discipline, and this can include imposition of penalties that range from a deduction/cancellation of marks to exclusion from a unit or the University. Details of penalties that can be imposed are available in Ordinance 9: Student Discipline – Part 3 Academic Misconduct.
Student Behaviour

The University Behaviour Policy sets out behaviour expectations for all members of our University community including students and staff.

The aim in doing so is to ensure that our community members are safe, feel valued and can actively contribute to our University mission.

It is expected that community members behave in a manner that is consistent with our University values – respect, fairness and justice, integrity, trust, responsibility and honesty. There are also certain behaviours that are considered inappropriate, such as unlawful discrimination, bullying and sexual misconduct.

The accompanying University Behaviour Procedure sets out the process and avenues that University community members can access to resolve concerns and complaints regarding inappropriate behaviour by a University community member. Wherever possible, the focus will be on early intervention and a ‘restorative’ approach that creates awareness of inappropriate behaviour and its impact on others. However, in some cases, students who engage in inappropriate behaviour may be subject to disciplinary proceedings, which may impact upon continuation of their studies.

Students can seek support and assistance from the Safe and Fair Community Unit SaFCU@utas.edu.au or ph: 6226 2560.

Matters are dealt with in confidence and with sensitivity.
WHAT LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES ARE THERE?

MyLO
MyLO is the online learning environment at the University of Tasmania. This is the system that will host the online learning materials and activities for this unit.

Getting help with MyLO
It is important that you are able to access and use MyLO as part of your study in this unit. To find out more about the features and functions of MyLO, and to practice using them, visit the Getting Started in MyLO unit. For access to information about MyLO and a range of step-by-step guides in pdf, word and video format, visit the MyLO Student Support page on the University website. If something is not working as it should, contact the Service Desk (Service.Desk@utas.edu.au, phone 6226 1818), or Request IT Help Online.

Resources

Required readings
You will need the following text [available from the Co-op Bookshop]:


Recommended readings

Some additional reading on Ecosystem Services will be placed on myLo.

Reading Lists
Reading Lists provide direct access to all material on unit reading lists in one place. This includes eReadings and items in Reserve. You can access the Reading List for this unit from the link in MyLO, or by going to the Reading Lists page on the University Library website.

Other Required Resources
N/A
Learning expectations

The University is committed to high standards of professional conduct in all activities, and holds its commitment and responsibilities to its students as being of paramount importance. Likewise, it holds expectations about the responsibilities students have as they pursue their studies within the special environment the University offers.

**Students are expected to participate actively and positively in the teaching/learning environment. They must attend classes when and as required, strive to maintain steady progress within the subject or unit framework, comply with workload expectations, and submit required work on time.**

Details of teaching arrangements

**Lectures:** 9.00 AM to 11.00 AM, Geo229

**Workshop:** 2.00 to 3pm, Law225

Specific attendance/performance requirements

**Field Trip:** Study Break: Tuesday September 3rd, 2019

Teaching and learning strategies

Details of teaching arrangements

Face-to-Face: 2 hours of lectures and 1 hour per week of workshop problem-solving and/or groupwork on Ecosystem Service report.

Specific attendance/performance requirements

In this unit, your active engagement will be monitored in the following way:

1. Attendance at Face-to-Face or Distance Workshops
2. Whether you access materials on MyLo

If you do not demonstrate evidence of having engaged actively with this unit by completing these two activities by Week 4 of semester, your enrolment may be cancelled or you may be withdrawn from the unit.

Work Health and Safety (WHS)

The University is committed to providing a safe and secure teaching and learning environment. In addition to specific requirements of this unit you should refer to the University’s [Work Health and Safety website](#) and policy.
Communication

TO KEEP UP WITH ANNOUNCEMENTS REGARDING THIS UNIT

Check the MyLO Announcement tool at least once every two days. The unit Announcement will appear when you first enter our unit’s MyLO site. Alternatively, click on the Announcement button (towards the top of the MyLO screen) at any time.

WHEN YOU HAVE A QUESTION

Other students may have the same question that you have. Please go to the Ask the Class Discussion forum on the unit’s MyLO site. Check the posts that are already there – someone may have answered your question already. Otherwise, add your question as a new topic. Students are encouraged to support each other using this forum – if you can answer someone’s question, please do. We will attempt to respond to questions within 48 business hours. If your question is related to a personal issue or your performance in the unit, please contact the appropriate teaching staff member by email instead.

WHEN YOU HAVE AN ISSUE THAT WILL IMPACT ON YOUR STUDIES OR THE SUBMISSION OF AN ASSESSMENT TASK

If you have a personal question related to your studies or your grades, please contact teaching staff by email.

For general questions about the unit, please add them to the Ask the Class Discussion forum on the unit’s MyLO site. This way, other students can also benefit from the answers.

A NOTE ABOUT EMAIL CORRESPONDENCE

You are expected to check your UTAS email (WebMail) on a regular basis – at least three times per week. To access your WebMail account, login using your UTAS username and password at https://webmail.utas.edu.au/.

You are strongly advised not to forward your UTAS emails to an external email service (such as gmail or Hotmail). In the past, there have been significant issues where this has occurred, resulting in UTAS being blacklisted by these email providers for a period of up to one month. To keep informed, please use your UTAS email as often as possible.

We receive a lot of emails. Be realistic about how long it might take for us to respond.
Concerns and complaints

The University is committed to providing an environment in which any concerns and complaints will be treated seriously, impartially and resolved as quickly as possible. We are also committed to ensuring that a student may lodge a complaint without fear of disadvantage. If you have a concern, information about who to contact for assistance is available on the ‘How to resolve a student complaint’ page.

Further information and assistance

If you are experiencing difficulties with your studies or assignments, have personal or life-planning issues, disability or illness which may affect your course of study, you are advised to raise these with the unit coordinator in the first instance.

There is a range of University-wide support services available to you including Student Learning Support, Student Advisers, Disability Services, and more which can be found on the Student Support and Development page of the University website.

Should you require assistance in accessing the Library, visit their website for more information.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>DATE BEGINNING</th>
<th>TOPIC/ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>RESOURCES/READINGS/FURTHER INFORMATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1    | 15 July        | Outline - Introduction to the Subject  
The Economy and the Environment  
Introduction to Ecosystem Services (additional readings on MyLo) | Chapters 1 & 2 |
| 2    | 22 July        | Supply & Demand  
Markets, Externalities and Public Goods  
Discussion of Aboriginal Resource Use | Chapters 3 & 4 |
| 3    | 29 July        | The Economics of Environmental Quality  
Continued – Ecosystem Services | Chapters 5 & 6 |
| 4    | 5 August       | Frameworks of Analysis  
Benefit – Cost Analysis  
Ecosystem Service Assessment | Chapters 7 & 8 |
| 5    | 12 August      | Criteria for Evaluating Environmental Policies  
Decentralized Policies: Liability Laws, Property Rights, Voluntary Action | Chapters 9 & 10 |
| 6    | 19 August      | Command – And – Control Strategies: Case of Standards  
Incentive-Based Strategies: Emission Charges and Subsidies | Chapters 11 & 12 |
| 7    | 26 August      | Incentive – Based Strategies: Trading Systems  
Discussion of Ecosystem Service Assessments | Chapter 13 |

Mid-semester break 2 – 8th September – Field Trip (scheduled for Tues September 3rd, 2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>9 September</td>
<td>Discussion of Ecosystem Service Assessments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>16 September</td>
<td>Water Policy in Australia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>30 September</td>
<td>Environmental Risk and Behaviour</td>
<td>Hanley et al (2013)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 12   | 8 October      | The Global Environment  
International Environmental Agreements | Chapters 18 & 19 |
| 13   | 14 October     | Globalization  
Economic Development | Chapters 20 & 21 |

Exam Period 26 October – 12 November (inclusive)
The Tasmanian School of Business and Economics (TSBE) is currently in the process of applying for business accreditation with the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) – the lead program for accrediting business schools globally. AACSB seeks to connect educators, students, and business to achieve a common goal – to create the next generation of business leaders.

By joining AACSB and going through the accreditation process, TSBE is joining a global alliance committed to improve the quality of business education around the world, and to share the latest innovations in business education. Gaining Business Accreditation with AACSB is a multi-year process involving TSBE demonstrating our performance against the 15 accreditation standards.

Once complete, TSBE will join a select community of accredited business schools, with only 7% of all business schools globally having completed the AACSB process. This will further enhance the reputation of TSBE, and further enhance the global recognition of your qualifications. To find out more about AACSB click [here](#).