Instructor Information:  
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Please do not hesitate to contact me through email or send me a text message during the Fall 2013 semester. To speak on the phone it is easiest if we first schedule an agreed upon time.

Course Description:  This course provides law practitioners with knowledge of how to use economics in policy making and natural resource management. The course also fosters the connection between economics and the law. Learning will be supported with readings (economic, legal, policy), guest lectures, hands-on labs, and spreadsheet analysis. There will also be problem sets to reinforce economic thinking and financial principles such as the time value of money and discounted cash flow. There will be an emphasis on the natural resource and environmental issues that are particularly relevant to Colorado and the U.S. West. Three semester hours.

Course Dates:  
August 23:  1:00-5:00 PM  
August 24:  9:00AM-5:00 PM  
August 25:  9:00-5:00 PM  

September 6:  1:00-5:00 PM  
September 7:  9:00 AM-5:00 PM  
September 8:  9:00 AM-5:00 PM  

Academic Options:  This class qualifies for upper level writing assignment credit. If you would like to use the applied analysis paper in order to fulfill this option, please contact me at the conclusion of the course and after you have received your graded paper, with my written feedback. This class is appropriate for JD, MRLS, and LLM students.

Course Evaluation:  Course grades require substantial compliance with the Law School grading curve. Student performance will be evaluated as follows:  
End of Semester Class Project due October 11, 2013:  45%  
In-Class Debates on September 8, 2013:  35%  
Time Value of Money Homework due October 11, 2013:  10%
Class Participation (attendance, engaged in class): 10%

The grading scale generally reflects the standard 10-point grade intervals (i.e. 90-100=A; 80-89=B). However, DU Law School policies require that grades in this class substantially comply with the required curve. Therefore, your final course grade will be relative to the performance of all students enrolled in the course. I take my responsibilities as a professor seriously and will give all of your work proper consideration, while adhering to the Law School guidelines.

**Required Texts:**
*Natural Resources Law* (Laitos, Zellmer, Wood, and Cole)
*Macroeconomics* (Krugman and Wells)

**Pre-Reading Assignment:** Prior to the beginning of the course, please read Chapters 1-5 of Krugman and Wells, including the appendix on consumer and producer surplus. Also, please read pages 1-70 of Laitos et al.

**Required and Supplemental Reading:**
1) Supplemental text on environmental policy on reserve in law library: *Environmental Economics and Policy* (Lesser, Dodds, and Zerbe)
2) In addition to the course textbooks, required and suggested readings will be posted on Blackboard.
3) The economy is dynamic, so in addition to basic course material, I might add articles on current events, or require other readings. I will also try to customize the class according to student backgrounds and student interest, so the precise order and content of the course material will be “tweaked” during the course. *It is your responsibility to stay abreast of the reading assignments.*

**Student Debates on Environmental Policy Topics:** Students will form teams and debate environmental economics topics on the last day of class. Students will randomly draw their teams and pre-assigned topic from a hat. Students have the option of trading topics with classmates, but students MUST settle on their topic no later than 5:00 PM on the first day (August 23). Detailed debate parameters are provided separately.

**Applied Analysis Project:** Please review the applied analysis project guidelines. Note that there is a great deal of latitude in selecting the project topic, but please be mindful of the grading parameters and the due date. It is highly suggested that you discuss your project with me so that I can provide you feedback.

*I AM HAPPY TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE TO ALL STUDENTS, EVEN AFTER THE LECTURES. OUT OF FAIRNESS TO EVERYONE, I WILL ONLY REVIEW OUTLINES—NOT DRAFTS.*

Please submit your applied analysis paper either directly to the Registrar or to me through email (the latter is preferred), **no later than 5:00 PM on Friday, October 11, 2013.** Please assume that I have received your paper, unless either the Registrar or I contact you. Due to condensed course, **late work will not be accepted** unless there is an *extraordinary* circumstance (e.g. It rises to the level of the Dean).
## Daily Planner

The agenda reflects the anticipated course flow. Due to the intense nature of the course, there will likely be minor modifications. Listed readings support the lecture.

### Friday, August 23

**Course overview**
- Syllabus
- Enrollment/meeting times/course expectations
- Assignment requirements
- Debates

The interface between law and economics
Readings:
1) Required: Laitos et al. pp 1-70
2) Supplemental: Coase: *The firm, the market, and the law* on reserve in the law library.

The economic approach to policy
Readings:
1) Required: Hoag policy recipe

### Saturday, August 24

**The economic approach to policy (continued)**

**Economic tools and policy making**
- Market failures
  - Examples from environmental and resource economics
  - Imperfect competition, public goods, externalities, open access
- Policy goals: Economic efficiency versus equity

**Measuring economic efficiency, equity and making good policy**
- Why price caps don’t work
- Benefit-cost analysis: measuring producer and consumer surplus
- Considerations for Tax Policy: Elasticity
- Economic efficiency vs. equity: The Lorenz Curve and Gini Co-efficient

Readings:
1) Required: Krugman and Wells: *Macroeconomics*
2) Required: Laitos et al., pp. 1-70
3) Supplemental: Lesser, Dodds, and Zerbe: *Environmental Economics and Policy*
4) Supplemental: James Cullis and Barbara van Koppen: *Applying the Gini Coefficient to Measure Inequality of Water Use in the Olifants River*
Water Management Area, South Africa.

Market-based solutions and contemporary topics in environmental & natural resource economics:

1) GHG cap and trade policies to mitigate global climate change: Is the new market failure worse than the original market failure? Video streams

2) Externality pricing:


Class caucus: Does hydraulic fracturing solve a market failure or lead to a bigger one?

### Sunday, August 25

Measuring macroeconomic performance
- Macroeconomic indicators and their limitations.
  1) Required reading: Krugman and Wells: *Macroeconomics*

Defining sustainability
- Weak v. strong sustainability
- Measuring environmental and natural resource goods

Technological innovation

Time value of money
- Project and spreadsheet analysis
- Interest rates
- Social vs. private discount rates
- Homework exercise on spreadsheet analysis

The environmental Kuznets’s curve and international environmental issues
1) Keske, C.M. Empowering women by increasing disposable income: Examples from the Republic of Mali
2) Power Point Presentations: Environmental economics in East and West Africa and China

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<tr>
<th>Friday, September 6</th>
<th>Continuation of lecture from prior weekend (as needed)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Measuring market failures: Non-market valuation</td>
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<td>1) Supplemental: Carol Adaire Jones. Use of non-market valuation methods in the courtroom: recent affirmative precedents in natural resource damage assessment.</td>
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<td>3) Examples of contingent valuation surveys posted on Blackboard</td>
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<td>Contemporary issues in environmental and natural resource economics</td>
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<td>• Natural gas development</td>
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<th>Saturday, September 7</th>
<th>Continuation of Friday’s lecture material, as needed</th>
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<tr>
<td>Current topics in natural resource and environmental economics (continued)</td>
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<td>• Recreation</td>
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- Recycling and repurposing
  1) Supplemental: Aadland and Caplan. Curbside Recycling: Waste Resource or Waste of Resources?

- Risk and game theory
  2) Risk and international issues: examples from Ethiopia

12:00 PM-5:00 PM (tentatively) guest lecture by Dr. Dana Hoag on managing risk: Right Risk Computer Simulation on Managing Agricultural Risk

The value that agriculture provides to wildlife

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<th>Sunday, September 8</th>
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<td>Graded in-class debates on environmental and natural resource topics</td>
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