Economics 4535
Natural Resource Economics
Spring 2012

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Presentations and Paper

I am asking you to work in small groups to write an insightful paper this semester. This will allow you to use all that you have learned in this class to examine an existing natural resources topic. The issue can be local, regional, national, or international. I will discuss this more thoroughly in the first couple weeks of class. I want you to begin thinking about this early though, so that you will produce a good product. The paper should be no longer than necessary (I will give you more detail on the length and format in class). It should explain the problem, consider the economic institutions involved, consider the players that are involved, their costs and benefits, and the economic and political feasibility of any proposed solution. The paper should most importantly be an analytical (NOT narrative) study. This is your chance to be creative, let your mind roam through the literature and through the newspaper. You will also present your topic and findings to the class. Your presentation should be informative and entertaining, but most importantly analytical and thorough.

Deadlines:
February 2: proposal
February 23: optional rough draft
The final draft due date depends on the date of your presentation

Group-Led Article Discussions, Quizzes and Participation

We will review several relevant academic articles on different issues in natural resource economics. You will be required to understand these articles, and you will work in teams of 4-5 people to present one of the articles and lead the discussion for that article. When you are not in the discussion group you are still expected to have read the article and there will be a short quiz.

Grading:

Group-Led Discussion	8%
Quizzes	8%
Paper Presentation	6%
Group Paper	16%
Exam I (Tuesday, 2/21)	19%
Exam II (Thursday, 3/22)	20%
Final Exam (Saturday, 5/5 @ 1:30pm)	23%

Attendance Policy

I typically do not have an attendance policy, but in a course with some emphasis on participation I feel it is necessary to make it to class. Therefore, if you miss more than 1/3 of the class sessions (more than 9 classes, including excused absences for illness, etc.), you will fail the course. If you have 5 or more excused absences and miss 9 or more classes, you will be given an incomplete in the course if you can complete over half of the work, otherwise you should seek a withdrawal. **In addition, if you miss more than one of the presentation days your presentation grade will be reduced by 10% and by 10% more for each additional day missed.**

Religious holidays

A comprehensive calendar of the religious holidays most commonly observed by CU-Boulder students can be found at http://www.interfaithcalendar.org/ Review this list and the class syllabus. After reviewing the syllabus, please see the instructor if you believe that you need an accommodation for religious reasons. The instructor should be notified within the first two weeks of classes. Campus policy regarding religious observances states that faculty must make reasonable accommodation for them and in so doing, be careful not to inhibit or penalize those students who are exercising their rights to religious observance. For more information see http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html

Code of Behavior

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty have the professional responsibility to treat students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which students express opinions. See policies at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html and at http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code

Policy on Sexual Harassment

The University of Colorado Policy on Sexual Harassment applies to all students, staff and faculty. Sexual harassment is unwelcome sexual attention. It can involve intimidation, threats, coercion, or promises or create an environment that is hostile or offensive. Harassment may occur between members of the same or opposite gender and between any