TEXTS


Notes:
Each student will be asked to present some of the syllabus readings, on a rotating basis.
Each student is expected to be able to discuss the readings during class, in lieu of an exam.
All deadlines are to be taken seriously.
Preparation for class sessions is important, especially the materials on writing.
There will be short writing exercises during some of the classes.

SYLLABUS

**Week 1:** Review of basic concepts
Writing: introduction

Review readings from U275 (Environmental Economics) to refresh your memory -- especially:
Callan & Thomas, ch. 5, 8, 10.

Zinsser, ch. 1-3

**Week 2:** Global warming: the scientific basis and basic economic analysis

Callan & Thomas, ch. 13

Jorgenson, Dale W., "The Economics of Climate Change," *Jobs and Capital*, vol. 6, no. 4 (Fall 1997), pp. 3-5.

**Week 3:** Pollution of the lower atmosphere: basic economic analysis

Callan & Thomas, ch. 12 (review).

**Week 4:** Writing an abstract
Pollution from the transportation sector

**Statement of Problem due:** Tuesday in class
**Bring an article from last quarter's readings: Tuesday class

Zinsser, ch. 4-7

**Week 5:** Cost-benefit analysis of pollution control
Writing: some basic rules


Strunk & White, ch. I-II
**Week 6:** Global warming: international issues
Writing: more rules, basic style

**Outline & References due: Tuesday in class**

**Essay on Writing due: Thursday in class**
Strunk and White, ch. III-V
Zinsser, ch. 11

**Week 7:** Writing: more on style
General Equilibrium Issues

Zinsser, ch. 8, 9, and pp. 80-81, 84-88 (skim rest of ch. 10)


**Week 8:** Student presentations
Writing: Specialized subjects (science, technical, business)

Zinsser, ch. 15-16

**First draft due: Thursday in class**

**Week 9:** Student presentations
Writing: some overall approaches

**Opinion column due: Tuesday in class**
Zinsser, ch. 21-22

**Week 10:** Summary
Zinsser, ch. 2 (re-read)

**Exam Week:**

**Final paper due Wednesday 4 p.m., K. Small's mailbox, room SSPA 3151**
TERMPAPER

The primary assignment is a paper of 3000-4500 words (approx. 10-15 pages double-spaced, including tables and references). This paper should be on a topic in the economics of global warming ("greenhouse effect") or of air pollution in the lower atmosphere (e.g. ozone, particulates, nitrogen oxides, sulfur oxides). It should contain both factual information about the problem and an analysis of the economic forces at work. Where possible, it should draw upon the readings and concepts developed in this course and in the previous course (U275). *The final draft should include an abstract* (150-250 words).

OTHER WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

**Statement of Problem**: Prepare an essay, neatly typed and carefully edited, of 600-900 words (2-3 pages double-spaced) on the problem, question, issue, or policy question that you wish to make the main focus of your research project. You need not solve the problem or answer the question at this point; but try to point out the kinds of information or analysis that are needed to do so.

**Outline & References**: Detailed sketch of how you plan to address your topic.

**First draft**: A draft of the complete paper; not just an outline or notes. However, there may be "holes", i.e. parts awaiting specific information still being gathered. This will be the primary vehicle for receiving feedback on improvements to the economic analysis and overall organization of the paper. *It is very important to the success of the final paper that you give this draft a serious effort.*

**Essay on Writing**: Compare McCloskey's and Zinsser's approaches to writing. Length: 750-1000 words.

**Opinion Column**: By this point in the course, you should have developed some opinions about your topic. Share them with the world at large in the form of a non-technical short article suitable for the "op-ed" page in a good newspaper. That is, it should be written for the educated lay person but not for professionals and certainly not for economists! Maximum 500 words. Check any major newspaper for examples.

GRADING

In addition to the three "polished" assignments, your grade will be based on the class presentation (weeks 8-9) and on "effort" which includes class attendance, participation in discussions, presentations of readings in class, and timely completion of abstract and drafts.

- 25% Effort throughout course
- 10% Statement of Problem
- 10% Opinion column
- 20% Class presentations
- 35% Final paper