

SEMINAR: ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS AND POLICY
API-905y/Econ 2690hf
Fall 2016 - Spring 2017

Nature of the Course:

This is a year-long research seminar on topics in environmental and natural resource economics. It meets on Wednesdays from 4:15 PM to 5:30 PM. Seminars emphasize theoretical models, quantitative empirical analysis, and public policy applications, featuring presentations by invited speakers. In addition to students, faculty from the area typically participate in the sessions. Auditors are welcome. There will be a brief information session for students who may wish to enroll on Wednesday, September 7th, in Room L-382 of the Harvard Kennedy School at 79 JFK Street, Cambridge. The first meeting of seminar in the fall semester will be on Wednesday, September 14th.

Course Requirements:

Registered students must enroll for the full year of the seminar and attend all sessions. They prepare a research paper, an outline of which is due at the conclusion of the fall semester. Papers are due at the conclusion of the spring semester, and should be at the level of the seminar, i.e. graduate-level economics. In addition, students prepare brief (two-page) essays related to each seminar presentation and discussion throughout the year. Required reading consists of papers presented at each session.

Prerequisites:

The course is intended primarily for Ph.D. students in economics, political economy and government, public policy, health policy, and related fields with interests in applications in the environmental and natural resource area. Prerequisites include Ph.D.-level course work in microeconomic theory, such as Economics 2010A/B, Economics 2020A/B (cross-listed as Kennedy School API-111/112), and API-109i/110i.

Instructors:

Robert N. Stavins
Office: Kennedy School, Room L-306
Phone: 617-495-1820
Office Hours: By appointment

Martin Weitzman
Office: Economics Department, Room 313
Phone: 617-495-5133

The faculty assistant for the course is:

Jason Chapman
Office: Kennedy School, Opposite L-306
Phone: 617-496-8054

Additional Information will be available at the Course Web Site

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Robert Stavins and Martin Weitzman

<https://canvas.harvard.edu/courses/16492>

Fall 2016, Wednesday, 4:15-5:30 pm

Room L-382, 79 John F. Kennedy Street

John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University

*Support from Enel Endowment for Environmental Economics
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<i>September 7</i>	Student Orientation
<i>September 14</i>	Todd Gerarden, James Stock , Harvard University, and W. Spencer Reeder, Vulcan Philanthropy. "Federal Coal Program Reform, the Clean Power Plan, and the Interaction of Upstream and Downstream Climate Policies."
<i>September 21</i>	Joseph Aldy, Todd Gerarden , Harvard University, and Richard Sweeney, Boston College. "Capital versus Output Subsidies: Implications of Alternative Incentives for Wind Energy."
<i>September 28</i>	Jisung Park , Harvard University. "Heat Exposure and Human Capital Accumulation: Evidence from NYC Public Schools."
<i>October 26</i>	Jonathan Baker , Harvard University. "Subsidies for Succulents: The Welfare Impacts of the Las Vegas Cash for Grass Program."
<i>November 2</i>	Bård Harstad , Alessia Russo, University of Oslo, and Francesco Lancia, University of Vienna. "Compliance Technology and Self-Enforcing Agreements."
<i>November 16</i>	Jing Li , Harvard University. "Compatibility and Investment in the U.S. Electric Vehicle Market."
<i>November 30</i>	Olivier Gergaud, KEDGE Business School, Andrew Plantinga , University of California, Santa Barbara, and Aurelie Ringeval-Deluze, Universite de Reims Champagne-Adrenne. "Anchored in the Past: Persistent Price Effects of Obsolete Vineyard Ratings in France."

Note: Name of presenter is in **Bold**.

For further information, contact Professor Stavins at the Kennedy School (495-1820), Professor Weitzman at the Department of Economics (495-5133), or the course assistant, Jason Chapman (496-8054), or visit the seminar web site.

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- January 25* **Gilbert Metcalf**, Tufts University. "The Impact of Removing Tax Preferences for U.S. Oil and Gas Production."
- February 8* **Hunt Allcott**, New York University, and Judd Kessler, University of Pennsylvania. "The Welfare Effects of Nudges: A Case Study of Energy Use Social Comparisons."
- February 15* Eliana Carranza, World Bank, and **Robyn Meeks**, University of Michigan. "Shedding Light: Understanding Energy Efficiency and Electricity Reliability."
- February 22* Shinsuke Tanaka and **Jeffrey Zabel**, Tufts University. "Valuing Nuclear Energy Risk: The Impact of the Fukushima Crisis on U.S. Housing Prices."
- March 1* **Martin Weitzman**, Harvard University. "On a World Climate Assembly and the Social Cost of Carbon."
- March 8* **Cass Sunstein**, Harvard University. "On the Costs and Benefits of Mandatory Labeling, with Special Reference to Genetically Modified Foods." (Joint with HLS Behavioral Economics, Law, and Public Policy Seminar)
- Location change:** **Harvard Kennedy School, Littauer Building 4th floor, Malkin Penthouse**
- March 29* Daniel Green, **Jonathan Parker**, MIT, Brian Melzer, Northwestern University, and Arcenis Rojas, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. "Accelerator or Brake? Cash for Clunkers, Household Liquidity, and Aggregate Demand."
- April 5* **Shinsuke Tanaka**, Tufts University. "Mind the Gap! Tax Incentives and Incentives for Manipulating Fuel Efficiency in the Automobile Industry."
- April 12* **Evan Herrnstadt**, Harvard University, Ryan Kellogg, University of Chicago, and Eric Lewis, U.S. Department of Justice. "Asymmetric Information, Drilling Distortions, and Oil and Gas Leases."

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