

HARVARD SEMINAR IN ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS AND POLICY
API-905y/Econ 3116
Fall 2021 - Spring 2022

This is a year-long research seminar on topics in environmental and natural resource economics. It meets on Wednesdays from 4:30 to 5:45 PM, and will be remote via Zoom in the fall semester. Seminars emphasize theoretical models, quantitative empirical analysis, and public policy applications, featuring presentations by invited speakers. Auditors are welcome. A brief information (shopping) session for students who may wish to enroll will take place remotely on August 30th at 4:30 pm. The first meeting of seminar will be on Wednesday, September 22nd. The complete fall schedule is available at the Canvas website, and follows on the next page. If the seminar meets in person in the spring, it will be in Room L-382 of the Harvard Kennedy School at 79 JFK Street, Cambridge. For the fall semester, Zoom links for the information session and all meetings of the seminar will be available at the Canvas course website:

<https://canvas.harvard.edu/courses/93668>.

Course Requirements:

Registered students must enroll for the full year of the seminar and attend all sessions, which will be on line, at least during the fall semester. 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. Ph.D.-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:

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The faculty assistant for the course is:

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Additional Information will be available at the Course Web Site:

<https://canvas.harvard.edu/courses/93668>

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Fall 2021, Wednesday, 4:30-5:45 pm

*Support from Enel Endowment for Environmental Economics
and the Department of Economics is Gratefully Acknowledged*

- September 22* **Jonathan Colmer**, University of Virginia, Ralf Martin, Mirabelle Muuls, Imperial College London, and Ulrich Wagner, University of Mannheim. “Does Pricing Carbon Mitigate Climate Change? Firm-Level Evidence from the European Union Emissions Trading Scheme.”
- October 6* **Shweta Bhogale**, Harvard University, and Shamil Khedgikar, Indian School of Business. “Run on the Reservoir: Implications of Competition for Groundwater on Agriculture in India.”
- October 20* **Alan Finkelstein-Shapiro** and Gilbert Metcalf, Tufts University. “The Macroeconomic Effects of a Carbon Tax to Meet the U.S. Paris Agreement Target: The Role of Firm Creation and Technology Adoption.”
- October 27* Stefano Ramelli, Alexander Wagner, Alexandre Ziegler, University of Zurich, and **Richard Zeckhauser**, Harvard University. “Investor Rewards to Climate Responsibility: Stock-Price Responses to the Opposite Shocks of the 2016 and 2020 U.S. Elections.”
- November 3* **Frank Pinter**, Harvard University. “Regulatory Mandates and Electric Vehicle Product Variety.”
- November 10* Jonathan Hawkins-Pierot, Yale University, and **Katherine Wagner**, University of California, Berkeley. “Technology Lock-In and Optimal Carbon Pricing.”
- November 24* **Lala Ma**, University of Kentucky, Kay Jowers, and Christopher Timmins, Duke University. “Flood Risk, Property Buyouts, and Environmental Justice.”
- December 1* **Elizabeth Spink**, Harvard University. “Household Water Source Substitution and Demand for Water Connections.”

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

For further information, contact Professor Stavins at the Kennedy School, Professor Stock at the Department of Economics, the course assistant, Jason Chapman (617-496-8054; Jason_Chapman@hks.harvard.edu), or visit the seminar web site.

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- January 26* **Joseph Shapiro**, University of California, Berkeley. “Pollution Trends and US Environmental Policy: Lessons from the Last Half Century.”
- February 9* Alec Brandon, Johns Hopkins University, **Christopher Clapp**, John List, University of Chicago, Robert Metcalfe, University of Southern California, and Michael Price, University of Alabama. “Smart Tech, Dumb Humans: The Perils of Scaling Household Technologies.”
- February 23* **Michael Kiley**, Federal Reserve Board. “Growth at Risk from Climate Change.”
- March 9* **Jonathan Colmer**, University of Virginia, Ralf Martin, Mirabelle Muuls, Imperial College London, and Ulrich Wagner, University of Mannheim. “Does Pricing Carbon Mitigate Climate Change? Firm-Level Evidence from the European Union Emissions Trading Scheme.”
- March 23* **Nicholas Muller**, Carnegie Mellon University. “Measuring Firm Environmental Performance to Inform ESG Investing.”
- March 30* **James Stock**, Harvard University. “Policies for Decarbonizing the U.S. Light Duty Vehicle Fleet.”
- April 13* **Ivan Ivanov**, Mathias Kruttli, Federal Reserve Board, and Sumudu Watugala, Cornell University. “Banking on Carbon: Corporate Lending and Cap-and-Trade Policy.”
- April 27* **Derek Lemoine**, University of Arizona. “Incentivizing Negative Emissions Through Carbon Shares.”

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For further information, contact Professor Stavins at the Kennedy School, Professor Stock at the Department of Economics, the faculty assistant, Jason Chapman, the course assistant, Jacob Bradt (jbradt@g.harvard.edu), or visit the seminar web site.