Fall 2013: 8/26 to 12/13  
Stony Brook University, Sustainability Studies  
SBC 206 Economics and Sustainability, satisfies DEC F and satisfies the SBC category HBS

**Instructor:** A.K. Cassidy  
**email:** Arlene.Cassidy@stonybrook.edu  
**Phone** 631-632-5362

**SBC 206- section 01**

**Prerequisites:** ECO 108

Lecture MW 10:00 – 10:53  
Room Melville Library W4540

Recitations: R1- W: 11:00 –11:53 and R2-12:00 – 12:53  
Room Melville Library N3074

**Office Hours:** M 11:00 – 1:00, W 1:00 -2:00 or by appointment.  
Room Melville Library WO515

**Course Description**

Introduction to the basic economic concepts used in sustainability analysis. Students will learn the basic concepts and how to apply them in various context. Topics include the analysis of situations in which the behavior of individuals indirectly affect the well-being of others, strategic behavior and the environment, and the use of market-oriented policies to help in the stewardship of the environment.

**Course Topics**

Economic efficiency, cost /benefit analysis, market failure, environmental policy, Federal water, air and hazardous substance policy, State and local environmental issues, and international environmental agreements.

**Course Learning Objectives**

1. Understand the different connections between environmental quality issues and the economic behavior of individuals and groups.
2. Analyze the role of market failure and the results of inefficient resource allocation.
3. Critique methods used to evaluate the trade-offs, cost/benefit, for individual and society from political decisions related to the evaluation and application of environmental policy.
4. Summarize economic theory and tools to organize predictions and provide evidence of how society values environmental issues, such as air, water and soil pollution.
5. Interpret data and form educated opinions on economic trade-offs society and individuals face in order to improve or maintain different levels of environmental quality.
6. Understand the major economic concepts and models that form the basis of knowledge in environmental economics.
7. Understand economic theory that organize predictions and provides evidence of the effects of economic activity on environmental quality.
8. Skillfully interpret and form educated opinions on environmental quality issues.

**Goals for course:**

This course gives you the tools that you need to apply economic analysis to a wide variety of environmental problems. It provides students with an understanding of how human decisions and activities affect the environment, how human values and institutions shape our demands for improvement in the quality of that environment and, about how to design effective public policy to bring about these improvements. Each weekly class will consist of two hours of lecture and one hour of work on applied problems.

**Course Materials**


**Class Resources**

Other required readings and materials will be posted on Blackboard at [http://blackboard.stonybrook.edu/](http://blackboard.stonybrook.edu/)

To access the web page in Blackboard you must be registered. To log into this website, you will need your blackboard user name/ password. If you have never used Stony Brook’s Blackboard system: for help or more information see: [http://www.sinc.sunysb.edu/helpdesk/docs/blackboard/bbstudent.php](http://www.sinc.sunysb.edu/helpdesk/docs/blackboard/bbstudent.php)  
For problems logging in, go to the helpdesk in the Main Library SINC Site or the Union SINC Site, you can also call: 631-632-9602 or e-mail: helpme@ic.sunysb.edu
Additional Readings [updated information and due dates will be posted on BB]
IMF [International Monetary Fund], 2011, The World Economic Outlook: A Survey by the Staff of the International Monetary Fund.

Assignments
Problems, worksheets, discussion questions, and group projects will be posted weekly on Blackboard. Quiz and exam reminders and collaborative assignments will also be posted on Blackboard.

Work Groups
To achieve the maximum benefit from this course it is essential that you are an active participating member of a work group. Each work group will consist of 2 or 3 students. Group projects and other collaborative work will be posted in the wiki section of Blackboard.

Student's Responsibility: Ensure you have entered a working email account in your Black Board account. Access your BB account and make sure that you have access to this class, send yourself a test email using the email option within BB. Adhere to deadlines for projects and other assignments. Seek help from instructor when problems arise.

Attendance and Make-Up Policy
Attendance and participation are weighed into the final grade. Reports, quizzes and exams schedules will be posted on blackboard. There is no make-up for a missed quiz, however, your lowest quiz grade will be dropped in the final averaging. If there is extenuating circumstances, the student should make every effort to contact me.

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<th>Schedule: [subject to change]</th>
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**Grading:**
- Attendance and homework: 20
- Quizzes: 30
- Mid-semester exam: 30
- Project presentations: 20
- Total possible points: 10

**Basis for grading:**

100-95 (A); 94-91 (A-); 90 – 88 (B+); 87 – 84 (B); 83-81 (B-); 80-78 (C+); 77-74 (C); 73-71(C-); 70-68 (D+); 67-60 (D).

**STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY DSS SYLLABUS STATEMENT:**
If you have a physical, psychological, medical, or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact Disability Support Services (631) 632-6748 or http://studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/dss/. They will determine with you what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

Students who require assistance during emergency evacuation are encouraged to discuss their needs with their professors and Disability Support Services. For procedures and information go to the following website:
http://www.stonybrook.edu/ehs/fire/disabilities/asp.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT:**
Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person’s work as your own is always wrong. Any suspected instance of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Academic Judiciary. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty, please refer to the academic judiciary website at: http://naples.cc.sunysb.edu/CAS/ajc.nsf.

Academic Dishonesty Policy: Academic dishonesty is a serious offense and a breach of academic integrity that may result in failure of the course or failure for the individual paper or assignment. The “Code of Student Conduct” states that all forms of academic dishonesty, including the following are prohibited (see student handbook):

- Plagiarism – the intentional use of ideas or words of another as one’s own paper or other academic assignments. If you are unsure of what constitutes Plagiarism visit this document http://www.wpacouncil.org/positions/WPAplagiarism.pdf or ask the instructor.
- Cheating during examinations, whether by copying from a fellow student or by using information in the form of unauthorized aids brought to the examination.
- The submission of work for any assignment that has been prepared by another student.
CELL PHONE AND ELECTRONIC DEVICE STATEMENT:
During regular class sessions, cell phones must be either in ‘vibrate mode’ or turned off. Calls cannot be answered. Text messaging is not allowed during class. Cell phones must be *turned off* and *enclosed* in a case, book bag, briefcase, or the like during tests and exams. YOU are responsible for ensuring this policy is followed. Students MAY NOT have cell phones, electronic dictionaries, calculators, pagers or other “information rich” devices (anything that can receive and/or store many pages of text) in their possession during tests and exams.

CRITICAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT:
Stony Brook University expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of Judicial Affairs any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, and/or inhibits students’ ability to learn.

Classroom Policy: Students are expected to follow the Stony Brook Code of Conduct while in the classroom. If you are not familiar with the Code you can find it at: [http://studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/sites/handbook/Code_1-22-03.pdf](http://studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/sites/handbook/Code_1-22-03.pdf)
Behavior that is disruptive to the function of the class, other students, or the instructor will not be tolerated. Poor class behavior or violations to the Code of Conduct will lead to removal from the class, possible withdrawal, or suspension.