

Sustainable Development, Trade and Environment

Course Number	M.WIWI-VWL.0063
Course Type and Credits	Seminar, 6 ECTS
Lecturer	Prof. Inmaculada Martínez-Zarzoso
Cycle	every winter term
Examination format	research paper (60%), presentation and discussion (40%).
Course Description	<p>The seminar focuses on environmental issues in a globalized context within the framework of sustainable development. For this purpose the seminar will cover different themes, starting from the sustainable development concept. The seminar will also explore from different perspectives, climate change as one of the main global environmental issues, considering scientific evidences, energy implications and policies in climate change.</p> <p>This pattern will enable the students to understand the complexity of sustainable development and environmental issues and to deal with them. Global environmental problems like global warming have received great publicity in recent times. Since most of them have a transboundary nature, they can only be addressed effectively through international co-operation.</p> <p>We will discuss the use of trade policy as an instrument for achieving significant reductions in carbon emissions and also whether trade policies can be effectively used as enforcement mechanisms to support environmental cooperation. In addition, we will discuss the ongoing negotiations on climate change and the environment that, similar to the trade case, will cover an increasing scope of environmental issues in future rounds of negotiation.</p> <p>The seminar is designed for students interested in the process of sustainable economic development and international economics, including students doing the Master in International Economics and in Development Economics.</p>
Course Content	<p>Block I - Environment and Development</p> <p>Topic 1. Sustainable global development</p> <p>Topic 2. Carbon Footprint as a measure of sustainability</p> <p>Topic 3. Environment and economic development</p> <p>Topic 4. Emissions convergence</p> <p>Topic 5. The Economics of Climate Change Topic 6. Green growth</p> <p>Block II - Environment and Trade</p> <p>Topic 7. Environment and international trade</p> <p>Topic 8. Trade liberalization and pollution havens</p> <p>Topic 9. Trade agreements and environmental agreements</p> <p>Block III - Environmental Policies and Regulation</p> <p>Topic 10. How to regulate negative externalities</p> <p>Topic 11. The Kyoto Protocol and its Mechanisms</p> <p>Topic 12. Post Kyoto: The Copenhagen climate change negotiation</p> <p>Topic 13. Climate change controls and trade policy</p> <p>Topic 14. Economic impact of biofuel production in Africa</p> <p>Topic 15. Green growth in Brazil, Chile and Mexico</p> <p>Topic 16. Migration and climate change</p>

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Reading List

Core books

- Alam, S. (2007) Sustainable Development and Free Trade: Institutional Approaches. Routledge Chapman & Hall.
- Baumgartner, R. J., & Korhonen, J. (2010). Strategic thinking for sustainable development. Sustainable Development, 18(2), 71-75.
- Copeland, B.R. and M.S. Taylor (2003), 'Trade and the Environment: Theory and Evidence', Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- Harris, J. (2008) Environmental and Natural Resource Economics, 8th Edition. Addison Wesley.
- Lopez, R. and M.A. Toman (2006) Economic Development and Environmental Sustainability: New Policy Options, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Romero, A. and West, S. E. (2005) Environmental Issues in Latin America and the Caribbean. Springer.
- Vasser, C.P. (2009) The Kyoto Protocol: Economic Assessments, Implementation Mechanisms, and Policy Implications, Nova Science Publishers, New York.
- Stern (2007) The economics of climate change : the Stern review / Nicholas Stern
- Nordhaus (1994) Managing the global commons : the economics of climate change / William D. Nordhaus
- Lomborg (2008) Cool it! : Warum wir trotz Klimawandels einen kühlen Kopf bewahren sollten/ Bjørn Lomborg. Aus dem Engl. von Werner Roller

Other Books

- Anderson, D. A. (2006) Environmental Economics and Natural Resource Management, 2nd Edition, Pensive Press, LLC.
- Hanley, N., Shogren, N. F. and White, B. (2006) Environmental Economics in Theory and Practice, 2nd Revised Edition, Palgrave Macmillan.
- Perman, R., May, Y., McGilvray, J. and Common, M. (2003). Natural Resource and Environmental Economics, 3rd edition, Harlow: Pearson Education.
- Tietenberg, T. (2007) Environmental Economics and Policy, 5th Edition, Pearson Eds. Prentice Hall.
- The Sustainable Development Commission (2010) Sustainable development: The key to tackling health inequalities, SDC Reports & Papers, UK. February 2010.

Useful web links

- <http://www.wto.org> The World Trade Organization's web site devoted to the relationship between international trade issues and environmental quality. The site includes links to many research reports and other information.
- <http://www.oecd.org/ech> The web site for the trade division of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. The site includes many publications on trade issues, including trade and the environment.
- <http://www.cec.org> Home page for the Commission for Environmental Cooperation, created under the North American Free Trade Agreement "to address regional environmental concerns, help prevent potential trade and environmental conflicts, and to promote the effective enforcement of environmental law." The site includes numerous publications on issues of trade and the environment.
- <http://unfccc.int> United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Course prerequisites

none