Angelo State University
Course Syllabus

1. Course Title:  AGEC 4351- Land and Natural Resource Economics

   • **Course Description:** This is a survey course emphasizing reasons for natural resource misallocation including property rights and common property resources, externalities, and public good problems. Consideration is given to the equity and efficiency implications of public policies to direct the use of energy resources, minerals, water, forests, and fisheries. Considerable emphasis is placed on the economics of pollution control.
   
   • **Meeting Time and Location:** TTH 11:00-12:30 VIN 263
   
   • **WE WILL BE SPLITTING UP HALF AND HALF FOR THIS CLASS TUESDAY AND THURSDAY.**
     - LAST NAMES BEGINNING WITH A-M: TUESDAYS
     - LAST NAMES BEGINNING WITH N-Z: THURSDAYS
   
   • Only come to in class lectures on your assigned day. You do not have to watch the day of the other last name group.

2. Instructor Information:

   • **Faculty:** English Ratliff
   
   • **Email Address:** eratliff@angelo.edu
   
   • **Phone Number:** (325) 486-6938
   
   • **Office:** 226 Vincent Building
   
   • **Office Hours:** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 2pm-3pm
   
   • I have an open door policy, so if I am in you are welcome to stop by and ask questions. However, you are welcome to email me and I will try to get back with you in 24 hours. If it is an emergency, make sure to email me as soon as possible so we both have a record. Since everyone has classes throughout the day, it is best to schedule an appointment to make sure that I’m in. If you make an appointment, please email me if you need to cancel it.
   
   • My classes: MWF 8:00 and 10:00, TTH 8:00 and 11:00
   
   • 1 hour before class I am prepping for class, which means I may not be able to sit down and answer questions; however, if it is a quick questions, that usually is not a problem.

3. Course Objectives:

   • Gaining factual knowledge (terminology, classifications, methods, trends)
   
   • Learning fundamental principles, generalizations or theories
   
   • Learning to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions)
4. **Student Learning Objectives:**
   Upon completing this course, you should be able to:
   - explain how all elements of sustainability, including but not limited to economic, environment and society, applies globally and within everyday life.
   - apply the fundamental concepts and elements of natural resource economics issues to real life problems.
   - demonstrate the uses of economics in the area of natural resources.
   - explain how natural resource economics applies within a global economy and everyday life.

5. **Method of Assessing Student Learning Outcomes:**
   Learning outcomes will be measured by four exams, chapter homework, and additional discussions via Flipgrid. This will be a regular lecture just split in half.

6. **Textbook and Materials:**
   - **Materials Required for course:** Calculator
   - **Download the App Flipgrid**

   **Optional Textbook:**

   **Required Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students in Class**
   As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory Facial Covering Policy to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this class are required to wear a mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members may also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct.

7. **Course Policies:**
   **Class attendance rules:** Regular attendance in face-to-face sessions is a vital part of the learning process. I expect students enrolled in AGEC 4351 to attend every scheduled lecture and in-class activity.

   **Transitioning to Remote Learning**
   Should the need to transition to remote learning arise, I will develop and post a new syllabus that will describe the changes we will need to make. In the event that we transition
to remote learning, the first thing that I will require of each student is an action plan that describes the steps you will take to keep up with the course in the new format. This will be a graded assignment, so please start thinking now about what you will do so that you are prepared.

**How I Take Attendance**

I will maintain a record of every student’s attendance for each day of class. If I do not record that you were in class then you will be counted absent on that day.

**Information Missed During an Absence**

You are responsible for any information related to the class that you miss while absent. I am happy to answer any questions you might have, but I will not reproduce a lecture for you in my office.

**Angelo State University Policy on Religious Holy Days**

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.

**Policy on Missing a Due Date**

It is vital that you regularly assess your knowledge of the material presented in this course if you want to accomplish the course learning goals. For this reason, every assignment or quiz must be completed by the date and time announced in class, on Blackboard, or in the syllabus. You may complete any of the study assignments or course entry tasks after their due date; however, late assignments will receive an automatic 50% reduction in their score. The deadline to submit late assignments for partial credit is November 20 at 11:59 pm.

### 8. Course Grading Policies:

**Grading Scale:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90 – 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80 – 89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70 – 79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60 – 69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0 – 59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Examination Schedule:**

See tentative schedule for exam times.

Make-up exams will be given if 1) The instructor is informed prior to the exam and 2) the student can provide information (doctor’s note, etc.) about why the absence could not be avoided. The test must be made up within one week or it will be a zero.

- 100 points per exam
- 10 points per chapter on homework
- 5 points per Flipgrid Assignment
- 9 point pre – sustainability write up
- 12 point post – sustainability write up

TBA points per project
Your grade = your total points / total points possible

**There will be no make-up quizzes**, because the answers will be given in class or posted online after the quiz.

Late homework will not be accepted and will receive a zero, unless there is a documented emergency or other arrangements have been made in advance. Also, students must show work on all homework or they will receive a zero.

**Extra Credit – Course Policy:** See tentative schedule for possible extra credit opportunities. Extra credit is just that, extra credit. You should not rely on extra credit to pass this class. If you cannot do the extra credit, that is your choice and you should not ask for additional opportunities.

9. **Use of Cell Phones & Electronic Devices:**

   The use of cell phones or other communication devices will not be permitted during in-session classes. **NO TEXTING ALLOWED IN CLASS!!!** If brought to class, these devices must be turned off and stored out of sight. In the event a student is caught using an electronic device of any nature during exams, quizzes, or other confidential circumstances, the student will be subject to disciplinary action under the academic misconduct.

   The use of laptop computers is permissible in classes only upon prior approval by the specific instructor for that course. Any use of laptop computers or any other similar learning aids that are used in a dishonest manner by the student will result in forfeiture of the privilege to use such items in class and the student will be subject to disciplinary action under the academic misconduct.

10. **University Policies:**

**Academic Honesty**

Academic honesty is expected on all work. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their online experiences. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

We adhere to the academic honesty statement as set forth in the Angelo State University Student Handbook: Angelo State University’s Academic Integrity Policy. The University "faculty expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach and to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experience both in and out of the classroom setting and may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials."

**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism at ASU is a serious topic. The Angelo State University’s Honor Code gives specific details on plagiarism and what it encompasses. Plagiarism is the action or practice
of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word for word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. We use the APA Style Manual of the American Psychological Association as a guide for all writing assignments. Quotes should be used sparingly. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list. Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality via Bb Safe Assignment or Turnitin. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center: Angelo State University’s Writing Center Website.

Students with Disabilities

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation. Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website at www.angelo.edu/ADA. The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Ms. Dallas A. Swafford
Director of Student Disability Services
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112
325-942-2047
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu

Title IX at Angelo State University

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. Sex discrimination, sexual misconduct, public indecency, interpersonal violence, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, and stalking are not tolerated at ASU. As a faculty member, I am a Responsible Employee meaning that I will report any allegations I am notified of to the Office of Title IX Compliance in order to connect students with resources and options in addressing the allegations reported. You are encouraged to report any incidents to ASU’s Office of Title IX Compliance and the Title IX Coordinator. You may do so by contacting:

Michelle Miller J.D.
Special Assistant to the President and Title IX Coordinator
Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
michelle.boone@angelo.edu

You may also file a report online 24/7 at www.angelo.edu/incident-form. If you are wishing to speak to someone about an incident in confidence you may contact the University Health Clinic and Counseling Center at 325-942-2173 or the ASU Crisis Helpline at 325-486-6345. The Office of Title IX Compliance also provides accommodations related to pregnancy (such as communicating with your professors regarding medically necessary absences, modifications required because of pregnancy, etc.). If you are pregnant and need assistance or accommodations, please contact the Office of Title IX Compliance utilizing the information above. For more information about Title IX in general you may visit www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days
“A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence.” Please see ASU Operating Policy 10.19.

11. Additional Information:
Announcements in class supersede any written statements.

Policies on Deviations from the Published Schedule
While I hope I do not have to make any changes to the course schedule, there is always the possibility that special circumstances will arise that necessitate changes be made. If such a circumstance occurs then I will communicate it in class, via Blackboard, and by email. Once announced, any such change will supersede what is written in this syllabus or currently published online.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 17-23</td>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Ch. 1 Important Issues in Natural Resource Econ.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 24-30</td>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Ch. 2 Natural Resources and the Economy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 31-Sept. 6</td>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Ch. 3 Willingness to Pay/Demand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 7-13</td>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Ch. 4 Costs/Supply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 14-20</td>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Ch. 5 Efficiency and Sustainability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 21-27</td>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Ch. 6 Markets and Efficiency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 28-Oct. 4</td>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Ch. 7 Public Policy for Natural Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 5-11</td>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Ch. 8 Principles of Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 12-18</td>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Ch. 9 The Valuation of Natural Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 19-25</td>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Ch. 10 Mineral Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 26-November 1</td>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Ch. 11 Energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
November 2-8     Week 12     Ch. 12 Forest Economics
November 9-15    Week 13     Ch. 15 Water Resources
November 16-22   Week 14     Ch. 16 Economics of Agriculture

**Final Exam: Saturday, Nov. 21, 2020 10:30am-12:30am**

**Homework Assignments:** HW assignment due dates will be given at the beginning of the week.

Ch. 2 1-5  
Ch. 3 1-5  
Ch. 4 1-4  
Ch. 5 1-5  
Ch. 6 1-5  
Ch. 7 1-4  
Ch. 8 1-6  
Ch. 9 1-6  
Ch. 10 1-6  
Ch. 11 1-4

The rest of the chapters would be determined based on which chapters are selected by the students.