

**New York City College of Technology  
Interdisciplinary Committee  
Existing Course Review Form**

**DATE:** 12/9/13

**REVIEWER:** David B. Smith

**COURSE TITLE & NUMBER:** ECON 2505 Environmental Economics

**CREDIT HOURS:** 3

**PREREQUISITES:** CUNY proficiency in reading and writing and either Econ 1101 or Econ 1401

**COURSE IS:** ☒ Existing ☐ New ☐ In development

**PROPOSED COURSE DESIGNATION:** ☒ College Option ☒ elective ☐ Capstone ☐ other:

**DEPARTMENT HOUSED IN:** Social Science

**PROPOSED STRUCTURE (e.g., co-taught, guest lecture, LC, other):** guest lecture

**CREDIT DISTRIBUTION (if co-taught):** NA

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** This course examines current environmental issues from a macroeconomic perspective, focusing on both the long and short-term economic viability of various proposals to address current environmental challenges. Traditional goals of economic efficiency will be examined in the context of the need to expand renewable energy sources, green design, sustainable construction and resource allocation and other efforts to combat climate change on a global scale.

**STRENGTHS:** The health of our planet and ecosystem hinges on what steps humanity takes over the next generation or 2 so recruitment of guest speakers from an assortment of departments should be not be difficult.

**WEAKNESSES:**

**DESCRIBE & EVALUATE HOW COURSE MEETS INTERDISCIPLINARY CRITERIA?**

Sustainability is an inherently interdisciplinary topic and could include guest speaker participation from more than a dozen departments across all 3 schools in the college. Once the course gets taught, the syllabus will likely evolve to include additional perspectives.

**DESCRIBE & EVALUATE THE INTERDISCIPLINARY STRUCTURE?**

Potential guest speakers from several departments (hospitality management, architectural technology, social science) have already been recruited, as evidenced in the sample syllabus.

**FINAL THOUGHTS:** The course might have too narrow a focus (on economics) to be interdisciplinary or too broad a focus so that no topic goes beyond what is found in a newspaper. The outline provided is a good balance between these 2 extremes. The economic aspect is deep, yet connections outside are well developed.

**New York City College of Technology  
Interdisciplinary Committee  
Existing Course Review Form**

**DATE:** 11/26/13

**REVIEWER:** Ezra Halleck

**COURSE TITLE & NUMBER:** ECON 2505 Environmental Economics

**CREDIT HOURS:** 3

**PREREQUISITES:** CUNY proficiency in reading and writing and either Econ 1101 or Econ 1401

**COURSE IS:** ☒ Existing ☐ New ☐ In development

**PROPOSED COURSE DESIGNATION:** ☒ College Option ☒ elective ☐ Capstone ☐ other:

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**PROPOSED STRUCTURE (e.g., co-taught, guest lecture, LC, other):** guest lecture

**CREDIT DISTRIBUTION (if co-taught):** NA

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** This course examines current environmental issues from a macroeconomic perspective, focusing on both the long and short-term economic viability of various proposals to address current environmental challenges. Traditional goals of economic efficiency will be examined in the context of the need to expand renewable energy sources, green design, sustainable construction and resource allocation and other efforts to combat climate change on a global scale.

**STRENGTHS:** The health of our planet and ecosystem hinges on what steps humanity takes over the next generation or 2 so recruitment of guest speakers from an assortment of departments should be not be difficult.

**WEAKNESSES:** Mathematical modelling is a crucial component to understand and meet environmental challenges. With no mathematics prerequisite, the introduction of modelling into the course may be problematic.

**DESCRIBE & EVLUATE HOW COURSE MEETS INTERDISCIPLINARY CRITERIA?**

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