**SEMINAR: ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS AND POLICY**  
API-905y/Econ 2690hf  
Fall 2017 - Spring 2018

*Nature of the Course:*

This is a year-long research seminar on topics in environmental and natural resource economics. It meets on Wednesdays from 4:15 PM to 5:30 PM. Seminars emphasize theoretical models, quantitative empirical analysis, and public policy applications, featuring presentations by invited speakers. In addition to students, faculty from the area typically participate in the sessions. Auditors are welcome. There will be a brief information session for students who may wish to enroll on Wednesday, August 30th, in Room L-382 of the Harvard Kennedy School at 79 JFK Street, Cambridge. The first meeting of seminar in the fall semester will be on Wednesday, September 6th.

*Course Requirements:*

Registered students must enroll for the full year of the seminar and attend all sessions. 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. graduate-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:*

Robert N. Stavins  
Office: Kennedy School, Room L-306  
Phone: 617-495-1820  
Office Hours: By appointment

Martin Weitzman  
Office: Economics Department, Room 313  
Phone: 617-495-5133

The faculty assistant for the course is: Jason Chapman  
Office: Kennedy School, Opposite L-306  
Phone: 617-496-8054

*Additional Information will be available at the Course Web Site*
SEMINAR IN
ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS AND POLICY

API-905y/Econ 2690hf
Robert Stavins and Martin Weitzman
https://canvas.harvard.edu/courses/30064

Fall 2017, Wednesday, 4:15-5:30 pm
Room L-382, 79 John F. Kennedy Street
John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University

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August 30  Student Orientation

September 6  Sheila Olmstead, University of Texas, Austin. “Reflections on Serving at the
President’s Council of Economic Advisers, 2016-2017.”

September 13  Todd Gerarden, Harvard University. “The Impact of Consumer Subsidies on
Innovation in Solar Panel Manufacturing.”

October 4  Cuicui Chen, Harvard University. “Navigating Market-Based Environmental
Regulation: Lessons from the U.S. Acid Rain Program.”

October 11  Antonio Bento, University of Southern California, Kenneth Gillingham, Yale
University, and Kevin Roth, University of California, Irvine. “The Effect of
Fuel Economy Standards on Vehicle Weight Dispersion and Accident
Fatalities.”

October 18  James Hammitt and Fangli Geng, Harvard University. “Valuing Mortality Risk in
China: Comparing Stated-Preference Estimates from 2005 and 2016.”

October 25  Jing Cao, Yangqin Weng, Tsinghua University, Valerie Karplus, Minghao Qiu, and
Noelle Selin, MIT. “Are Co-Benefits Real? Interactions between Air
Pollution and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Control in China.”

November 1  Richard Freeman, Ran Song, Harvard University, Wenquan Liang, Jinan University,
and Christopher Timmins, Duke University. “Willingness to Pay for Clean
Air in China.”

Note: Name of presenter is in Bold.

For further information, contact Professor Stavins at the Kennedy School (495-1820),
Professor Weitzman at the Department of Economics (495-5133), or the course assistant, Jason
Chapman (496-8054), or visit the seminar web site.