

Syllabus

BREM3001E Markets and the Economics of Natural Resources

Prof. Dr. Jürgen Antony

Winter term 2023/24

Level	Bachelor	
Credits	5 ECTS	
Student Contact Hours	4 (45 minutes)	
Workload	150 hours, 60 hours within class and 90 hours for self-study	
Prerequisites	semester 1 and 2 completed (not more than 10 credits missing)	
Time	Wednesday, 08:00-09:30 and 09:45-11:15	
Room	W1.3.02	
Start Date	04.10.2023	
Lecturer	Name	Prof. Dr. Jürgen Antony
	Office	W4.1.03
	Office Hours	Wednesday 12:00 – 13:30
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Summary

In general, we discuss the motivation why we have to care about natural resources essential to production from the business as well as from the economic perspective. At the end you will understand how important resource markets are functioning and how our topics are related to findings from resource economics. We aim at understanding of developments (e.g. prices or volatility) on important resource markets. Additionally, we discuss particular instruments in resource trading (e.g. options and futures contracts).

Outline of the Course

1. Introduction
2. Review of Basic Economic Concepts
3. Economic View on Natural Resources
4. Market Deficits and Natural Resources
5. Introduction to specific Natural Resources and their Markets
6. Specific Resource Markets and Market instruments
7. Case Study

Course Intended Learning Outcomes and their Contribution to Program Intended Learning Outcomes / Program Goals

Program Intended Learning Outcomes		Course Intended Learning Outcomes	Assessment Method
After completion of the program the students will be able...		After completion of the course the students will be able...	Written Exam
			100%
			Individual
1 Expert Knowledge			
1.1	...to demonstrate their distinguished and sound competencies in General Business Administration.	... to understand the role and importance of developments on resource market as a framework condition for enterprises as well as market instruments available for optimizing production possibilities,	X
1.2	...to demonstrate their distinguished and sound competencies in Economics.	... to understand resource economics and their implications for developments on resource markets as well as effects of such developments on enterprises and the macroeconomy in general,	X
1.3	...to have command of legal methodology for case solutions on basis of claims.	... to understand trading instruments on resource markets,	X
1.4	...to solve business problems based on profound data research skills and by applying quantitative methods.	... to assess developments on resource markets quantitatively and applying general statistic methods to resources.	X
2 Digital Skills			
3 Critical Thinking and Analytical Competence			
3.1	...to implement adequate methods in a competent manner and to apply them to complex problems.	...to identify causes / consequences and benefits / risks of developments on resource markets and availability of resources,	X
3.2	...to critically reflect and interpret findings and to develop comprehensive solutions for complex problems.	... to discuss analytical findings related to business and economic topics on causes / consequences and benefits / risks of developments on resource markets and availability of resources.	X
4 Ethical Awareness			
	...to develop sound strategies in the areas of ethics, sustainable development and social responsibility and are able to apply them to typical economic decision-making problems.	...to interpret analytical findings with respect to their consequences from the business and the economic perspective and identify relevant trade-offs.	X
5 Communication and Collaboration Skills			
6 Internationalization			
6.1	...to understand and explain business challenges in an international context.	...to understand relevant instruments available on international resource and financial markets.	X

Teaching and Learning Approach

The course is organized as a lecture. However, your contribution and discussions are very welcome. We will discuss a considerable number of issues related to resources used for production. We will use theoretical models, quantitative methods and we will look at empirical observations. Throughout the course, we will go beyond pure theory and will apply economic and statistical methods to contemporary problems in resource economics.

Literature and Course Materials

Course material is available via the course' moodle page:

<https://lms.hs-pforzheim.de/course/view.php?id=3626>

Basic literature:

Baker, R. P. (2010): The Trade Lifecycle: Behind the Scenes of the Trading Process (Wiley Finance)

Clark, E. et al. (2001): International Commodity Trading: Physical and Derivative Markets (Wiley Trade Series)

Conrad, J. (2011): Resource Economics. Cambridge University Press

OECD (2012): Sustainable Materials Management: Making Better Use of Resources, Paris

Perman, R. et al. (2011): Natural Resource and Environmental Economics, Pearson.

More detailed information about the literature for every chapter will be given during the lecture.

Assessment

Written exam at the end of lecture term