

ESM 281: Corporate Environmental Management

Winter 2023

Tuesday and Thursday: 9:30-10:45

Room 1510, Bren Hall

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Office hours: Wed 12:10 -2:00 and by appointment

It used to be that everyone believed that every environmental regulation was a financial burden for firms. Protecting the environment after all was costly, even if the benefits to society outweighed the costs to firms. Later, some firms realized that environmental regulations could be a source of competitive advantage, at least for firms whose compliance costs were lower than their competitors. These days, the talk is about win-win scenarios where companies' profits grow when they do more to protect the environment, which may seem implausible. Firms that make profits from pollution reduction seem as easy as picking up a twenty dollar bill. These are important topics to understand if you are working in a firm or trying to solve environmental problems because firms are at center of virtually every environmental problem.

Course materials:

The readings schedule for this course is posted on the Gauchospace course website. Some readings can be downloaded from Gauchospace. Other readings are available for purchase from the Harvard Business School's website.

Assignments: see course webpage on Gauchospace for details

Clinic strategy memo: 15% (group)

Clinic video: 5% (group)

Career memo: 10%

LemonTree memo: 15%

Sustainability report memo: 15% (group)

EJ reporting memo: 15%

GHG assignment: 10%

Class participation 15%

Class Policies:

Each student is responsible for his or her own work within the team. Any form of cheating or plagiarism will not be tolerated in this class. Refer to the Student Handbook for guidelines on cheating and plagiarism. These rules will be observed and enforced in this course. Cheating or plagiarism on any paper, assignment, quiz or exam will result in a reduced grade.

If you must miss an assignment or exam, I will consider your excuse. Your case will be helped if you have supporting evidence (i.e., doctor's notice). If you will miss an exam, you need to let me as soon as you can. If I am not in my office, you can email, call, or you can leave a note for me in my Bren mailbox. If due to some extreme emergency you cannot let me know in advance that you will miss a test or deadline, I will consider your excuse. If I find your excuse suitable, I will make arrangements for an extension. Do not assume that I will automatically grant extensions.

If you think an assignment has been misgraded, you can request that I re-grade it. Students requesting a re-grade must submit to me a one paragraph typed explanation of why a different grade is justified. Students seeking a re-grade should wait at least one day, but not more than a week, after receiving their grade before submitting their explanation to me. If I find that I have made a mistake, I will make the appropriate changes to your grade. There are no opportunities for extra credit in this class. I will not grant any incompletes. Students must pass all tests and assignments in order to pass the class.

Class Schedule: See course webpage on Gauchospace for details.