

Department of Economics  
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discusses: the key findings of the paper; major assumptions or limitations of the analysis; issues of relevance for policymaking. I will randomly select several of these summaries during the semester to evaluate as part of your class participation grade.



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Week 1: Overview: transportation markets, energy and the environment

January 10. Lecture 1. Introduction - course goals, thinking like an economist

January 12. Lecture 2. Market for driving

January 14. Lecture 3. Introduction to empirical analysis

*Reading: "What is econometrics"*

***Problem Set 1 Distributed***

Week 2: Aggregate demand for transportation

January 17. MLK Holiday –

January 19. Lecture 4. Gasoline demand

*Reading: \*Hughes, Knittel and Sperling (2008)*

January 21. Lecture 5. Gas prices, fuel economy and vehicle choice

*Reading: \*Busse, Knittel and Zettelmeyer (2010)*

***Problem Set 1 Due***

Week 3: Environmental economics review

January 24. Lecture 6. Measures of value, measures of waste, efficiency

January 26. Lecture 7. Externalities, marginal private and marginal social cost

January 28. Lecture 8. Policies for addressing externalities

February 18. Lecture 17. Renewable fuel standards

***Problem Set 3 Due***

Week 7: Costs of driving – continued

February 21. Lecture 18. Biofuels

*Reading: \*Anderson (2010)*

February 23. Lecture 19. Fuel economy standards

*Reading: “Essays” Chapter 8, Jacobson (2010)*

February 25. Lecture 20. Highway fatalities

*Reading: \*Grabowski and Morrissey (2005)*

***Problem Set 4 Distributed***

Week 8: Costs of driving – continued

February 28. Lecture 21. Highway fatalities revisited

*Reading: \*Anderson and Auffhammer (2010)*

March 2. Lecture 22. Congestion and value of time

*Reading: “Essays” Chapter 6*

March 4. Lecture 23. Congestion and value of time

*Reading: \*P Crn1064 460.44 cm BT 50 0 0 50 0 0 Tm /F3.0 1 Tf ( ) TjET Q q 0.24 0 0 0.24 19*

Week 13: The firm and market power review

April 4. Lecture 32. Monopoly (inc. price discrimination)

April 6. Lecture 33. Oligopoly and firm interaction

April 8. Lecture 34. Oligopoly and firm interaction

Week 14: Freight transport

April 11. Lecture 35. Economies of density and network size

*Reading:* "Essays" Chapter 3

April 13. Lecture 36.

*Reading:* Bitzen and Keeler (2007)

April 15. Lecture 37. Network industries.