

Literature for MESS24, Environmental Studies and Sustainability Science: Economy and Sustainability applies from the spring semester 2026

Literature established by The Board of the Lund University Centre for
Sustainability Studies on 2026-02-06 to apply from 2026-02-06

Required reading

- Adams, J. (2025) *Designing for life: Reimagining nature finance*. Circular bioeconomy alliance. https://circularbioeconomyalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/CBA_Nature-Finance-essay_Oct2025.pdf (23 pages)
- Anand S. and Sen, A. (2000) Human Development and Economic Sustainability. *World Development*, 28 (12): 2029-2049. (20 pages)
- Angner, E. (2024) *How Economics Can Save the World*. Penguin books. (30 pages)
- Babic, M. (2024) Green finance in the global energy transition: Actors, instruments, and politics. *Energy Research and Social Science*.111: 103482. (14 pages)
- Boardman, A., Greenberg, D., Vining, A., Weimer, D., (2011b). Cost-Benefit Analysis. Concepts and Practice. Pearson Prentice Hall, New Jersey, USA. Read Chapter 1, introduction p.1-28 (28 pages)
- Boston, J., (2022). Living within biophysical limits: Green growth versus degrowth. *Policy Quarterly*, 18(2): 81-92. (11 pages)
- **Boyd, E.**, Chaffin, B. C., Dorkenoo, K., Jackson, G., Harrington, L., N'Guetta, A., Johansson, E. L., Nordlander, L., Paolo De Rosa, S., Raju, E., Scown, M., Soo, J., & Stuart-Smith, R. (2021). Loss and damage from climate change: A new climate justice agenda. *One Earth*. 4(10): 1365-1370. (5 pages)
- **Brand-Correa, L.**, et al. (2022) Economics for people and planet—moving beyond the neoclassical paradigm. *The Lancet*. 6:4, E371-E379. (8 pages)
- Castree, N. (2008). Neoliberalising Nature: The Logics of Deregulation and Reregulation. *Environment and Planning A: Economy and Space*, 40(1), 131-152. (21 pages)
- Chang, H.-J. (2014) *Economics: The User's Guide*. Penguin Books. Chapter 4 (section on neoclassical economics) and Chapter 5. (40 pages)

- Christiansen, J., **Irvine-Broque, A.**, Dempsey, J., Nelson, S., Shapiro-Garza, E., Bigger, P., and Islar, M. (2025). Off the charts? Reasons to be skeptical of the growth in biodiversity finance. *Current opinion in environmental sustainability*. 75: 101544. (10 pages)
- **Clapp, J.**, and Ryan Isakson, S. (2018) Risky Returns: The Implications of Financialization in the Food System. *Development and Change*. 49(2): 437-460. (23 pages)
- Daly, H.E. (2005) Economics in a full world. *Scientific American*, 293(3) 100-107. (7 pages)
- Diesendorf, M., Davies, G., Wiedmann, T., Spangenberg, J. H., & Hail, S. (2024) Sustainability scientists' critique of neoclassical economics. *Global Sustainability*. 7:e33. doi:10.1017/sus.2024.36 (13 pages)
- **Dutt, D.**, et al. (2025) *Decolonizing economics. An introduction*. Polity Press. Chapter 5 (Heterodox Economics and the Decolonization Agenda) + 7 (Exploring the Decolonization Agenda). (45 pages)
- Ekins, P., **Simon, S.**, Deutsch, L., Folke, C., & de Groot, R. (2003) A framework for the practical application of the concepts of critical natural capital and strong sustainability. *Ecological Economics*, 44(2-3): 165-185 (20 pages)
- Escobar, A. (2015). Degrowth, postdevelopment, and transitions: a preliminary conversation. *Sustainability Science*, 10(3): 451-462. (9 pages)
- Farber, S., Costanza, R., Wilson, M.A. (2002) Economic and ecological concepts for valuing ecosystem services. *Ecological Economics* 41(3): 375-392 (17 pages)
- **Fischer, L.**, et al (eds) (2018) Rethinking Economics. An introduction to pluralist economics. Routledge. Read introduction + 1 other chapter. (approximately 30 pages)
- Fullerton, D. and Stavins, R. (1998) How Economists See the Environment. *Nature* 395: 433-434. (2 pages)
- Green Finance Platform (2023) Explore Green and Sustainable Finance. Available at: <https://www.greenfinanceplatform.org/page/explore-green-finance>
- **Heinzerling, L.** & Ackerman, F. (2002) *Pricing the priceless: Cost-benefit analysis of environmental protection*. Georgetown Environmental Law and Policy Institute and Georgetown University Law Center. Available at: <https://www.bu.edu/eci/files/2019/06/C-B-pamphlet-final.pdf> (38 pages)
- Herrero, H. (2024) The Proliferation of Municipal Green Bonds in Africa and Latin America: The Need for a Climate Justice Approach. *Environment & Urbanization*. 36(1): 147-172. (25 pages)
- **Hiss, S.** (2013). The Politics of the Financialization of Sustainability. *Competition & Change*, 17(3): 234-247. (13 pages)
- Holt-Giménez, E. (2019). Capitalism, food, and social movements: The political economy of food system transformation. *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development*, 9(A): 23–35. (22 pages)
- **Irvine-Broque, A.**, **DiSilvestro, A.**, & Dempsey, J. (2022). The road less travelled: Finance for diverse ecological futures. *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space*, 5(4): 2372-2375. <https://doi.org/10.1177/25148486211030432> (3 pages)
- Jones, C.J. (2025) *The invention of infinite growth*. University of Chicago Press. Chapter 2: The discovery of growth. (35-ish Pages)
- Kallis, G. et al. (2025) Post-growth: the science of wellbeing within planetary boundaries. *The Lancet Planetary Health*, 9,(1): e62 - e78. (15 pages)

- Keen, S. (2022). The appallingly bad neoclassical economics of climate change. *Globalizations*. 18(7): 1149-1177. (28 pages)
- Lait, J., Foxon, T.J., **McLachlan, C.**, & Sudmant, A. (2025) Valuing the wider benefits of net zero: Conceptual foundations of new assessment frameworks in the United Kingdom. *Energy Research & Social Science*, 131: 104516. (12 pages)
- Mann, G. (2013) *Disassembly Required: A Field Guide to Actually Existing Capitalism*. ISBN: 9781849351263. Chapter 1. (19 pages)
- **Murray Li, T.** (2014) Assembling a resource for global investment. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*. 39: 589-602. (13 pages)
- **Newman, S.** (2020) Finance and Development in Sub-Saharan Africa. In: Knox-Hayes, J. and Wojcik, D. (eds). *The Routledge Handbook of Financial Geography*. Chapter 26. (30 pages)
- Nordhaus, W.D. (2007) A Review of the Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 45 (3): 686–702 (16 pages)
- **Ostrom, E.** (1990) *Governing the Commons: The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action*. Cambridge University Press. Chapter 1. (28 pages)
- **Ostrom, E.** (2002) Common-pool resources and institutions: Toward a revised theory. In: Gardner and Rausser (eds). *Handbook of Agricultural Economics*. Chapter 24. Pages 1315-1339 (24 pages)
- Ouma, S. (2020). This can('t) be an asset class: The world of money management, "society", and the contested morality of farmland investments. *Environment and Planning A: Economy and Space*, 52(1), 66-87
- **Perkins, P.** (2007) Feminist Ecological Economics and Sustainability. *Journal of Bioeconomics*, 9: 227–244. (17 pages)
- Pezzey, J. (2019) Why the Social Cost of Carbon Will Always be Disputed. *WIREs Climate Change*. 10(1): e558. (12 pages)
- **Pop Bermann, E.** (2022). *Thinking like an economist. How Efficiency Replaced Equality in U.S. Public Policy*. Princeton University Press. Chapter 1. (23 pages)
- **Saarikoski, H.**, Mustajoki J, Barton DN, Geneletti D, Langemeyer J, Gomez-Baggethun E, Marttunen M, Antunes P, Keune H, Santos R. (2016) Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis and Cost-Benefit Analysis: Comparing alternative frameworks for integrated valuation of ecosystem services. *Ecosystem Services* 22: 238-249. (9 pages)
- Sen, A. (2013) The ends and means of sustainability. *Journal of Human Development and Capabilities*, 14(1): 6-20. (14 pages)
- **Razavi, S.** (2009) Engendering the political economy of agrarian change. *The Journal of Peasant Studies*, 36:1: 197-226. (29 pages)
- Robertson, M. M. (2006). The nature that capital can see: science, state, and market in the commodification of ecosystem services. *Environment and Planning D: society and space*, 24(3), 367-387. (20 pages)
- Solow, R.M. (1991) Sustainability: an economist's perspective. (12 pages)
- Spash, C.L. (2021) Conceptualising Nature: From Dasgupta to Degrowth. *Environmental Values*, 30(3): 265-275. (10 pages)
- Standing, A. (2023). The financialization of marine conservation: the case of debt-for-ocean swaps. *Development*, 66(1), 46-57. (11 pages)
- Stern, N. (2008). The Economics of Climate Change. *American Economic Review*, 98 (2): 1–37. (37 pages)

- **Teixeira, B.M.** (2021) Underdevelopment, extractivism, and conflict in the Global South and the role of systemic alternatives. *Conjuntura Austral*, 12(59): 21-34. (14 pages)
- Transnational Institute (TNI) (2018) *Financialisation: a primer*. Read: Introduction to financialization, and Section 16: What is the financialisation of nature? Available at: <https://www.tni.org/es/publicación/financierización-guía-básica?translation=en> (7 pages)
- Uri, I., **Robinson, S.A.**, Roberts, J.T. et al. (2024) Equity and Justice in Loss and Damage Finance: A Narrative Review of Catalysts and Obstacles. *Current Climate Change Reports*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40641-024-00196-6> . (13 pages)
- Van Schie D, **McNamara KE**, Yee M, Mirza AB, Westoby R, et al. (2023) Valuing values-based approach for assessing loss and damage. *Climate and Development*, 1-8. (8 pages)
- **Van Veelen, B.** (2021) Cash cows? Assembling low-carbon agriculture through green finance. *Geoforum* 118: 130-139. (9 pages)
- Wolff R. and Resnick S. (2012) *Contending Economic Theories: Neoclassical, Keynesian, and Marxian*. MIT Press. Introduction (30 pages)

In addition to the readings above, students will be asked to watch/listen the following videos/podcasts:

- The Break Down (2024) *What economics gets wrong about climate change*. With Ha-Joon Chang & **Adrienne Buller**. Available at: <https://www.break-down.org/post/episode-four-what-economics-gets-wrong>. 53 minutes.
- New Economics Podcast (2024) *Should we be going for growth?* With **Ayeisha Thomas Smith, Kate Raworth**, and Michael Jacobs. Available at: <https://soundcloud.com/weeklyeconomicspodcast/should-we-be-going-for-growth>. 53 minutes.
- Planet Money (2012) Episode 388: Putting a Price Tag on Your Descendants. NPR. Available at: <https://www.npr.org/sections/money/2012/07/20/157105414/episode-388-putting-a-price-tag-on-your-descendants> (17 minutes)

In addition to the readings above, students will be asked to use one of the documents below for their group assignment:

- Atkinson, G. & Mourato, S. (2015). "Cost-Benefit Analysis and the Environment," OECD Environment Working Papers 97, OECD Publishing. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1787/5jrp6w76tstg-en> (61 pages)

or

- HM Treasury (2018) *The Green Book: Central Government Guidance on Appraisal and Evaluation*. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/623d99f5e90e075f14254676/Green_Book_2022.pdf (72 pages + optional annexes)

In addition to the readings above, students will be asked to read one of the books below for their individual assignment (average 264 pages), or suggest their own.

- **Aranoff, K., Battistoni, A.**, Aldana Cohen, D., & Riofrancos, T. (2019) A planet to win. Why we need a Green New Deal. Verso. ISBN: 1788738314. (208 pages)
- Foundational Economy Collective (2018) Foundational Economy: The Infrastructure of Everyday Life. Manchester University Press. ISBN: 1526133989. (176 pages)
- **Gibson-Graham, J.K., Cameron, J.**, Healy, S. (2013) Take Back the Economy: An ethical guide for transforming our communities. University of Minnesota Press. ISBN: 0816676070. (222 pages)
- Heron, K., Milburn, K., & Russel, B. (2025) Radical abundance: How to win a green democratic future. Pluto press. ISBN: 9780745351353. (272 pages)
- Hickel, J. (2020) Less is More: How degrowth will save the world. Windmill Books. ISBN: 1786091215. (320 pages)
- Jackson, T. (2017) Prosperity without growth: Foundations for the Economy of Tomorrow. Routledge. ISBN: 1138935419. (350 pages)
- Lawrence, M., and Layborne-Langton, L. (2021) Planet on Fire. Verso Books. ISBN: 1788738772. (288 pages)
- **Mazzucato, M.** (2021) Mission Economy: A moonshot guide to changing capitalism. ISBN: 0063273357. (244 pages)
- **Nussbaum, M.** (2013) Creating capabilities: the human development approach. Harvard University Press. ISBN: 8178243296. (237 pages)
- **Raworth, K.** (2018) Doughnut economics: seven ways to think like a 21st century economist. ISBN: 1603587969. (309 pages)
- Schumacher, E.F. (1973) Small is Beautiful: Economics as if people mattered. Harper Perennial. ISBN: 0061997761. (288 pages)

Total number of pages

1236 + 3 podcasts (123 minutes)

Author gender balance

The authors perceived as self-identifying as female are denoted in **bold**. Only first authors and second authors have been analysed for their (assumed) gender. Excluding collective works where no author could be identified, 45% of readings/podcasts have a female author or speaker.