

Erling Berge, 2 August 2004

A CROSS-DISCIPLINARY CLASS ON INSTITUTIONS AND INSTITUTIONAL DESIGN:

SOS3508 Resource management: Institutions and institutional design

Based on contributions from political science, neo-institutional economics, sociology, anthropology, biology, history, and philosophy the goal of the class is to understand better how variations in formal institutions affect economic and social development in general and in particular the sustainable use of resources. Today redesigning institutions to improve on the sustainability of resource use is a primary concern for most governments at all levels.

The class will be thought in English if anyone so wishes.

Deadline for term paper is 19 November.

Syllabus:

Room and time: D116, Dragvoll, Building 9 Level 4, time 1415-1800 starting 14 September (13 Aug and 7 Sep in Room DL 142, time 1615-2000)		
Time: 1615-2000		THEME
1	31 Aug	Introduction to the theme: Institutions and social and economic change Why Institutional design? Institutions: what are they?
2	7 Sep	The construction of social reality: culture, formal vs. informal institutions
3	14 Sep	The customary foundation of institutions
4	21 Sep	a) Property Rights to Nature b) Collective action
5	28 Sep	Cooperation and transaction costs
6	5 Oct	Transactions, measurements and information
7	12 Oct	Origin and development I The Role of Transaction Costs
8	19 Oct	Origin and development II Institutional Change
9	26 Oct	Evolution of institutions?
10	2 Nov	Design principles I Theoretical views
11	9 Nov	Design principles II Empirical generalisations
12	16 Nov	Policy and design I Theoretical views
13	23 Nov	Policy and design II Empirical generalisations
14	30 Nov	Summary discussion