

TEXTBOOKS SUPPORTING A BROADER VIEW

For students seeking a broader and more “real-world” view, as well as teachers who seek to assist their learning, at least seven textbooks are available.

*[Macroeconomics in Context](#) by Neva Goodwin, Julie A. Nelson, and Jonathan Harris of the Tufts U Global Development and Environment Institute (M.E. Sharpe, 2009/437p) covers both standard topics and the broader “contextual economics” approach addressing such topics as macroeconomic goals (decent living standards, security, sustainability), macroeconomics for the 21C and in global context, the three spheres of economic activity (business, public, household/community), and challenges for the 21C (human development, sustainability, discounting the future). *[Microeconomics in Context](#) by Neva Goodwin, Julie A. Nelson, Frank Ackerman, and Thomas Weisskopf (M.E. Sharpe, 2nd Edition, 2009/522p) focuses on human well-being and the broader context of economic activity including the five forms of capital (natural, manufactured, human, social, and financial). [Microeconomic Theory Old and New: A Student’s Guide](#) by ISEE president John Gowdy of RPI (Stanford UP, Jan 2010/208p; see APPENDIX #7) presents contemporary extensions of the core model of economics (Walrasian general equilibrium theory), as well as emerging alternatives. [The Economics Anti-Textbook: A Guide to Critical Thinking](#) by Rod Hill and Tony Myatt of the U of New Brunswick (Zed Books, May 2010/224p) might also be considered as a textbook.

Three textbooks are explicitly designated as “ecological economics.” [Ecological Economics: Principles and Applications](#) by Herman F. Daly of U of Maryland and Joshua Farley of the U of Vermont Gund Institute (Island Press, 2nd edition, Oct 2009/488p; see APPENDIX #6), first published in 2004, views EE as a “transdiscipline,” discussing open and closed systems, types of resources, market failures, GNP vs. ISEW, redefining efficiency, sustainable scale, pricing and valuing non-market goods and services, and the importance of public goods. [Principles of Environmental Economics and Sustainability: An Integrated Economic and Ecological Approach](#) by Ahmed Hussen of Kalamazoo College (Routledge, 3rd edition, April 2013/480p) seeks to reconcile environmental and ecological economics. The first green textbook, however, was issued nearly twenty years ago by three UK professors! [Environmental Economics: An Elementary Introduction](#) by R. Kerry Turner, David Pearce, and Ian Bateman (Johns Hopkins UP, 1993/328p) covered sustainable development, causes of environmental degradation (how markets and governments fail), cost-benefit thinking, valuing nature, coping with uncertainty, economic control of the environment, biodiversity, the ozone layer, and climate change.