Assignment #1 (individual) – World Bank
Due Thursday, April 3

1. Compare/contrast the viewpoints of the “the economists” and “the ecologists” as presented in the “World Bank” case.

2. Consider the material presented on the last page of the case (the excerpt from the internal World Bank memo and the letter to the Economist by Lawrence Summers). Briefly, state the essence of the arguments presented in the memo by Lawrence Summers (which he describes in the letter to the Economist as being “as narrow-minded an economic perspective as possible”). Compare/contrast these arguments with the viewpoints of the “the economists” and “the ecologists” as presented in the case.

The purpose of this assignment is to practice and demonstrate concise critical analysis. (Note that the questions are not asking whether the economists, the ecologists, or Dr. Summers are right or wrong, but rather for a comparative analysis of their arguments. Hopefully, in class we will have sufficient time to broaden the analysis to address additional arguments.) You should prepare an essay (in contrast to a list or an outline). There is no required length, but two pages (single-spaced) should be enough to address the major points.