Economics 1101-001  
Economics of Social Issues  
Spring 2016

Instructor:  Kevin Crimmins  
Office:  218C Friday Building  
E-Mail:  kerimmi1@uncc.edu  
Office Hours:  MW: 12:45 pm – 1:45 pm

Course Website:  http://moodle2.uncc.edu (All course materials are available on Moodle)  
MyEconLab Info:  http://www.myeconlab.com  
Course name:  ECON 1101 Economics of Social Issues  
Course ID :  crimmins05075

Access Code Required!

Textbook:  Economic Analysis of Social Issues  
Authors:  Alan Grant  
Publisher:  Pearson

Course Description:  Economic issues without principles-level emphasis on theoretical models.  
Contemporary economic issues may include international issues, recession, poverty, social security, taxes, and crime. A student is ineligible to take this course if credit has already been received for either ECON 2101 or ECON 2102.

This class will be more like a seminar class than a lecture class. Students are expected to have read and prepared to discuss the chapter being covered in class BEFORE the class session. The instructor will lead a class discussion over the chapter, however the discussion will be driven by students’ questions and current events.

The typical workflow for each chapter will be as follows:

Step 1: Read chapter using the textbook (or etext).
Step 2: Complete a MyEconLab homework assignment using the textbook (or etext), PowerPoint presentations and other tools designed to help you master the material. This assignment is due before our class meeting.
Step 3: Come to class. I will use class time to answer your questions and to reinforce those topics that the class had the most difficulty with in the homework assignment. I will use reports from MyEconLab to identify those topics/concepts that need more attention.
Step 4: Complete a MyEconLab quiz. The quiz is designed to give you practice testing on the material before the test.
Step 5: Take a test after completing four chapters. These tests will be with paper and pencil in our classroom.

Course Objectives:  This course satisfies a Social Science requirement under the Inquiry in the Sciences section of the General Education Requirements. Along with other course objectives, this course will help the student to develop problem-solving skills; skills associated with independent thinking; and will address social, political, and global issues using tools of economic analysis.
Course Policies

**Academic Integrity:** Students have the responsibility to know and observe the requirements of The UNC Charlotte Code of Student Academic Integrity. (This code forbids cheating, fabrication or falsification of information, multiple submissions of academic work, plagiarism, abuse of academic materials, and complicity in academic dishonesty.) Any special requirements or permission regarding academic integrity in this course will be stated by the instructor and are binding on the students. Academic evaluations in this course include a judgment that the student’s work is free from academic dishonesty of any type; and grades in this course therefore should be and will be adversely affected by academic dishonesty. Students who violate the code can be expelled from UNC Charlotte. The normal penalty for a first offense is zero credit on the work involving dishonesty and further substantial reduction of the course grade. In almost all cases, the course grade is reduced to F. Copies of the code can be obtained from the Dean of Students Office. Standards of academic integrity will be enforced in this course. Students are expected to report cases of academic dishonesty to the course instructor.

**Diversity:** The Belk College of Business strives to create an inclusive academic climate in which the dignity of all individuals is respected and maintained. Therefore, we celebrate diversity that includes, but is not limited to ability/disability, age, culture, ethnicity, gender, language, race, religion, sexual orientation, and socio-economic status.

**Academic Accommodations:** UNC Charlotte is committed to access to education. If you have a disability and need academic accommodations, please provide a letter of accommodation from Disability Services early in the semester. For more information on accommodations, contact the Office of Disability Services at 704-687-0040 or visit their office at Fretwell 230.

**Attendance:** Attendance is not taken in this class. However, attendance is strongly encouraged. When attending, students are expected to arrive on time and stay the entire class period. It is expected that you will conduct yourself in a professional manner during class by being attentive.

When missing class, students will be responsible for all information and materials presented in class, and are expected to obtain class notes or assignments from other students in the class. In other words, your primary source of information is the classroom – if something is announced in class I am under no obligation to also post that information online or notify the class via e-mail.

Please do NOT e-mail me to say, “I cut your class today - what did I miss?” I won’t respond. Since I will not be keeping attendance records, you do not need to notify me when you will be missing class for doctor appointments, court dates, or any other reason. Any extra credit opportunities offered in class cannot be made up.

**Make-up work and late work:** There are NO makeup quizzes, NO makeup homework assignments, and NO late work. If you miss an exam (due to illness, family emergency, car trouble, or any other reason besides representing the university), the Final Exam will be your make-up exam. You can only make-up one of the four semester tests. See Tests and Final Exam for more detail. If a student is participating in university business during a scheduled exam and provides the instructor with a written statement from university officials validating the activity before the exam, a make-up test will be provided to the student for that exam.

**Contacting Instructor:** Please feel free to email me at kerimmi1@uncc.edu. I will respond within 24 hours. Also, I will have office hours in 218C of the Friday Building at the times listed above.
Cell phones: Please turn off cell phones and pagers before class begins. If you are expecting a life-or-death phone call, let me know. Otherwise, please no phones. It is very distracting for me and for those around you.

Inclement Weather: In the event of inclement weather that closes the university the day of a scheduled test, the test is automatically rescheduled for the next class meeting. In the event of inclement weather, I will assess the safety of traveling to class and make an appropriate decision that balances safety and class obligations. I recommend that you do the same. If possible, I will make a posting on Moodle prior to the regular class time. (You are advised to save your free absence for the possibility of inclement weather as well as other unforeseen contingencies).

Grading

Homework: Homework constitutes 25% of the final grade. Required homework assignments will be completed and submitted through MyEconLab. The homework assignments are intended to help you learn the material on your own. This requires a high degree of self-motivation and discipline. The key to not being overwhelmed and stressed by the homework is to keep current, handle it in small bites. The worst mistake students make is to wait until the last minute, just before the time limit expires, to try and cram in the assignment without actually learning anything. DO NOT miss your deadlines – I will not extend any deadlines for any reason.

You have an unlimited number of attempts to complete the homework successfully. I know the strategy with assignments like these is usually to just click on answers until you get the right one and move on. That won’t help you in this course. Remember, in this course the point of the homework is to LEARN from it. I will not lecture on all the material in class, so it is in your best interest to read the book before and during the homework and to fully engage in the other helpful tools available in MyEconLab. You should also be proactive about asking for help with concepts that aren’t clear and studying with your classmates. Your two lowest homework grades will be dropped at the end of the semester.

Quizzes: Quizzes constitute 25% of the final grade. Required quizzes will be completed and submitted through MyEconLab. The quizzes are intended to see how prepared you are for a test on the material. Each chapter quiz will be due at 5:00 pm on the day we review for a test. You have three attempts to complete each quiz. Quizzes are intended to be completed in one setting. If you begin a quiz and close it before submitting it for a grade, you will be allowed back in, but you will not have access to questions you have already viewed. Your two lowest quiz grades will be dropped at the end of the semester.

Tests and Final Exam: There will be four tests (each 100 points) and one final exam (100 points). Each exam will be comprised of multiple choice questions and will be taken using Opscan forms. Students should be prepared for the tests by bringing a calculator and pencils (cell phones ≠ calculators). Test grades will be made available either via e-mail or on Moodle or both. Please note, students are not allowed to leave the classroom and return during an exam, so please take care of personal business before entering the room for the exam. Students who arrive late for tests and/or the final examination will be permitted to take the test or exam provided that no student has turned in their paper prior to the student’s arrival. Once a paper has been turned in, late arriving students will not be permitted to begin the test or exam. A student who begins a test or exam late will not be given extra time at the end of the regular test or examination period.

According to the current University exam schedule, the final for this class is the following: Monday, May 9th, 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. The final exam is cumulative and optional. If the final exam is taken,
the lowest test score (of the 4 semester tests and the final) will be dropped at the end of the semester. If the final exam is your lowest test score, the final exam grade will be dropped. If the final exam is NOT taken, all 4 semester tests will make up the “Test Average”, and the zero on the final exam will be dropped.

**TEST SCHEDULE** (Test dates are firm)
Test 1 – Wednesday, February 3rd
Test 2 – Monday, February 29th
Test 3 – Monday, April 4th
Test 4 – Monday, May 2nd

**Final Exam Schedule** (Optional and Cumulative)
Monday, May 9th, 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

**Grade Calculation**: Your grade is computed with the following formula:

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\text{Average(\%)} = (\text{Test Average}) \times 50\% + (\text{Homework Average}) \times 25\% + (\text{Quiz Average}) \times 25\%
\]

Your course grade is determined by the following scale in percentage (the Final grade will be rounded to the nearest whole number):

- A = 90 or above
- B = 80 – 89
- C = 70 – 79
- D = 60 – 69
- F = below 60