ECON 1101-090
Economics of Social Issues
Spring 2013
Friday 137, Tuesday, 6:30pm – 9:15pm

Instructor:  Kevin Crimmins
Office:  Online in the Centra Classroom
E-Mail:  kcrimmi1@uncc.edu
Office Hours:  Tuesday:  5:15pm – 6:15pm (in Friday Building)
  Thursday:  8:00pm – 10:00pm (Online)

Course Website:  All course materials are available on Moodle (http://moodle.uncc.edu)

Textbook:  Introduction to Economics (required)
Author:  Wendy A. Stock
Publisher:  John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
eTextbook:  http://www.coursesmart.com/9780470574782 (360 Day Rental for $49.50)

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.

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.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend, to arrive on time and to stay the entire class period. When missing class, students will be expected to obtain class notes or assignments from other students in the class, not from me. I advise you to share e-mail addresses for this purpose with several persons.

Make-up work and late work: There are NO makeup tests, NO makeup homeworks, and NO late work except for students away representing the university. If you miss an exam (due to illness, family emergency, car trouble, or any other reason besides representing the university), plan to count the zero grade for a test as your lowest test score. See Grading: Tests for more detail.

Contacting Instructor: Please feel free to email me at krimmi1@uncc.edu. I will respond within 24 hours. Also, I will have “office hours” in our online “classroom” once a week and an hour before class in the Friday building (location TBD). Please see hours above. The online classroom will be demonstrated in class.

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.

Grading

Tests: There will be four tests. Due to the large class size, each test (100 points) will be comprised mostly of multiple choice and true false questions, and will be taken on opscan computer-graded forms that will be provided. Occasionally other formats may be used. 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. I will e-mail the class when grades are available. 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.
**Homework:** There are eleven homework assignments during this semester (10 points each). Your total homework points will be divided by 100 points, which means you have the possibility for extra credit if you score well on all of the homework assignments. Each homework assignment will be due at the beginning of class on the day designated by the calendar or the updated calendar issued due to changes in the calendar.

**Final Exam:** According to the current University exam schedule, the final for this class is the following: **Tuesday, May 7, 8:00pm to 10:30pm.** The final exam is optional and cumulative (100 points). If you do take it, your grade on the exam will substitute for your lowest test grade. The exam will not substitute for a test grade resulting from a violation of academic integrity.

**Calculating the grade:** Your grade is computed with the following formula:

\[
\text{Average(\%) } = \frac{\text{Total test points}}{400} \times 75\% + \frac{\text{Total homework points}}{100} \times 25\%
\]

Your course grade is determined by the following scale in percentage:

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

**Tentative Calendar**

This outline is tentative. Test dates will not change, though chapters may shift and/or be dropped. On February 26th, you will have the opportunity to vote for the chapters we will cover after chapter 10. You will have 10 votes to use on the chapters that are not already designated to be covered. You may vote for one chapter more than once. The top six vote getting chapters will be covered as designated on the calendar below.

**Week 1**
1/15 Overview of Course, Class Resources, Chapter 1 & Appendix

**Week 2**
1/22 **Due:** Chapter 1 Discussion Questions and Problems
  Chapter 2, Chapter 3: Demand

**Week 3**
1/29 **Due:** Chapter 2 Discussion Questions and Problems
  Chapter 3: Supply and then Equilibrium

**Week 4**
2/5 **Due:** Chapter 3 Discussion Questions and Problems
  Review, Test 1
Week 5
2/12  Chapter 4, Chapter 5

Week 6
2/19  Due: Chapters 4 and 5 Discussion Questions and Problems
      Chapter 6, Chapter 7

Week 7
2/26  Due: Chapters 6 and 7 Discussion Questions and Problems and Chapter Choices
      Review, Test 2

Week 8
3/5   NO CLASS (Spring Break)

Week 9
3/12  Chapter 8

Week 10
3/19  Due: Chapter 8 Discussion Questions and Problems
      Chapter 9, Chapter 10

3/21  Last Day to withdraw from the course with a “W” grade (and retain other courses)

Week 11
3/26  Due: Chapters 9 and 10 Discussion Questions and Problems
      1st Choice Chapter, Review

Week 12
4/2   Due: 1st Choice Chapter Discussion Questions and Problems
      Test 3

Week 13
4/9   2nd Choice Chapter, 3rd Choice Chapter

Week 14
4/16  Due: 2nd and 3rd Choice Chapters Discussion Questions and Problems
      4th Choice Chapter, 5th Choice Chapter

Week 15
4/23  Due: 4th and 5th Choice Chapters Discussion Questions and Problems
      6th Choice Chapter, Review

Week 16
4/30  Due: 6th Choice Chapter Discussion Questions and Problems
      Test 4

TEST SCHEDULE (Test dates are firm. Chapters will be updated if we get behind.)
Test 1 – Tuesday, February 5th
Test 2 – Tuesday, February 26th
Test 3 – Tuesday, April 4th
Test 4 – Tuesday, April 30th (Last Class!)

FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE (Optional and Cumulative)
Tuesday, May 7, 8:00pm to 10:30pm