Economics 1101-090  
Economics of Social Issues  
Spring 2015

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

Course Website:  http://moodle2.uncc.edu (All course materials are available on Moodle)  
HW Website:  https://www.eztestonline.com/765882/index5.tpx  
Textbook:  Economics of Social Issues (required)  
Author:  Sharp, Register, and Grimes  
Publisher:  McGraw Hill/Irwin  
ISBN:  9780073523248  
eTextbook:  http://www.coursesmart.com/9780073523248

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.

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. When missing class, students will be expected to obtain class notes from other students in the class, not from me. It is expected that you will conduct yourself in a professional manner during class by being attentive.

**Make-up work and late work:** There are NO makeup tests, NO makeup quizzes, 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 as your lowest exam score and to take the Final. See Tests and Final Exam for more detail.

**Contacting Instructor:** Please feel free to email me at kcrimmi1@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:** The homework questions will be completed online at https://www.eztestonline.com/765882/index5.tpx. Use of this website is free. To register follow the HW website link, register an EZ Test ID, and login in. Homework is 40% of your grade. The homework assignments are intended to help you learn the material on your own. This requires a degree of self-motivation and discipline. The key to success on the homework is to keep current. 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, the point of the homework is not to simply complete it, but to LEARN from it.

**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 4th, 8:00pm to 10:30pm.** 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.

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

Average(%) = (Test Average) x 60% + (Homework Average) x 40%

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
**Tentative Calendar**  
May be modified based on constraints.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 12</td>
<td>Overview of Course and Class Resources; Chapter 1</td>
<td>Mar 16</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
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<td>Jan 19</td>
<td><strong>No Class</strong></td>
<td>Mar 23</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
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<td>Jan 26</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
<td>Mar 30</td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
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<td>Feb 2</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
<td>Apr 6</td>
<td><strong>Test 3, Chapter 10</strong></td>
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<td>Feb 9</td>
<td><strong>Test 1, Chapter 4</strong></td>
<td>Apr 13</td>
<td>Chapter 11</td>
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<td>Feb 16</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
<td>Apr 20</td>
<td>Chapter 12</td>
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<td>Feb 23</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
<td>Apr 27</td>
<td><strong>Test 4</strong></td>
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<td>Mar 2</td>
<td><strong>No Class</strong></td>
<td>May 4</td>
<td><strong>Final (8:00-10:30pm)</strong></td>
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<td>Mar 9</td>
<td><strong>Test 2</strong></td>
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**TEST SCHEDULE** (Test dates are firm. Chapters will be updated if we get behind.)
Test 1 – Monday, February 9th
Test 2 – Monday, March 9th
Test 3 – Monday, April 6th
Test 4 – Monday, April 27th

**FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE** (Optional and Cumulative)
Monday, May 4th, 8:00pm to 10:30pm