

CAPILANO UNIVERSITY COURSE OUTLINE			
TERM: FALL 2015	COURSE NO: ECON 350		
INSTRUCTOR:	COURSE NAME: REVOLUTIONS: ECONOMICS AND THE ECONOMY		
OFFICE: E-MAIL:	LOCAL:	SECTION NO:	CREDITS: 3

COURSE FORMAT:

Three instructional hours plus an additional fourth hour activity (Moodle) per week for 15 weeks, which includes two weeks for final exams.

COURSE WEBSITE:

<http://moodle.capilanou.ca> (Revolutions: Economics and the Economy (N. Amon))

COURSE PREREQUISITES:

45 credits of 100-level or higher coursework.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

One traditional view of economics is that it is “A study of mankind in the ordinary business of life. It examines that part of individual and social actions which is closely related with attainment and use of material requisites of well-being.”

This course will study how, historically, humanity has provided for its needs and wants and how and why the mechanisms for “... attaining and using material requisites....” have been transformed from hunting and gathering societies through to global late capitalism. The course will examine the revolutionary shifts from foraging to slave based economies, to feudalism and then to competitive and monopoly capitalism.

The course will also identify the economic ideas from the Greek city states to late capitalism and explain the major changes in the dominant paradigm in response to revolutionary changes in the underlying economic system.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

A successful student will be able to:

- a. Identify the major elements of both pre-industrial and industrial economies. Evaluation will be based on a student’s contribution to the Moodle discussion fora (see below) throughout the semester and answers to exam questions.
- b. Understand competing theories of revolutionary changes in the structure of the economy. Evaluation will be based on a student’s contribution to the Moodle discussion fora throughout the semester and answers to exam questions

Course learning outcomes – continued

- c. Demonstrate an understanding of the teachings of, among others, Aristotle, Aquinas, the mercantilists, Smith, Mill, Marx, Keynes, Hayek and Friedman. Evaluation will be based on a student's contribution to the Moodle discussion fora throughout the semester and answers to exam questions.
- d. Assess the contribution of major schools of economic thought to an understanding of economic change. Evaluation will be based on a student's contribution to the Moodle discussion fora throughout the semester and answers to final exam questions
- e. Assess the connections between fundamental changes in the structure of the economy and major paradigm shifts in economic ideas. Evaluation will be based on a student's contribution to the Moodle discussion fora throughout the semester, answers to final exam questions
- f. Organize and evaluate information from a wide variety of sources and competing economic models and develop clear arguments to support their conclusions.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Appleby, Joyce Oldham. The Relentless Revolution: A History of Capitalism. New York; London: W.W. Norton and Sons, 2010

Woods, Ellen Meiskins, The Origin of Capitalism. London, Verso, 2002

Goodwin, Michael, Economix: How Our Economy Works and Doesn't Work, New York, 2012

COURSE CONTENT:

WEEK	TOPIC
1	Introduction: Change: Revolutionary or evolutionary?
2	The neolithic and urban revolutions
3	The transition from slavery to feudalism
4	The commercial revolution.
5	The rise of capitalism
6	The bourgeois revolutions
7	Smith and the market revolution
8	The demographic and agricultural revolutions
9	The industrial revolution
10	The corporate revolution
11	The imperial revolution
12	The Keynesian revolution
13	The monetarist counter-revolution
14 and 15	Final Exam period

READING LIST: Available on Moodle at the beginning of the semester

EVALUATION PROFILE:

Participation and attendance	10%
Moodle discussion fora (8 at 2%)	16%
Very short paper	10%
Midterm	15%
Final Exam	20%
Outline and Bibliography	5%
Research Paper	<u>24%</u>
Total	100%

GRADING PROFILE:

A+ = 90 - 100%	B+ = 77 - 79%	C+ = 67 - 69%	D = 50 - 59%
A = 85 - 89	B = 73 - 76	C = 63 - 66	F = 0 - 49
A- = 80 - 84	B- = 70 - 72	C- = 60 - 62	

MOODLE:

A website that contains additional readings and worksheets, dates of exams etc.
 Any announcements will be posted on the Moodle website
 You will need to register for Moodle. Any student who registers in the correct Moodle section before midnight on the date specified will receive a bonus mark for the course

FOURTH HOUR ACTIVITIES:

Students should participate in at least 8 of the weekly discussion fora posted on Moodle. Only the first 8 marks will be counted.
 The instructor will monitor student involvement in Moodle discussion fora on a regular basis, sometimes commenting on a forum a few days before it is closed. Students should expect to include their response to these as well as their peers' comments in their final submission to each forum.
 In addition students will be responsible for reading and discussing the material posted on Moodle that isn't covered in class. Additional reading will be required in those weeks when classes are disrupted by public holidays.

Participation:

Based on several factors, including attendance, proper preparation for class, active and useful participation in class activities, on attitude to the class, towards the material and towards others, the results of unannounced quizzes and the avoidance of inappropriate classroom behaviour (see below).

ASSIGNMENTS:**Midterm/Final:**

The midterm and final exam will consist primarily of short and long answer questions.

The Final exam is comprehensive and at a date determined by the Registrar's Office. Since students are required to take the exam at the scheduled time don't finalize travel or other plans before the end of the scheduled exam period.

Discussion fora:

Lists of discussion topics will be posted in the first week of classes and after midterm and each student is expected to participate actively in the Moodle

Assignments – continued

discussion fora around eight of the posted topics. The first comment from a student in each forum will be marked out of 70% of the mark for the forum. Additional comments will be marked collectively out of the remaining 30%. Each discussion topic will have two due dates posted on Moodle - the first for the initial submission and the second for additional comments - after which the forum will be closed to new comments.

Very Short Paper:

The questions will be the first 8 discussion topics on Moodle. The emphasis in the very short paper is on the organisation of relatively complex material from the textbooks and class discussion rather than library research. Students are expected to integrate classroom material, the assigned readings and the material generated in the relevant discussion fora.

750 - 1000 words long. The number and topic question must be clearly stated on the front page of the assignment.

Due date: One week after the final due date for the equivalent discussion forum. The dates will be available on the Moodle website as the discussion topics are posted. The penalty for a late paper is 20% a week or part thereof, counting from the due date, but will be waived for the first week. Late papers will receive no comments.

Research Paper:

- a. Students must discuss their topic with the instructor before beginning work on the outline and bibliography. Topics that mirror the discussion fora will not be accepted.
- b. A statement of thesis along with a clearly structured outline and bibliography must be completed and handed in by the due date. No research paper will be accepted without prior approval of the outline having been given. The outline is worth 5% but the penalty for being late is 100%!!!
- c. Due date will be announced.

OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grade), Student Conduct, Cheating and Plagiarism, Academic Probation and other educational issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.

Attendance:

Attendance is expected: Repeated absences will entail missing course content and discussion fora and may reduce the student's ability to understand textbook material. Furthermore, some topics may be extended beyond the scope of the textbook or be covered in a different format.

It is the student's responsibility to discover the contents of all announcements made in class from other students.

Missed Exams:

A missed exam will be given a zero grade unless prior approval by the instructor has been given or satisfactory evidence such as medical certificate is provided certifying the reason for the student's absence. Please inform the instructor

Operational details - continued

before the exam. Make-up exams may not be possible after the exam has been graded and returned to the class. A student with poor attendance or who has failed to be involved in Moodle discussion fora on a regular basis will NOT be allowed to make up an exam. Furthermore, it is a student's responsibility to ensure that he/she has the correct examination date, time and room number for the section he/she is registered in.

Late Assignments: All written assignments should be handed to the instructor in class, at the beginning of class, on the due date. The instructor accepts no responsibility for papers not handed in in class.

All late work except the outline and bibliography will be penalised at 20% a week or part thereof (counted from the due date). The penalty will be waived if the paper is handed in during the first week after the deadline but the paper will receive no comments.

Emailed papers will only be accepted as proof that deadlines have been met. An identical paper in printed form should be submitted as soon as possible or the paper will not be marked.

Emailed late papers will receive the same penalties as papers handed in, with penalties assessed from the time and date on the email. The instructor will not confirm the safe delivery of papers sent by email.

No papers accepted after November 27th 2014

Incomplete Grades: I grades will only be granted under exceptional circumstances and require the instructor's written consent. No student who fails to meet deadlines during the semester will be granted an I grade.

English Usage: University level writing skills are required in all assignments. Spelling, punctuation and grammatical error will result in a reduced grade and, if they are excessive, may result in the instructor refusing to grade the paper. See the English Writing Centre for help.

Electronic Devices: No personal electronic devices (cell phones, pagers, calculators, electronic dictionaries, etc.) may be used during class or an examination without prior approval from the instructor. During class or an exam, turn off all cell phones and pagers and remove them from the desk.

Inappropriate classroom behaviour:

Classroom learning is a cooperative endeavour. To facilitate this students are expected to behave appropriately in class.

Inappropriate behaviour includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Entering or leaving the classroom while the class is in progress
2. Private, off-topic or otherwise distracting discussion during class time
3. Reading the textbook, or any other book, during class time
4. Sexist and/or racist language or behaviour.

Operational details - continued

5. The unauthorized use of a computer during class time. Computers may only be used in class with the instructor's approval and only for note taking or other course related work.
 6. Any on-line activities.
 7. The use of a cell or smart phone, whether to accept or make calls or text messages. Cell phones must be turned off during class time.
 8. The use of headphones or equivalent.
- A student exhibiting any of these, or other, disruptive behaviours may be required to leave the class and may be asked to withdraw from the course.

Office Hours: Regular semester and exam period office hours are posted on Moodle and outside the instructor's office, and are available in the front desk in the Social Science area.
I will not respond to emails requesting information about my posted schedule or other information (due dates, exam dates etc.) announced in class or on the course outline.

Emails: Please don't expect an immediate response to an email. The instructor will reply during the next scheduled office hours. The instructor will not email to confirm the safe arrival of papers, to give out marks or to repeat anything from the course outline or the Moodle website.

Emergency Procedures: Students are expected to familiarize themselves with the emergency procedures posted both on the wall of the classroom and on Moodle.