ECON 4306: Comparative Economic Systems  
Spring 2020  
Syllabus

Instructor: Timothy A. Wunder  
Office: COBA 319  
Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30 until 11 am; also by appointment.  
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Class Expectations:
1. I expect that you will read this syllabus and abide by the information in it. Continuation in this class implies that you have read this syllabus and agree to the terms within.
2. I expect that you will come to class prepared to discuss the material, which was assigned in the schedule.
3. I expect academic integrity. Cheating on exams, plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty will be dealt with in the severest possible manner. It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University.
"Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts." (Regents’ Rules and Regulations, Series 50101, Section 2.2
4. I expect you to be here on exam days. The only excuse will be a prior arrangement made with me or some written documentation dealing with the emergency.
5. You should expect me to be prepared for the class.
6. You should expect to gain a basic understanding of the varieties and types of economies that exist in the world.
7. At the end of this class you as the student should be able to do the following (Student Learning Outcomes)
   - Understand some of the differences that exist between types of Capitalist systems
   - Identify and explain systems that are not capitalist in nature.
   - Identify institutions that exist in the world that make economic systems divergent.
   - Compare systems on the institutions that make them unique and explain the advantages and disadvantages of the institutions.

Text:  
The text for this class is Comparative Economics in a Transforming World Economy 2nd ed. by Rosser and Rosser. This book will be essential in understanding the concepts discussed in class. Other readings will be made available as the class progresses. Beyond this you will need to maintain a good understanding of the issues in the current media. My recommendation for a source on this is to read Business Week, some other newsmagazine, or the Wall Street Journal or New York Times.
Grading:
Grading will be in the following form:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90+</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-89</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 60</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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This class will have the following ways to achieve points:
- There will be four exams each worth 100 points. The exams are listed in the schedule.
- There will be no less than 20 and no more than 70 incentive points given out at my discretion. These could be pop quizzes or any other method I choose to encourage preparation for class. Missing incentive points can only be made up with a written excuse for why you missed them or a prior communication with me saying you are going to miss class for a reason.
- There will be a group project worth 30 points. I reserve the right to lower the grade boundaries, but I will never raise them. Any disputes on grading shall be brought to my attention within one week of having the item handed back to the class. You may bring such disputes verbally or in written form.

Class Schedule:

January
21 Greetings and Syllabus. Sahlins A Kind of Material Plenty from *Stone Age Economics*.
23 Polanyi The Two Meanings of Economic from *Livelihood of Man*. Begin Chapter 1.

28 Chapter 1. How Do We Compare Economies? Begin chapter 2.

February
2 Chapter 3 The Theory and History of Marxism and Socialism.
6 Chapter 3. Begin Chapter 4 Islamic Economics and the Economics of Other Religions.

11 Catch up and review.
13 Test 1.


March
3 Chapter 9. The Unification of Germany and the Unification of Europe.
5 Chapter 9. The Unification of Germany and the Unification of Europe.

10 Spring Break
12 Spring Break
17 Catch up and review.
19 Test 2

24 Chapter 10 and 11. Former USSR and Transition.

31 Finish 12 begin chapter 15.

April
2 Guest Speaker Likely

7 Chapter 15. China’s Socialist Market Economy.
9 Catch up and Review.

14 Test 3
16 Thomas L Friedman’s Chapter 3: The Lexus and The Olive Tree from The Lexus and the Olive Tree. Chapter 16. India

21 Chapter 16.
23 Chapter 17 Iran: The Struggle for a New Traditional Islamic Economy.

28 Chapter 18. Revolution and Reform in the Mexican Economy
30 Chapter 18

May
5 Chapter 19. North and South Korea: The Lingering Shadow of the Cold War.
7 Catch up and Review.

Final: Thursday May 14, 8:00 am. Doors will be closed at 8:05.