

## **ECON 305 Comparative Economics**

### Wintermester 2019

#### **Number of Credits**

3

#### **Instructor**

Professor P. Elliott Parker

#### **Catalog Description**

The effects of economic systems and government policies on growth and inequality in the world's major developed economies.

Prerequisite(s): ECON 102 and ECON 103 or HON 220.

#### **Required Textbooks/Materials**

The following text is required material in this course:

Parker, E. (2018) *Comparative Economics of Global Growth & Inequality* (Great River Learning), with a suggested retail price of \$90. Additional optional readings are listed in this syllabus and available online.

#### **Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon successfully completing this course, students will be able to

- demonstrate knowledge of the economic concepts important to understanding how economies perform;
- demonstrate knowledge of how economic systems affect the interaction of growth and inequality, and how these may be affected by government policies;
- demonstrate an understanding of major economic events in the major economies of the world, both Western and non-Western, and how those events and associated government policies in those countries were affected by history and social structure in how they altered economic performance;
- find examples of economic experiences in other countries that provide lessons for economic policy in Nevada and the United States; and
- demonstrate an ability to collect, analyze and present data on economic performance in the world's major economies.

## Course Details

This is a course about the major economies of the world, how they each function as a system both nationally and globally, how their markets and governments interact, and how their history, policies, and ethnic diversity affect both economic growth and social inequality.

**Clickers:** This course will use clickers from *Turning Technologies* for in-class questions. If you have a smartphone, tablet, or laptop, you can download the Responseware and buy a license.

**Exams:** The exams will be in-class, closed-book, and challenging. It is your responsibility to be in class for the three exams, so please don't make travel plans that conflict with them.

**Grade Scale:** I grade on a curve based on past courses, and do not use the 60-70-80-90 conversion scale. Grades are recorded using the four-point scale (4.0=A, 3.0=B, 2.0=C, 1.0=D, and 0.0=F) with one decimal place, and grade points are reported on the Canvas WebCampus system. At the end of the semester, your course grade is rounded and reported as a letter grade with +/-.

**Attendance:** You must attend class to pass, and if you forget your clicker, I will have a list each day for you to sign in.