

## **Contemporary Business and Economic Issues**

This course is aimed at those who want to explore and extend their understanding of global economic issues. The course is appropriate for students of all levels of economic sophistication. The class will be in a panel format. Students will be encouraged to participate and to lead sessions, if they have a particular interest and expertise.

In particular the course will address:

- Effects of tax law changes on economic growth, inflation and unemployment
- Issues around protectionism and tariffs in a global economy
- The benefits of and concerns about crypto-currencies
- How economic decisions are made and whether those decisions are always rational
- The impact of technology and artificial intelligence
- Issues around income and gender disparities
- Effectiveness of financial regulations aimed at reducing income inequality
- Experiments in the US and Europe to support low income families
- The importance of charities in an environment of inequality and funding needs
- The effect of market controls to influence economic market outcomes
- A variety of other global economic concerns in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The text will be ***The Economist***. Students should subscribe directly. A number of different subscriptions are available including a 12-week subscription for \$12 which provides both a print copy and digital access. This particular subscription has an automatic renewal so the students should be alert to cancelling at the completion of the class, if they do not want to maintain a subscription. The print version of ***The Economist*** is delivered between Thursday and Monday of the following week to subscribers in this area. Thus, having digital access may be helpful, but not essential. Subscriptions are available at <https://subscription.economist.com>.

**Leaders:** Milton H. Grannatt, PhD, is a retired economist and vice president, Global Business Development and Licensing, Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation. Kurt Steiner, PhD, is a retired senior director, Metabolic Diseases and Nutrition Research, Wyeth Pharmaceuticals. Bonnie Galloway, PhD, is an adjunct assistant professor of management, Rider University.

**Mondays:** 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., 8 weeks: September 24 through November 19 (no class on November 12)

**Location:** PSRC