

CONTEMPORARY ECONOMIC ISSUES

This course will explore economics, global business, and the pandemic-related impact on contemporary institutions. In particular the course addresses inequality in income and wealth, the significance of national debt and the risk of inflation, the role of government in the future, the rapid development and distribution of vaccines against COVID-19, the fallout from the pandemic on higher education, the growth of robotics and advances in artificial intelligence, the ways to support displaced workers associated with structural job loss, the path toward electric vehicles, the surprise of the Texas power-grid collapse, the explosion of crypto-currencies, the changing patterns of trading stocks, and economic concerns in the 21st century. The course is appropriate for students of all levels of economic sophistication.

Readings will be from a variety of publications and will be suggested a week in advance of each class. No purchase of subscriptions or books is required, although reading *The Wall Street Journal* and/or *The Sunday New York Times* (Business Section) may be helpful.

LEADERS: Milton H Grannatt, PhD, is a retired economist and vice president of Global Business Development and Licensing, Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation. Kurt Steiner, PhD, is a retired senior director of Metabolic Diseases and Nutrition Research, Wyeth Pharmaceuticals.

MONDAYS: 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. 6 weeks beginning October 4 through November 8

MAXIMUM: 25