

The Economics of Sex, Drugs, and Crime 3960-01 Fall 2013

Instructor: Dr. Anne Yeagle Office: OSH 366 Office Hours: T&Th 9-10:00am and by appointment
Class time: T 12:25-3:20 pm Room MBH 302 Phone#: 801-581-7481(Econ office at U)
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Course objectives The main objective of this class is to enable the student to use economic principles to examine relationships (which sometimes involve sex), drugs, and crime. Behavioral economics looks at how psychological factors, such as **perception**, influence economic decisions. We will also be looking at the economic consequences of the choices people, societies and government make regarding sex, drugs and crime.

General requirements Completion of all tests and assignments on time and in the manner specified is required. It is extremely important to keep up on course reading. It is expected that you will come to each class prepared, that is, having read the assigned material. If you are not in class, please refer to the syllabus. If you take responsibility it will affect your class performance positively.

Regular attendance is also of the utmost importance. The purpose of this requirement is to insure that you get as much as possible from the course. All tests count. If you have reason to believe you will be unable to attend class regularly, it will be difficult to succeed in the class.

Some of the writings, lectures, films, or presentations in this course may include material that conflicts with core beliefs of some students. Please review the syllabus carefully to see if the course is one that you are committed to taking. If you have a concern, please discuss it with me at your earliest convenience.

There are no prerequisites for this class. You need not have studied economics beforehand. All you need is an interest in the subject, a commitment to work to develop an understanding of the issues concerning inequality, and a commitment to debate and disagree in a principled way about some highly controversial topics.

Text and Readings

1. **The New Jim Crow** by Michelle Alexander 2010 978-1-59558-103-7 The New Press
2. **Opium Nation** by Fariba Nawa 2011 978-0-06-193470-4 Harper-Collins
3. **It's Not You, It's the Dishes**, Random House ISBN 978-0-385-34395-4 (it was originally published as **Spousonomics** by Szuchman and Anderson 2011 ISBN 978-0-385-34394-7 Random House) either one works.

Grading Grades will be composed of tests, article presentations, presentation, book tests, and group grade.

1. **Attendance** $\frac{1}{4}$ point for being on time and $\frac{3}{4}$ for attending class each day, worth 15 points
2. **Article Summary** *Alternative Economic Phil* and *Contemporary American Capitalism* worth 15 points
3. **Article Assignment** *Darwin, Swift and Carnegie* worth 20 points
4. Each test will be worth between approximately 8- 20 points each. All tests count—no tests dropped
5. Individual article presentation, worth 3 points.
6. **Group Outline** , worth 3 points
7. **Group Presentation**, worth 18 points.
8. **Group Paper**, worth 10 points
9. **Group evaluation grade**, worth 3 points.
10. If you miss a student presentation, you must complete a 3-page makeup paper or lose 10 pts. See next page.
11. If you are late for another groups' presentation, -2 each time.
12. **Assignment interviews for It's Not You , It's the Dishes (Spousonomics)** 5 points each
13. **Documentary** points will vary with length

Grades

100%-93	A	82-80	B-	69-67	D+
92-90	A-	79-77	C+	66-63	D
89-87	B+	76-73	C	62-60	D-
86-83	B	72-70	C-	59-0	F

Schedule

August 28

Go through the syllabus
Questionnaire and "I Expect",
Handout, read and discuss *Professors Who See No Evil*
Get 2 student article presentations for next class
Break
Discuss Carnegie, Darwin and Swift assignment.
Start *12 Angry Men*

For next class:

Read Carnegie, Darwin and Swift articles

Look at and start on Carnegie, Darwin and Swift assignment

Pick a seat next class that you will sit in for the rest of the semester.

Sept 3

Pick a seat for the semester. Create seating chart.
2 student articles
Discuss questions about Carnegie, Darwin and Swift assignment
Discuss Economic Terms, Supply and Demand, Equilibrium
Finish *12 Angry Men*
Break
Assign groups and topics

Due next class:

Assignment Due on Carnegie, Darwin and Swift.

Read *Alternative Economic Philosophies and Contemporary American Capitalism and Its Radical Critics*

Sept 10

Collect Assignment on Carnegie, Darwin and Swift.
Student article presentations
Discuss Smith, Keynes and Marx and assignment.
Assign remaining article presentations.
Break
Library Research Instruction at the Main Library room 1120

Due next class:

Assignment Due *Alternative Economic Philosophies and Contemporary American Capitalism and Its Radical Critics*

Sept 17

Collect Assignment *Alternative Economic Philosophies* and *Contemporary American Capitalism and Its Radical Critics*

Student article presentations

The Secret War <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/secret-war/>

Discuss Afghanistan

Discuss test

Writing Center speaker Maureen Clark

Study for test

Sept 24

Test

Doc The House I Live In

Discuss presentation

Read for next class *Opium Nation* Chapters 1-6

Oct 1

Presentation The Economics of Drug Legalization

Student article presentations.

Discuss *Opium Nation* Chapters 1 -6.

Opium Brides <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/opium-brides/>

Read For next class *Opium Nation* Chapter 7- Epilogue.

Oct 8

Presentation The Economics of Child Slavery

Student article presentations

Discuss *Opium Nation* Chapter 7-Epilogue.

Discuss test for Opium Nation

Due next class:

Study for **Test** on Opium Nation— you can have 2 pages of handwritten notes with you.

Fall Break—Have a blast!!!!

Oct 22

Test on *Opium Nation* you can have 2 pages of handwritten notes with you.

Doc *Slavery by Another Name* (90 min)

Read for next class:

Intro through chapter 2-- in *The New Jim Crow*

October 29

Jim Crow laws

Discuss Intro -Chapter 2 *The New Jim Crow*

Guest Speaker Dr. John Reed from the History Department

Race Doc Part I

Read for next class:

Chapters 3-4 *The New Jim Crow*

Nov 5

Presentation The Economic Costs of the Death Penalty

Doc The Plea

Discuss Chapters 3- 4 *The New Jim Crow*

Read for next class:

Chapter 5-6 *The New Jim Crow*

Nov 12

Presentation The Economics of Prison Privatization

Discuss Chapters 5-6 *The New Jim Crow*

Race Doc II

Discuss test on *The New Jim Crow*

Study for test *The New Jim Crow*

Read for next class: Intro- Spousonomics

Nov 19

Test on *The New Jim Crow* - you can bring 2 pages of handwritten notes

Discuss *Spousonomics* Intro- Chapter 5

Barry Schwartz *The Paradox of Choice* TED

Read for next class: Spousonomics Chapter 1-5

Due next class: Assignment Chapter 1-6 Spousonomics

Nov 26

Presentation Domestic Violence

Documentary *Power and Control* HV 6626.2 P69 2010 DVD

Assignment Due for Ch1-Ch 5

Discuss Assignment

Discuss terms chapters 6-10

For next class: Read Spousonomics Chapters 6-10

Due next class: Assignment Chapter 6-10 Spousonomics

Dec 3

Presentation The Societal and Economic costs of Pornography

Presentation The Marketing of Sex and Love

Assignment Due Ch 6-10 Spousonomics

Discuss Assignment

Barry Schwartz Practical Wisdom TED

Study for Test Spousonomics

Dec 10

Test Chapters Spousonomics-- you can have 2 sheets of handwritten notes with you.

Lunch party

Movie Ground Hog Day

----this is our last class

Remember there is no final for this class.

I hope to stay on this schedule. However, the student is responsible for any announced changes.

Below is a course reserve "How to Guide" for students. It provides a walkthrough that will explain searching courses, filtering courses and finally how to access copyrighted material from off campus. http://campusguides.lib.utah.edu/course_reserves_guide

If I am Late to class ----- please wait for 20 minutes if I am late to class (for some strange reason☺)

Americans With Disabilities Act Statement

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services (CDS), 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

Explanation of Assignments, Tests, etc.

Darwin Carnegie and Swift Assignment worth 20 points due Sept 10—see assignment sheet in packet

Summaries of “Alternative Economic Perspectives” and “Contemporary American Capitalism and Its Radical Critics” is due Jan 22. It is worth 15 points. See assignment sheet in packet.

Tests will be composed mostly of essay type questions and some multiple choice. Questions/rebuttals to test questions/answers need to be in written form and submitted no later than one week after tests are handed back. Old test questions/rebuttals will not be entertained

Absence on test days: One time only! If you know you will be unable to attend a class period on which a test takes place, you will need to submit a written request in advance to me (one time max). If you do not make prior such arrangements, tests taken late will receive 50% of the full grade points (unless absence is verified by doctor or police report). If you do not contact me by the next class, no makeup tests will be given.

Book Tests You are assigned to read The New Jim Crow, Opium Nation and It's Not You, It's the Dishes (Spousonomics). We will discuss the books in class. You can have 1 page of handwritten notes with you during the test.

Article Presentation You will be assigned a date on which you will bring in a current article (newspaper, magazine, internet news) that pertains to the subject we are currently studying. You must relate it to the economic topics we are discussing. You will summarize the article for the class in a 2-3 minute presentation and be prepared to comment on the subject. A typed written outline will also need to be turned in at this time.

Group Outline, Presentation and Paper Please refer to the *Guidelines* page (the outline is due at least one week prior to your presentation and the paper is due the same day as your presentation)

Group grade After your group has presented, please fill out the evaluation sheet found in the back of your notes packet. Grade each person in your group as well as yourself based on responsibility and effort towards the group.

Presentation Quizzes The student audience will be asked to take a quiz or participate in the group presentations which will be worth 2 points for each presentation. These points cannot be made up if you miss the presentation. Also, if I believe that a student in the audience is not paying attention during a presentation, they will not receive the 2 points possible and may need to write a makeup paper.

Absence on presentation days. If you **miss a presentation (this means 25% or more)**, you must complete a 3 page report, single spaced, using at least three sources, of which one must be a journal, exploring the topic you missed. The paper will be graded on a 0-10 point scale. If you fail to do so your grade will be docked 10 points. You can make up only one missed presentation. The makeup paper is due one week after the missed debate.

Class structure. Tests will be given at the beginning of class. If you come to class late, you will not be given extra time. Presentations will also be start at the beginning of class. Please be prepared.

Electronic Devices No electronic devices, such as computers, headphones or cellphones are allowed to be used in the classroom. You will have class notes and computers are very distracting to other students. If you have special needs for taking notes, you will need to speak to me.

3960 Economics Outline and Presentation Guidelines

Each group of students will be assigned a topic (same as the paper topic) to construct a presentation that will be given to the class as scheduled on the syllabus.

You are required to prepare a group **Power Point or Prezi presentation**.

(Your presentation is evaluated on content, organization, and clarity as outlined below.)

The **Presentation** should be a total of 20-25 minutes (about 5 minutes per person and then 5 minutes for the quiz or class participation activity)

You will lose points if you go over your individual time of 5 minutes.

******YOU NEED TO START ON TIME**—PLEASE DO A TEST RUN WITH YOUR COMPUTER BEFOREHAND TO SEE THAT IT WORKS!*****

If you have a Mac computer, you will need your own adapter for the projector. I have the PC cord. If you want sound you will need to check out another cord for that—both at the library.

Suggestion: Toastmasters club is a campus student group that meets on T 11-12 that practices public speaking. Check them out!

You may consider covering the following sections (the appropriateness will vary with the topic):

Background/ History

Objective/ The problem/ The issue

Data

Conclusion/ Policy Recommendation

References

Outline

One week before your scheduled presentation please hand in an outline of what you are planning to present to the class. Include the above information if applicable. If I ask you to revise your outline, points will be given after the revised outline is complete. The outline is worth 3 points for each student.

Sources Your sources need to be academic in nature. You are required to have at least 3 sources from scholarly journals which can be found through the library or other sources such as scholar.google

Either during or after your presentation, please prepare a quiz or participation exercise for your audience. It is up to the discretion of the presenters as to what this requirement entails. It should be worth 2 points for the student audience. I encourage creativity here ☺

Grading

During the presentation, I will grade each student based on the evaluation guidelines listed below. The presentation grade is worth 18 points for each individual student.

Evaluation Guideline for Presentations

<u>1. Topic/ Problem stated clearly.</u>	1	2		
<u>2. Quality of information/data</u>	1	2		
<u>3. Facts Support Conclusion</u>	1	2		
<u>4. Policy or learning objective clearly stated.</u>	1	2		
<u>5. Visual presentation of information/ neatness/ effectiveness</u>	1	2		
<u>6. Your individual participation</u>	1	2	3	4
<u>7. Keeping within the time limit and starting on time</u>	1	2		
<u>7. (Preparing/conducting) Student audience assignment/quiz</u>	1	2		

Total (18 possible)

3960 Economics Paper Guideline

There will be 2-3 groups people in each group.

Each group of students is required to write a 5 page paper on the subject your group is presenting to the class. If your group paper is longer than 5 pages it will be penalized. The paper should be single spaced with a 12 pt font.

Sources

The final paper should use at least 5 different reputable sources (3 of which need to be journal articles) to be cited either with footnotes or include a bibliography.

The paper is worth 10 points for each student.

There will be one paper turned in for each group.

Papers are due the day of your group presentation.

Late papers will not be accepted.

Since there are 2-3 people in each group, the group should decide as to how to divide the topic into research/work components. These components should form a coherent whole as reflected in your paper as well as your class presentation. Your analysis should be economic in nature. Depending on the topic some papers may concentrate on "the numbers" more than others.

If your group has additional ideas, please bring them forward. My wish is that the topic you are assigned is a topic that interests you and something you would like to learn more about.

Plagiarism

Definition: *In an instructional setting, plagiarism occurs when a writer deliberately uses someone else's language, ideas, or other original (not common-knowledge) material without acknowledging its source.*

Most current discussions of plagiarism fail to distinguish between:

1. submitting someone else's text as one's own or attempting to blur the line between one's own ideas or words and those borrowed from another source, and
2. carelessly or inadequately citing ideas and words borrowed from another source.

paperrater.com is a useful tool to check your paper before you turn it in.

www.writingcenter.utah.edu is where you can make online appointments m-f 10-7 for help at the library writing center here on campus