

Fall 2023
Philosophy, Politics, Economics, and Law
PPEL 3000
Tuesday and Thursday 2:30-3:45pm
University Hall 111

Instructor: Jeff Carroll

Email: jcarro@bgsu.edu

Office: Shatzel 308

Office Hours: By appointment (Just email me. I'm always happy to meet.)

Course Description: This course introduces students to the history of integrated research in philosophy, politics, economics and law by exploring and evaluating the relationship between political and economic institutions and structures. This course will also explore the challenges raised by the professionalization and separation of the fields of philosophy, politics, economics and law.

Course Outcomes:

1. Students will acquire proficiency with arguments in political economy.
2. Students will learn about the views of some of the most prominent figures in the history of political economy.
3. Students will enhance their understanding of central themes and topics in political economy.
4. Students will sharpen their critical thinking skills and improve their prose through class participation and course exams.

Required Texts:

All readings provided online.

Grading:

Here is how your grade in the course will be determined:

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|--------------------|-----|
| Participation: | 15% |
| Discussion Leader: | 15% |
| First Exam: | 15% |

Second Exam: 15%

Third Exam: 15%

Fourth/Final Exam: 25%

Here is how letter grades will be assigned:

90-100 A

80-89 B

70-79 C

60-69 D

-59 E

Course Schedule (readings are to be done in preparation for the day noted on the left):

Tu 08/22 Introduction & Syllabus Day

Unit 1: Economic Growth

Th 08/24 Mark Koyama and Jared Rubin, *How the World Became Rich: The Historical Origins of Economic Growth*, Chapter 1, “Why, When, and How Did the World Become Rich?”

Tu 08/29 Adam Smith, *An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations*, Bk. I

Th 08/31 Adam Smith, *An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations*, Bk. II

Tu 09/05 Adam Smith, *An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations*, Bk. III

Th 09/07 Mark Koyama and Jared Rubin, *How the World Became Rich: The Historical Origins of Economic Growth*, Chapter 2, “Did Some Societies Win the Geographic Lottery?”

Tu 09/12 Mark Koyama and Jared Rubin, *How the World Became Rich: The Historical Origins of Economic Growth*, Chapter 3, “Is It All Just Institutions?”

Th 09/14 Mark Koyama and Jared Rubin, *How the World Became Rich: The Historical Origins of Economic Growth*, Chapter 4, “Did Culture Make Some Rich and Others Poor?”

Tu 09/19 **EXAM 1**

Unit 2: Property & Exchange

- Th 09/21 John Locke, *Second Treatise on Government*, Ch. 5, “On Property”
https://www.gutenberg.org/files/7370/7370-h/7370-h.htm#CHAPTER_V
- Tu 09/26 David Hume, *A Treatise of Human Nature*. Book III, part 2, Section II, “Of the Origin of Justice and Property”
https://www.gutenberg.org/files/4705/4705-h/4705-h.htm#link2H_4_0089
- Th 09/28 Jeremy Waldron, “Property Law” in *A Companion to Philosophy of Law and Legal Theory*, 2nd edition
- Tu 10/03 Legal Cases Concerning Property Rights:
Pierson v. Post
http://www.courts.state.ny.us/reporter/archives/pierson_post.htm
Hinman v. Pacific Air Transport
http://www.leagle.com/xmlResult.aspx?xmlDoc=193683984F2d755_1600.xml&docbase=CSLWAR1-1950-1985
Jacques v. Steenberg Homes, Inc.
<http://www.wicourts.gov/sc/opinion/DisplayDocument.pdf?content=pdf&seqNo=17010>
- Th 10/05 “Is Intellectual Property, Property: A Debate Between Mark Lemley & Richard Epstein” (Stanford Law School)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H-fjKcN6_9M
- Tu 10/10 **NO CLASS – FALL BREAK**
- Th 10/12 Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*, Book V, “Justice and Exchange”
<http://classics.mit.edu/Aristotle/nicomachaen.5.v.html>
- Tu 10/17 Karl Marx, *Kapital*, Volume 1, Chapter 2: “Exchange”
<https://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1867-c1/ch02.htm>
- Th 10/19 **EXAM 2**

Unit 3: Opportunity Cost & Comparative Advantage

- Tu 10/24 David Ricardo, *On the Principles of Political Economy and Taxation*, Chapter 7,
https://www.econlib.org/library/Ricardo/ricP.html?chapter_num=8#book-reader

- Th 10/26 Frederic Bastiat, “The Petition of the Candlemakers.”
<http://bastiat.org/en/petition.html>
- Adam Smith, *Wealth of Nations*. Book 4, Chapter 3, Part II.
<https://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/smith-adam/works/wealth-of-nations/book04/ch03b.htm>
- Tu 10/31 **NO CLASS**
- Th 11/02 **NO CLASS**
- Tu 11/07 Andrew McAfee, “More From Less” at <https://www.econtalk.org/andrew-mcafee-on-more-from-less/>
- Th 11/09 **EXAM 3**

Unit 4: Prices & Money

- Tu 11/14 Frederic Bastiat, “What is Seen and What is Not Seen”:
 Section 1 “The Broken Window”
<https://oll.libertyfund.org/page/wswns#wswns-1>
- Section 6 “Middlemen”
<https://oll.libertyfund.org/page/wswns#wswns-6>
- Th 11/16 F.A. Hayek, “The Use of Knowledge in Society”
- Tu 11/21 F.A. Hayek, “Competition as a Discovery Procedure”
- Th 11/23 **NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING BREAK**
- Tu 11/28 Andrew Bailey, Bradley Rettler, Craig Warmke, “Philosophy, politics, and economics of cryptocurrency I: Money without state”
- Th 11/30 Review for Final Exam

FINAL EXAM (EXAM 4): Thursday, Dec 7th, 11:30-2:00 pm

University Policy Statements:

Student Conduct

A community exists on the basis of shared values and principles. At BGSU, students, recognized student organizations, and student groups are expected to uphold and abide by certain standards of conduct. You should familiarize yourself with the Codes, which

create a set of expectations for student conduct, ensure a fair process for determining responsibility when student behavior may have deviated from those expectations, and provide appropriate sanctions when a student and/or student organization has violated the Code(s).

- Students who violate faculty expectations as outlined in the syllabus may be subject to conduct action.
- If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 419-372-2843 or odos@bgsu.edu.
- View the [Student Handbook](#).
- Learn more about and view the [Code of Academic Conduct](#).
- Learn more about and view the [Code of Student Conduct](#).

Title IX

Bowling Green State University (BGSU) is committed to providing a safe learning environment for all students that is free of all forms of discrimination and harassment. Sexual misconduct and relationship violence in any form are antithetical to the university's mission and core values, violate university policies, and may also violate federal and state law. Faculty members are considered "Mandatory Reporters" and are required to report incidents of sexual misconduct and relationship violence to the Title IX Coordinator. If you or someone you know has been impacted by sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking, please visit the [Title IX webpage](#) to access information about university support and resources.

Accessibility Services

[Accessibility Services](#) provides equal access and reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities attending BGSU. Students wishing to discuss their eligibility for such accommodations are encouraged to contact the office at phone: 419-372-8495, fax: 419-372-8496, or email: access@bgsu.edu.

Religious Accommodations

[Throughout the semester, if questions arise related to the application of the Religious Accommodations policy, please reach out to the Office of the Provost at Provost@bgsu.edu.]

In addition to participation/attendance/absence policies already listed, you may have up to three (3) excused absences each academic semester, without penalty, to take time off for reasons of faith or religious or spiritual belief system or to participate in organized activities conducted under the auspices of a religious denomination, church, or other religious or spiritual organization. You are required to notify me in writing of specific dates requested for excused absences and/or alternative accommodation no later than fourteen (14) calendar days after the first day of instruction for this course. After necessary

notification, you should consult with me to determine an appropriate alternative opportunity that will be provided to help you complete your academic responsibilities for the course. These requests will remain confidential. The Office of Registration & Records maintains a list of [accommodated religious holidays](#). Please note that this list is not exhaustive of all holidays. For more information about the [Student Religious Accommodations policy](#), you may contact the Dean of Students at odos@bgsu.edu or 419-372-2843.

Freedom of Expression

Bowling Green State University, as a public institution, is committed to freedom of expression and the rights protected by the First Amendment. First Amendment rights have implications inside the classroom as well. Review the [Office of the Dean of Students page regarding Freedom of Expression](#) at Bowling Green State University for more information including the policy. To report concerns please visit the [See It. Hear It. Report It.](#) page.

Student Veteran-friendly Campus

BGSU educators recognize student veterans' rights when entering and exiting the university system. If you are a student veteran, please communicate with your instructor so reasonable accommodations can be made for absence when drilling or being called to active duty. Refer to the [Veterans](#) page.

University Closure

In most cases, the University will not close for winter conditions unless the Sheriff's Department from the county in which your campus is located declares a Level 3 emergency. Once the decision is made to delay, cancel or close, individuals will be notified through AlertBG, email, the BGSU homepage, BGSU social media channels and the news media (see the [Emergency Cancellation Delay and Closing Policy and Procedures](#) document for a list of radio and television stations).

Non-Discrimination in Employment and Education

Bowling Green State University is committed to maintaining an employment and educational environment that is free from unlawful discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. The University prohibits discrimination and harassment on the basis of protected class. Retaliation against any person for asserting their legal rights to be free from discrimination or harassment, for reporting discrimination or harassment, or for participating in activities is strictly prohibited. You may review BGSU's Non-Discrimination in Employment and Education policy for more information. To report concerns, please visit the [See It. Hear It. Report It.](#) page.