

ECON 2004H: “Economics... After Dark”

Fall Semester 2019

University of Missouri

Instructor: Jeff Milyo
Office: 124 Professional Bldg.
Hours: Tuesday 10:00AM – 12:00PM & by appointment
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Meeting Time: Tuesday 7:00pm – 9:30pm

Location: Middlebush 211

Course Description:

This seminar course surveys applications of economics to unusual and sensitive subjects, including (but not limited to): abortion, crime, discrimination, drugs, economic ignorance, ideological bias, immigration, politics, race and ethnicity, religion, sex and violence. This class is intended for mature audiences and will be offered only at night.

Requirements:

Prerequisite: No prior knowledge of economics or statistics is required; however, some familiarity with basic economics and statistical inference is helpful.

Readings: Course readings will be distributed each week on the course website.

Assignments and Course Grades: Grades are determined by the weighted average of participation (40%) and three written assignments (60%).

Expectations:

Each weekly meeting will be a self-contained unit on a topic of interest. A tentative class schedule is posted online; however, the order of classes may be altered to accommodate guest speakers or as other circumstances dictate. The typical class session will be preceded by some background reading and preparatory discussion questions. Class will be a mix of lecture and discussion, ending with suggestions for further reading and a preview of the upcoming week.

Regular attendance and active participation in discussion are necessary conditions for success in this course, so it is imperative that you not only show up and stay awake, but that you are familiar with the assigned material and ready to discuss it in some detail. We will not take breaks during class, so please bring whatever potables or snacks that you require to remain alert.