

LSC Use Only
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CURRICULUM PROPOSAL COVER SHEET
University-Wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee




I. Title/Author of Change

Course/Program Title: EC350 Comparative Economic Systems
Suggested 20 Character Course Title: Comparative Ec. Systems
Department: Department of Economics
Contact Person: Donald A. Walker

II. If a course, is it being Proposed for:

_____ Course Revision/Approval Only
X Course Revision/Approval and Liberal Studies Approval
_____ Liberal Studies Approval Only (course previously has been approved by the University Senate)

III. Approvals

 _____ Department Curriculum Committee	 _____ Department Chairperson
<i>[Carter's signature on original. 1/29/92]</i>	
College Curriculum Committee	College Dean *
 _____ Director of Liberal Studies (where applicable)	_____ Provost (where applicable)

*College Dean must consult with Provost before approving curriculum changes. Approval by College Dean indicates that the proposed change is consistent with long range planning documents, that all requests for resources made as part of the proposal can be met, and that the proposal has the support of the university administration.

IV. Timetable

Date Submitted to LSC: _____	Semester to be implemented: _____	Date to be published in Catalog: _____
Date Submitted to UWUCC: _____		

Liberal Studies Approval Form

Answers to Questions:

IV. A. Because of a shortage of economics faculty, this course is offered by only one professor once every 4 semesters.

IV. B. Authors of required books include Ishinomori, who is of Japanese ancestry, and DeSoto, who is Peruvian. In addition, the perspectives of Joan Robinson, Franz Fanon, Barbara Ward, and Ida Greaves are used in preparation of sections on colonialism, exploitation, alternatives to market distribution systems, and conflicts between systems. The 13th week of the course includes a discussion of the similarities and differences in the status of women in different economic systems.

IV. C. There is no text, per se. With the collapse of the Soviet system of central planning, it will be a long time before text books catch up to events. Three books are used. One gives a Japanese view of the success of Japan's economy. Another book outlines the Soviet system that functioned for over 50 years. The DeSoto book presents a provocative market alternative to bureaucracy, regulation, and state planning.

IV. D. N/A

CHECK LIST — NON-WESTERN CULTURES

Knowledge Area Criteria which the course must meet:

- Treat concepts, themes and events in sufficient depth to enable students to appreciate the complexity, history and current implications of what is being studied and not merely cursory coverage of lists of topics.
- Suggest the major intellectual questions/problems which interest practitioners of a discipline and explore critically the important theories and principles presented by the discipline.
- Allow students to understand and apply the methods of inquiry and vocabulary commonly used in the discipline.
- Encourage students to use and enhance, wherever possible, the composition and mathematics skills built in the Skill Areas of Liberal Studies.

Non-Western Culture Criteria which the course must meet:

- Develop an understanding of contemporary cultures that differ substantially from the prevailing cultures of the United States, Canada, Western Europe, New Zealand and Australia.
- Present cultures on their own terms with an appreciation of their dimensions, going beyond mere description of a culture. Those dimensions may include religion, economics, politics, art language, literature, ethics, as well as other dimensions of the cultural milieu.
- Address, where appropriate, the experience of women and/or the roles of men and women.

Additional Non-Western Culture Criteria which the course should meet:

- Encourage the use of indigenous material whenever possible rather than rely on secondary instructional material, reviews of the literature, or textbooks exclusively.
- Encourage the student to acquire cultural appreciation and understanding, and provide students with an opportunity to demonstrate the ability to analyze and synthesize information about culture.

These additional non-Western Cultures guidelines indicate the various forms which appropriate courses may take; check all that apply.

- Although a course may deal with a single culture....
- ... comparative courses addressing relationships among cultures are encouraged.
- A course may present one or more cultures by emphasizing a single dimension, e.g. art, music, dance, politics, religion. Such a course is appropriate if the dimension is represented in its cultural context, emphasizing cultural ideals, norms and issues.
- A variety of perspectives or methodologies—anthropological, geographical, historical, sociological, and so forth—may be employed so long as the course emphasizes the cultural phenomena, issues and values in contemporary society.

- _____ Literature courses, either in translation or in the language of the culture(s), can be appropriate if the dimension is represented in its cultural context, emphasizing cultural ideals, norms and issues.
- _____ An approved exchange/study abroad program, which meets the general criteria of the non-Western requirements, may meet the requirements of the Liberal Studies program.
- _____ An internship can meet the requirements for a non-Western course. A research paper or a report should be required that demonstrates learning appropriate to the Non-Western Culture criteria.
- _____ Interdisciplinary courses that treat cultural issues apart from the dominant United States, Canada, Western Europe, New Zealand and Australian cultures are encouraged.

Economics 350
Comparative Economic Systems
Spring 1991
Dr. Radell

Office: 147 Keith Hall

Office Hours: 9:30-11:30 Tu Thu, 8:30-9:30 P.M. Wed Final Exam (Plan to be here.):

Required Book Purchases: Hernando De Soto, The Other Path: The Invisible Revolution in the Third World, paper, 1990.
Shotaro Ishinomori, Japan Inc: Introduction to Japanese Economics, paper, 1988.

James R. Millar, The ABCs of Soviet Socialism, paper, 1981.

Course Description: Evaluation of theories, practices, and performance of public, private, and informal economic institutions in the context of national economies, using economic theory and measurement (revised description pending University Senate approval).

Prerequisite: EC 101 or EC 121 or EC 122

About the Course: There has been a rich variety of economic systems through human history. Although some economic systems perform better than others, no single system does everything better than all others. Consequently, study of alternative economic systems teaches useful lessons even when those systems are inferior in overall performance. Moreover, it is often more useful to analyze what doesn't work than it is to study what does work.

In this course we will study the theories behind the economic institutions of various economic systems to understand the objectives and performance of each system. Our primary goal for the course goes far beyond the theory of economic systems as we will be observing how the systems actually work.

At the beginning of the course you must avoid the common practice of comparing ideal capitalism with socialism as is practiced or was practiced in some country (or vice versa). You must also resist the temptation to compare ideal systems. Both ideal capitalism and ideal communism look pretty good on paper, so not much is accomplished by trying to decide which ideal is "better."

You will soon find that there are no "dirty words" in this class. Capitalism, socialism, communism, colonialism, exploitation, and profit are technical terms that will be used analytically. If you believe that capitalism (or any other system) is evil, that is your right as a resident of the United States. But in this class you will be asked to take a more clinical view. How does the system function? How well are its objectives met? How is production organized? What incentives and punishments are present in the system? You will learn the most if you attempt to cultivate an open mind as you answer these questions.

I will give you one final warning before you begin. Don't mix political systems and economic systems. In cases like the Soviet system that was, this will be a difficult task because system advocates asserted unity of politics and economics. Remember that the focus of this course is the economic structure and performance of a nation. We are only interested in nations' politics as those politics affect their economic systems.

There is a payoff. Once you have mastered the material offered in this course you will not only understand the world more completely, but you will also have acquired an array of solutions to potential problems. Seeing the mistakes and possibilities of economic systems and institutions can offer us the opportunity to more effectively organize our own economy.

There will be two hour exams and a final. Each will be 25% of your grade. There will be 5 quizzes with the lowest quiz dropped (Ordinarily, make-up quizzes will not be given. If you have to miss one, that will be the quiz that is dropped.) The remaining 4 quizzes will comprise the last 25% of your grade. Each exam and quiz will be assigned a numerical score. The numerical scores will be averaged at the conclusion of the course according to the above weights. The following grades will be assigned given your course average: 90.000-100 = A; 80.000-89.999 = B; 70.000-79.999 = C; 50.000-69.999 = D

Study Assignments: You are expected to have finished studying the chapter listed by the beginning of the week (except for the first week). Don't plan on missing any classes as you are responsible both for what goes on in class and what is in the readings.

WEEK **Chapters or Readings**

Topics

1	Marx, <u>Communist Manifesto</u> Smith, <u>Wealth of Nations</u> Einstein, "Why Socialism"	Historical Systems
2	Millar, <u>The ABCs of Soviet Socialism</u>	Soviet System that was.
3	Millar, ...	Soviet System that was.
4	Millar, ...	Soviet System that was.
5	Exam I: Systems of the Past with Emphasis on Soviet Central Planning. De Soto, ...	Informal Market Institutions, Rent-seeking and Kleptocracy
6	De Soto, ...	Informal Market Institutions
7	De Soto, ...	Informal Market Institutions
8	De Soto, ... Exam II: Third World Systems, Institutions, and the De-criminalization of Capitalism	Informal Market Institutions
9	Ishinomori, ...	Japanese Capitalism
10	Ishinomori, ...	Japanese Capitalism
11	Ishinomori, ...	Japanese Capitalism and Industrial Management
12	Selected Readings Pérez-López, Radell	European Welfare Capitalism, Cuban Socialism, Women in Alternative Systems, Inequality of Power Wealth, and Income, Dependency
13	Selected Readings	Health Care, Responses to Recessions, Why Capitalism Didn't Die

Selected Books Used in Course Preparation

- F. Fanon, The Wretched of the Earth.**
M. Friedman, Capitalism and Freedom.
J. K. Galbraith, The New Industrial State.
- A. O. Hirschman, Exit, Voice, and Loyalty.**
A. O. Hirschman, Strategy of Economic Development.
J. M. Keynes, The Economic Consequences of the Peace.
J. Robinson, Freedom and Necessity.
W. Rostow, Stages of Economic Growth: A Non-communist Manifesto.
A. Smith, Wealth of Nations.
L. Von Mises, Human Action.
B. Ward, The International Share-Out.