Course Title:
Special Studies: Comparative Economic Systems

Course Number:
ECON 5990-107

Course Description:
Comparative Economic Systems is an economics course designed to allow a student to place his/her economy in a broader ideological and institutional perspective and to develop skills in intelligent social comparison. The economic systems of major nations in North America, Europe, and Asia with a special reference to transitions that are occurring.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:
Location: OCCE, Norman, Oklahoma. Classes are held at the Thurman White Forum Building of OCCE, 1704 Asp Avenue.
Hours: Fri 5:30-9:30 p.m.; Sat 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sun 1:00-5:00 p.m.
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: January 8, 2015

Site Director:
Bethany Neubauer. Phone: 405-325-1263; Fax: 405-325-9148; email: apnorman@ou.edu

Professor Contact Information:
Course Professor: Steven L. Cobb, Ph.D.
Mailing Address: 1155 Union Circle #305189
Denton, TX 76203-5017
Telephone Number: (940) 565-2348
Fax Number: (940) 565-4517
E-mail Address: scobb@unt.edu
Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each class session, by appointment.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:
Student materials are available at the OU Follett Bookstore located at 1185 Asp Avenue; Norman, OK, and can be ordered online, by phone, by email, or by fax. Ordering online at www.oklahoma.bkstr.com is strongly recommended – students can track the status of their order within 48 hours. If an order has not been shipped within three days, students can contact the Follett textbook manager by phone (405) 325-3511, (800) 522-0772 (toll-free) or email 0831mgr@fheg.follett.com. Phone orders (ask for the textbook manager and identify yourself as an Advanced Programs student) can be placed 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday (CST). Summer hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (CST). Fax orders can be placed 24 hours a day at (405) 325-7770. Text prices are available online.


2. Materials posted on the OU Desire to Learn (D2L) system: Access D2L at http://learn.ou.edu; enter your OU NetID (4+4) and password, and select course to access material. Please contact your local Site Director if you require assistance.
Note: The Follett/AP Bookstore is the Advanced Programs contractual textbook provider. Should text changes become necessary after publication of the course syllabus, Advanced Programs will facilitate text returns/refunds only for texts purchased through the Follett/AP Bookstore.

Course Objectives:
My principal objectives for this course are these:

1) To explore several diverse ideologies or philosophies which underlie various economic systems;
2) To examine descriptive material which provides an idea of how, in fact, different economies function;
3) To encourage the development of student skills in analyzing, assessing and discussing a number of vital issues, including the struggle for economic and social reform in Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union, and the unification of the European and North American markets.

Course Outline:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 6</td>
<td>Review of Economic Concepts Classification of Systems,</td>
<td>Chs. 1, 2,</td>
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<td>Feb 7</td>
<td>History of Capitalism, U.S., Canada, and Germany</td>
<td>Ch. 3,5, 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 8</td>
<td>European systems: UK, France and Sweden Midterm</td>
<td>Chs. 6, 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 13</td>
<td>Socialism</td>
<td>Chs. 11,</td>
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<td>Feb 14</td>
<td>Central Planning and China</td>
<td>Chs. 14, 15, 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 15</td>
<td>Japan, Review and Final Exam</td>
<td>Chs. 12, 22</td>
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Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>February 8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>February 15&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post Seminar Paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Two weeks after the conclusion of the course, March 1, 2015</td>
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Post Seminar Assignment:
The assignment is to prepare a 4-6 page paper (APA style) discussing the ideal model of transition for a traditionally socialist economy. The paper will be submitted through the Desire 2 Learn course website and the professor will provide additional details when the class meets. **Due date: March 1, 2015.**

Grading:
This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F.

**Notice:** Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.
POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. It is the policy of the University to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of examinations and additional required class work that may fall on religious holidays. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution’s policy regarding “I” (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy. Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any “I” (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on “financial aid probation.” If the “I” grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student’s Financial Aid may be suspended make the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Integrity and Student Conduct

Academic integrity means honesty and responsibility in scholarship. Academic assignments exist to help students learn; grades exist to show how fully this goal is attained. Therefore all work and all grades should result from the student's own understanding and effort.

Academic misconduct is any act which improperly affects the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement. Misconduct occurs when the student either knows or reasonably should know that the act constitutes misconduct. Academic misconduct includes: cheating and using unauthorized materials on examinations and other assignments; improper collaboration, submitting the same assignment for different classes (self-plagiarism); fabrication, forgery, alteration of documents, lying, etc…in order to obtain an academic advantage; assisting others in academic misconduct; attempting to commit academic misconduct; destruction of property, hacking, etc…; intimidation and interference with integrity process; and plagiarism. All students should review the Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity at http://integrity.ou.edu/students_guide.html

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. All students should review policies regarding student conduct at http://studentconduct.ou.edu/

Accommodation Statement

The University of Oklahoma is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your local OU Site Director.

Course Policies

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course. Advanced Programs does not provide duplicating services or office supplies.

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: http://www.goou.ou.edu/
INSTRUCTOR VITA
Steven L. Cobb, Ph.D.

Education
• 1987 Ph.D. Economics, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
• 1982 B.S. Economics, Southwestern University, Political Science

Current Positions
• Associate Dean for Administrative Affairs, College of Arts and Sciences, University of North Texas
• Director of the Center for Economic Education, University of North Texas

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses
• ECON 5990 Comparative Economic Systems
• ECON 5613 International Economics – Trade
• ECON 5990 International Economics - Finance

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest
• Economic Development
• International Trade
• Comparative Economic Systems
• Economic Education

From 1994 – 2011 Cobb was involved as a consultant and trainer for the Council for Economic Education’s Economics International Training of Trainers program in developing and transitional nations. The program is funded by the U.S. Department of Education and is designed to provide materials and training to allow economists in these nations to teach economics using an active learning approach. Cobb has conducted training programs in Russia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Belarus, Ukraine, Romania, Bulgaria, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Armenia, South Africa, Mexico, Egypt and most recently Indonesia and Paraguay.

Representative Publications and Presentations
Representative Honors and Awards Received

- Member of the American Economic Association’s Committee on Economic Education 2012 – 2014.
- Member of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Economics Test Development Advisory Committee for 2010 and 2011.
- Recipient of the 2006 Bessie B. Moore Service Award from the National Association of Economic Educators and the National Council on Economic Education.
- Received the 2006 University of North Texas Citation for Distinguished Service to International Education.
- Presented with the Kenneth G. Elzinga Distinguished Teaching Award by the Southern Economic Association in November, 2005.
- Presented with the Albert Beekhuis Award for Centers of Excellence in Economic Education as the top Center for Economic Education in the U.S. by the National Council on Economic Education in October, 2005.

Major Professional Affiliations

- American Economic Association
- Southern Economic Association
- National Association of Economic Educators