

# **Short Syllabus**



Course Title	Credits
A Political History of the Economy	4
Lecturer	
Prof. Michael Zakim	
Contact details	
zakim@tauex.tau.ac.il. Office hours: TBA	
Semester	
Spring	

### **Short Description**

This course will examine how material life has been organized over the past several hundred years in the industrial West. The subjects to be addressed include the market, land, property, work, slavery, money, the corporation, machinery, consumer culture, globalization, and the rise of a new science of economics itself. Such an engagement with the social, cultural, and philosophical facets of modern economic activity is meant to encourage students to develop a critical understanding of the structures of power and authority in liberal society. Lectures will be supplemented by readings in history, sociology, anthropology, and political theory (but not economics!), as well as a wide range of primary documents that students will be required to discuss and analyze.

### **Final grade components**

Minor assignments:

Midterm:

Three short papers over the course of the semester, each comprising 25% of the final grade. Final requirement:

A take-home exam, for which students will be given 48 hours, comprising 25% of the final grade. In-class and take-home exams have second-chance dates with no exception. Submission dates are set by the university and the Liberal Arts program and extension requests can only be granted by the program's academic committee.

Participation:

Highly encouraged.

#### **Attendance**

Attendance is mandatory. Students are permitted a maximum of three unauthorized absences without penalty. Any additional absences will affect the final grade and may result in failure of the course.\*

#### **Academic Conduct**

Plagiarism is taken extremely seriously. Any instance of academic misconduct which includes: submitting someone else's work as your own; failure to accurately cite sources; taking words from another source without using quotation marks; submission of work for which you have previously received credit; working in a group for individual assignments; using unauthorized materials in an



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exam and sharing your work with other students, will result in failure of the assignment and will likely lead to further disciplinary measures.\*

## **Final assignment**

Exam dates and submission deadlines are published on the Liberal Arts website. Courses with a final exam also have a second make-up exam. Students requiring an extension for a final paper must submit an Academic Committee Request Form to the Liberal Arts office in advance of the deadline. Late papers will be subject to a point deduction.\*

## **Additional requirements**

The use of any and all electronic devices, including computers, is prohibited during class.

\* See Liberal Arts academic handbook for further details