

**Georgia Institute of Technology, Europe
Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts
School of Economics**

**Economics 4610
Seminar in Economic Policy
Summer 2024**

Meeting time and location: TBD

Instructor: Dr. Whitney Buser and Dr. Usha Nair-Reichert

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Course Description:

The objective of the course is to enable students to interpret current economic problems and policies using the economic models learned in their theory courses. Current events and business cases will build the foundation of discussion and analysis in the course. Lectures and discussion will focus on regulation and its direct and indirect consequences.

Course Objectives:

1. Students will interpret how global economics forces and current events impact markets.
2. Students will apply economic models learned in theory courses to real world global events.
3. Students will discuss, using economic theory as the basis for their argument, the direct and indirect impacts of a global event.
4. Students will understand the challenges and advantages of regulation and regulatory practices.

Required Texts:

There is no textbook for this course. Lecture and reading discussions will be based on primary research in the field, current event reports, or business case studies.

Grading:

Your grade for this course is based on weekly assignments. Each week, at the conclusion of the lecture material, students will need to complete a short in class assignment for a grade. This may be a group or individual assignment and may consist of a short quiz, in class project, in class writing, or brief presentation.

All weekly assignments will be weighted equally and averaged to calculate the final grade in the course.

Participation:

- Attendance and participation are not one in the same
- Being absent from class physically is preferred to being present physically and absent mentally.
- We find the use of laptops and headphones disrespectful and distracting and prefer physical absence to distracted presence that impacts the classroom environment.
- Do not come to class if you are ill.

Grade Disputes:

For assignments:

- Wait at least 24 hours but no more than 1 week after receiving the grade to discuss it
- Review the rubric, my comments, or the exams results before disputing the grade
- Write up a cogent set of reasons as to why the grading was incorrect
- Make an appointment to go over your *written* dispute in one on one

For end of term grades:

- If you believe a true error has occurred with your grading, email me immediately
- For rounding, bumping, extra credit, and other adjustment requests, I reserve the right to respond only with a form letter denying the request.

Recording classroom activities

In order to preserve class integrity, student privacy, and a safe environment to express opinions, recording of our classes using digital, tape, or audio devices is not allowed. This policy can be waived with accommodations upon explicit recommendation from the Office of Disability Services.

Students must receive the written consent of the instructor to sell or otherwise commercialize class notes, lecture slides, lecture videos, and materials such as homework assignments and answers. Students may not store or distribute class notes and materials in homework repositories or test banks under any circumstances (this violates intellectual property

ownership). Students may not share or distribute lecture videos or lecture notes outside of this class community.

Freedom of expression

As a faculty member at Georgia Tech, I respect your rights to the freedom of speech and expression. I am also committed to maintaining an orderly learning environment for all students and ensuring that all facilities are used in a way that facilitates teaching, learning, and research. Therefore, you should treat your peers and instructor respectfully in discussion. Disagreements are likely to happen. When they do, you are expected to disagree respectfully and to keep your discussion focused on evidence.

Discussions in this class are expected to take place solely within the course. Thus, statements made during class should not be quoted on social media unless the individual being quoted has provided their express permission. This applies to the instructor, students, and classroom guests. This policy is meant to protect student privacy and create a safe environment to learn.

Academic integrity

"I commit to uphold the ideals of honor and integrity by refusing to betray the trust bestowed upon me as a member of the Georgia Tech community."

Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. For information on Georgia Tech's Academic Honor Code, please visit <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/policies/honor-code/> or <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/18/>.

Academic integrity is extremely important to me.

Any student suspected of plagiarizing, fabricating data, or any other academic misconduct will receive a zero in the course and be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations.

Student-faculty expectations agreement

It is important to strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgement, and responsibility between faculty members and the student body. See <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/22/> for an articulation of some basic expectations that you can have of me and that I have of you. In the end, simple respect for knowledge, hard work, and cordial interactions will help build the environment we seek. Therefore, I encourage you to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech while in this class.

Accommodations for students with disabilities

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, contact the Office of Disability Services at (404) 894-2563 or <http://disabilityservices.gatech.edu/>, as soon as possible, to make an appointment to discuss your special needs and to obtain an accommodations letter. Please also e-mail me as soon as possible to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.

Mental health:

- We will grant 1 day to 1 week extensions on an assignment if the request is made 48 hours in advance of the due date.
- All accommodations require students to visit CARE for support
- Second extensions require a one on one meeting with me as well as CARE support
- Accommodations cannot be made retroactively.
- A specific accommodation must be requested.