Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.
COURSE SYLLABUS

PPOG 502
ECONOMICS AND PUBLIC POLICY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will study markets and market failure, the effects of Public Policy on economics, the effects of economics on Public Policy, and the role of government in economic issues particularly in the areas of trade, enterprise, debt and taxation, from a biblical worldview. The class will emphasize the Judeo-Christian foundations and principles of economic activity.

RATIONALE

A key consideration in all public policy initiatives will be the economic impact. Public Policy, whether implemented on the local level or internationally, is impacted by various economic theories, principles, and practicalities. This course will provide a basic overview of economics, evaluate the crucial interaction between economics and public policy, and consider the impact this interaction has on the decision making process.

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the Academic Course Catalog.

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
C. Microsoft Office

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
A. Articulate the key principles of economics and the different approaches to economic policy.
B. Interpret the economic impact of various public policy initiatives.
C. Analyze problems of collective action and central planning.
D. Evaluate the sources of economic growth.
E. Articulate economic policy issues in trade, regulation, debt, taxation, and government spending.

F. Examine all of the preceding in light of a distinctly evangelical Christian worldview and ethical system.

V. **COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations

B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C. Discussion Board Forums (3)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to create a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be 400–500 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. A full citation to at least 1 scholarly source must be provided in current Turabian format in each thread. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 2 other classmates’ threads. Each reply must be 200–300 words and cite at least 1 scholarly source.

D. News Article Reviews (2)

The student will write a 500–700-word essay, discussing current news articles that concern the interaction between markets and government. News articles used for this assignment must come from the newspaper, a news program, or some other reputable news source (either traditional such as a newspaper or news magazine, or from a reputable online source). Full citations must be provided in current Turabian format, as well as a legible scanned copy of the print article or a link to the online source.

E. Book Reviews (2)

After reading the Gwartney et al. and Sowell textbooks, the student will write reviews summarizing and evaluating the assigned chapters in each book. Each review must be 1,200–1,500 words. A minimum of 2 scholarly sources must be cited according to current Turabian format. No more than 20 percent of each Book Review may consist of direct quotations from the reviewed book.

F. Research Paper

The student will prepare a 2,500–3,000-word paper evaluating an aspect of the relationship between the market economy and civil government. Government action will be evaluated in the light of economic theory and Christian ethics. This paper will be submitted in the following stages: topic proposal, references list, outline, and final. A minimum of 5–7 scholarly sources must be used and cited according to current Turabian format.

G. Quizzes (3)
Each quiz will cover the Reading & Study material for the assigned modules/weeks. Each quiz will be open-book/open-notes, contain 20 multiple-choice questions, and have a 45-minute time limit.

H. Midterm Exam

The Midterm will cover the Reading & Study material for Modules/Weeks 1–4. It will be open-book/open-notes, contain 25 multiple-choice and 5 short answer questions, and have a 1-hour and 15-minute time limit.

I. Final Exam

The Final Exam will cover the Reading & Study material for the entire course. It will be open-book/open-notes, contain 34 multiple-choice and 6 short answer questions, and have a 1-hour and 30-minute time limit.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

| Course Requirements Checklist | 10 |
| Discussion Board Forums (3 at 70 pts ea) | 210 |
| News Article Reviews (2 at 40 pts ea) | 80 |
| Book Reviews (2 at 90 pts ea) | 180 |
| Research Paper |
| Topic Proposal | 30 |
| References List | 15 |
| Outline | 50 |
| Final | 100 |
| Quizzes (3 at 40 pts ea) | 120 |
| Midterm Exam (Modules 1–4) | 95 |
| Final Exam (Modules 1–8) | 120 |
| **Total** | **1010** |

B. Scale

D- = 680–699   F = 0–679

C. Late Assignment Policy

If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email.

Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:

1. Late assignments submitted within one week of the due date will receive a 10% deduction.

2. Assignments submitted more than one week late will receive a 20% deduction.
3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the course will not be accepted.

4. Late Discussion Board threads or replies will not be accepted.

Special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, personal health issues) will be reviewed by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.

D. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.
# COURSE SCHEDULE

**PPOG 502**

Textbooks:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MODULE/WEEK</th>
<th>READING &amp; STUDY</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| 1           | Gwartney et al.: Selected Readings  
1 presentation  
4 websites | Course Requirements Checklist  
Class Introductions  
DB Forum 1 | 10  
0  
70 |
| 2           | Gwartney et al.: Selected Readings  
Sowell: ch. 8  
1 presentation  
3 websites | News Article Review 1  
Quiz 1 | 40  
40 |
| 3           | Gwartney et al.: Selected Readings  
2 presentations  
2 websites | News Article Review 2  
Research Paper – Topic Proposal | 40  
30 |
| 4           | Gwartney et al.: Selected Readings  
Mises: “3rd Lecture – Interventionism”  
1 presentation  
1 website | Research Paper – References List  
Quiz 2 | 15  
40 |
| 5           | Gwartney et al.: Selected Readings  
Sowell: ch. 1  
1 presentation  
1 video  
1 website | DB Forum 2  
Research Paper – Outline  
Midterm Exam | 70  
50  
95 |
| 6           | Gwartney et al.: Selected Readings  
Mises: “4th Lecture – Inflation”  
1 presentation  
1 video  
4 websites | Book Review 1  
Quiz 3 | 90  
40 |
| 7           | Sowell: chs. 3–4, 6–7  
1 presentation  
2 websites | DB Forum 3  
Book Review 2 | 70  
90 |
| 8           | Mises: “1st Lecture – Capitalism,” “2nd Lecture – Socialism”  
2 presentations  
1 website  
1 PDF | Research Paper – Final  
Final Exam | 100  
120 |

**TOTAL 1010**

DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course module/week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.