

Fall 9-1-2018

## ECNS 481.01: Communicating Economics

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**Communicating Economics-ECNS 481**  
**The University of Montana**  
**Fall 2018**  
**SYLLABUS**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Professor Kellenberg  
**CLASS HOURS:** TTh, 9:30-10:50 AM  
**CLASS LOCATION:** Liberal Arts 244  
**OFFICE HOURS:** TTh 1:00-2:00 PM (or by appointment)  
**OFFICE LOCATION:** Liberal Arts 404  
**TELEPHONE:** 243-5612  
**EMAIL:** [Derek.Kellenberg@mso.umt.edu](mailto:Derek.Kellenberg@mso.umt.edu)

Note: The following syllabus defines the rules and important dates for the semester; however, I reserve the right to make changes if the need arises.

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**Prerequisite:** Senior or graduate status and an Economics major.

**General Description:** Students will integrate and apply the knowledge they have gained through the Economics major and develop their skills in communicating that knowledge. Students will apply economic theory and evidence to practical problems faced by themselves, policymakers, businesses or other economic agents. Students will practice identifying the economic principles behind observed problems or interesting phenomena, applying economic models to analyze these topics, and communicating this knowledge in different ways to a range of audiences. Additionally, students will learn to read academic research papers and synthesize the findings in order to answer practical policy relevant questions.

**Text:**

***Required:*** McCloskey, Deirdre, *Economical Writing, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.*, Prospect Heights, IL: Waveland Press, 2000.

**Learning Outcomes:** Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

- Formulate answers to real-world questions using economic principles
- Develop conclusions about economic questions based on synthesis of theory and evidence
- Deliver well-structured, engaging oral presentations addressing practical economic questions
- Identify and pursue more sophisticated questions for academic inquiry
- Find, evaluate, analyze, and synthesize information effectively from diverse sources
- Manage multiple perspectives as appropriate
- Recognize the purposes and needs of economic audiences and adopt the academic voice necessary for communicating economic ideas
- Use multiple drafts, revision, and editing in conducting inquiry and preparing written work
- Follow the conventions of citation, documentation, and formal presentation appropriate to the economics discipline
- Develop competence in information technology and digital literacy

**Grades:** Your overall class grade will be based on your performance on 9 assignments, daily attendance and participation in class exercises, and presentations, and the completion of the senior exit exam and senior survey. The breakdown of the overall class grade is as follows:

Attendance/Participation	15%
Assignment #1	5%
Assignment #2	5%
Assignment #3	5%
Assignment #4	5%
Assignment #5	5%
Assignment #6	5%
Assignment #7	15%
Assignment #8	5%
Assignment #9	25%
Senior Exit Survey	7%
Senior Exit Exam	3%

**Senior Exit Survey:** The senior exit survey is an important survey tool that the Department of Economics uses to assess your experience as an undergraduate in Economics. You may sign your name or take it anonymously, but your grade for this will be dependent on your attendance on the Exit Survey day.

**Senior Exit Exam:** The senior exit exam is used as a valuable assessment tool for the Department of Economics to assess overall Economic knowledge of our graduating seniors. It is a comprehensive exam covering all UM undergraduate Economics courses.

**Course Drop and Grade Change Policy:** Course drops and grade changes are subject to the policies and official dates set by the Office of the Registrar. Course drop and grade change dates can be found at:

<http://www.umt.edu/registrar/PDF/201870-Official-Dates-and-Deadlines.pdf>

**A Word on Cheating and Plagiarism:** Do not do it! All students are expected to abide by the University of Montana Student Conduct Code. Any violators of the Student Code of Conduct will be subject to punishment as outlined in the Student Code. For more information on the Student Code of Conduct please consult the following website:

<http://www.umt.edu/vpesa/Dean%20of%20Students/default.php>

**Students with Disabilities:** If you are a student with a disability who will require reasonable program modifications in this course, please meet with Disability Services for Students in Lommasson 154 for assistance in developing a plan to address program modifications. If you are already working with Disability Services, please arrange to meet with me during my office hours

to discuss reasonable modifications that may be necessary. For more information, visit the Disability Services website at <http://www.umt.edu/disability>.

**Classroom Policies:** I reserve the right to ask you to leave the classroom for the day if I perceive that you are being disruptive in any way to me or others in class. I view disruptive behavior to include things like talking on a cell phone, texting, tweeting, emailing, surfing the web, reading a newspaper or doing crosswords puzzles during class time. ***Cell phones must be put away (out of sight and ringers turned off) at all times.***

### Fall 2018 Schedule for ECNS 481

	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>
<b>Week 1:</b> <b>8/28 &amp; 8/30</b>	Introduction	READ Mcloskey Ch. 1 – 11 In Class writing assignment
<b>Week 2:</b> <b>9/4 &amp; 9/6</b>	READ Mcloskey Ch. 12-21 In Class writing assignment	Research Tools Day (Meet in LA 401)
<b>Week 3:</b> <b>9/11 &amp; 9/13</b>	Assignment 1: Interesting Topics	READ Mcloskey Ch. 22-31 In Class writing assignment
<b>Week 4:</b> <b>9/18 &amp; 9/20</b>	<b>Assignment 2 Research Day – No Class (or Assignment 2: Article Summaries if needed)</b>	Assignment 2: Article Summaries (4 presentations)
<b>Week 5:</b> <b>9/25 &amp; 9/27</b>	Assignment 2: Article Summaries (4 presentations)	<b>Assignment 3 Research Day – No Class (or Assignment 3: Presentations if needed)</b>
<b>Week 6:</b> <b>10/2 &amp; 10/4</b>	Assignment 3: Summary Presentations (4 presentations)	Assignment 3: Summary Presentations (4 presentations)
<b>Week 7:</b> <b>10/9 &amp; 10/11</b>	Assignment 4: Policy Paper Statement	Assignment 5: Opening Paragraph
<b>Week 8:</b> <b>10/16 &amp; 10/18</b>	Assignment 6: Graphs, Figures, and Tables examples RE-READ Mcloskey Ch. 15	Assignment 7: Topic or Policy Paper 1 <sup>st</sup> Draft Feedback Workshop
<b>Week 9:</b> <b>10/23 &amp; 10/25</b>	<b>Individual Writing Center Appointments</b>	<b>Individual Writing Center Appointments</b>
<b>Week 10:</b> <b>10/30 &amp; 11/1</b>	<i>Career Discussion Day</i>	Assignment 8: Abstract Due
<b>Week 11:</b> <b>11/6 &amp; 11/8</b>	<b>Election Day –No Class</b>	Topic or Policy Paper Presentations (3 presentations)
<b>Week 12:</b> <b>11/13 &amp; 11/15</b>	Topic or Policy Paper Presentations (3 presentations)	Topic or Policy Paper Presentations (3 presentations)
<b>Week 13:</b> <b>11/20 &amp; 11/22</b>	<b>Assignment 9 Writing Day – No Class</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Break –No Class</b>
<b>Week 14:</b> <b>11/27 &amp; 11/29</b>	<b>Senior Exit Survey</b>	<b>Senior Exit Exam</b>
<b>Week 15:</b> <b>12/4 &amp; 12/6</b>	<b>Assignment 9 Writing Day – No Class</b>	<b>NO CLASS Assignment 9: Topic or Policy Paper Due</b>