

SUBJECT: COMPARATIVE ECONOMIC SYSTEMS

LEVEL: Taught in English – Open to all language levels

HOURS: 45 contact hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The 20th Century can be described as a period of rapid, and sometimes revolutionary developments in several areas of the social world, especially in the economic sphere. Regarding the economic systems, it is possible to differentiate between the changes in ideas (theoretical) from the changes at the practical level (reality). This course will analyze the main economic systems, considering their historical background and their theoretical underpinning. How they function in the real world and how they differ/interact with one another.

COURSE OUTLINE: (Changes may be made to the order in which these topics are studied)

- * Overview of 20th Century
- * Theory and terminology
- * Capitalism as an Economic System
 - USA
 - Japan
 - Germany
- * Socialism as an Economic System
 - USSR
 - Russian Federation
 - Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic
 - China
- * Role of International Institutions
 - GATT/WTO
 - IMF
 - World Bank
- * Developing Economies
 - Less Developed Countries
 - Africa
 - Latin America
 - Asia
- * Regional Integration
 - EU
 - NAFTA
 - MERCOSUR
- * 21st Century Challenges
 - Population / Immigration
 - Environment
 - Political Instability

GRADING: Midterm Exam 30%
Final Exam 30%
Presentation & Paper 20%
Class participation 20%

ABSENCES: Class attendance is mandatory. Students will be allowed 2 unjustified hours of absence. Tardiness is considered ½ absence.

CHANGES: Dropping classes will not be permitted once the second week of class has started.