

ORIGINATOR'S SECTION:

1. College: CHABSS CoBA
 CoEHHS CSM

Desired Term and Year of Implementation (e.g., Fall 2008):
 Spring 2016

2. Course is to be considered for G.E.? (If yes, also fill out appropriate GE form*) Yes No

3. Course will be a variable-topics (generic) course? Yes No
 ("generic" is a placeholder for topics)

4. Course abbreviation and Number:* ECON 403

5. Title: (Titles using jargon, slang, copyrighted names, trade names, or any non-essential punctuation may not be used.)
 Experimental Economics

6. Abbreviated Title for PeopleSoft:
 (no more than 25 characters, including spaces)
 ExperimentalEcon

7. Number of Units: 3

8. Catalog Description: (Not to exceed 80 words; language should conform to catalog copy. Please consult the catalog for models of style and format; include all necessary information regarding consent for enrollment, pre- and/or corequisites, repeated enrollment, crosslisting, as detailed below. Such information does not count toward the 80-word limit.)
 Provides an introduction to the field of experimental economics. Focuses on three major themes, using published experimental economics research covering a variety of economics fields (consumer theory, property rights, public choice, labor economics, behavioral economics and macroeconomics). (1) Explores the benefits and drawbacks of using experiments to answer economic questions. (2) Examines the elements of sound experimental design. (3) Explores the use of field experiments vs. lab experiments.

9. Why is this course being proposed?
 Part of the Economics Department's mission to expand the curriculum.
Prereq: ECON 201 and 202. (Previously ECON 481-8)

10. Mode of Instruction*
 For definitions of the Course Classification Numbers:
http://www.csusm.edu/academic_programs/curriculumsschedu ling/catalogcurricula/DOCUMENTS/Curricular_Forms_Tab/ Instructional%20Mode%20Conventions.pdf

Type of Instruction	Number of Credit Units	Instructional Mode (Course Classification Number)
Lecture	3	C-02
Activity		
Lab		

11. Grading Method:*
 Normal (N) (Allows Letter Grade +/-, and Credit/No Credit)
 Normal Plus Report-in-Progress (NP) (Allows Letter Grade +/-, Credit/No Credit, and Report-in-Progress)
 Credit/No Credit Only (C)
 Credit/No Credit or Report-in-Progress Only (CP)

12. If the (NP) or (CP) grading system was selected, please explain the need for this grade option.

13. Course Requires Consent for Enrollment? Yes No
 Faculty Credential Analyst Dean Program/Department - Director/Chair

14. Course Can be Taken for Credit More than Once? Yes No
 If yes, how many times? (including first offering)

15. Is Course Crosslisted: Yes No
 If yes, indicate which course and check "yes" in item #22 below.

16. Prerequisite(s): Yes No ECON 201 and ECON 202

17. Corequisite(s): Yes No

see new descrpt on syllabus

* If Originator is uncertain of this entry, please consult with Program/Department Director/Chair.

18. Documentation attached:
 Syllabus Detailed Course Outline

19. If this course has been offered as a topic, please enter topic abbreviation, number, and suffix:* ECON 481-8 - Experimental Economics, Summer 2015

20. How often will this course be offered once established?* Once every two or three semesters

PROGRAM DIRECTOR/CHAIR - COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE SECTION:
(Mandatory information – all items in this section must be completed.)

21. Does this course fulfill a requirement for any major (i.e., core course or elective for a major, majors in other departments, minors in other departments)? Yes No

If yes, please specify:
 It is an upper-division elective in the Economics major.

22. Does this course impact other discipline(s)? *(If there is any uncertainty as to whether a particular discipline is affected, check "yes" and obtain signature.)* Yes No

If yes, obtain signature(s). Any objections should be stated in writing and attached to this form.

Discipline _____	Signature _____	Date _____	Support _____	Oppose _____
Discipline _____	Signature _____	Date _____	Support _____	Oppose _____

SIGNATURES : (COLLEGE LEVEL) :

(UNIVERSITY LEVEL)

1. Quinn Keefer 5/7/15
 Originator (please print or type name) Date

2. Roger Arnold 5/7/15
 Program Director/Chair Date

3. [Signature] 10/5/15
 College Curriculum Committee Date

4. [Signature] 10/6/15
 College Dean (or Designee) Date

5. _____ Date _____
 UCC Committee Chair

6. _____ Date _____
 Vice President for Academic Affairs (or Designee)

7. _____ Date _____
 President (or Designee)



* If Originator is uncertain of this entry, please consult with Program/Department Director/Chair.

College of Humanities, Arts, Behavioral and Social Sciences
Department of Economics
California State University San Marcos
ECON 403 Experimental Economics
Spring 2016

Contact Information

Instructor: Quinn Keefer

E-mail: qkeefe@csusm.edu

Phone: 760-750-8256

Office: SBSB 3136

Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 11:30am – 12:30pm and by appointment

Course Schedule

Semester: Spring 2016

Meeting Times: Mondays and Wednesdays 1:00pm – 2:15pm

Course Location: SBSB 1105

Course Description

Provides an introduction to the field of experimental economics. Explores published experimental economics research on topics such as consumer theory, property rights, public choice, labor economics, behavioral economics and macroeconomics. Focuses on three major themes: (1) benefits and drawbacks of using experiments to answer economic questions; (2) elements of sound experimental design; and (3) use of field experiments vs. lab experiments.

Background Preparation (Prerequisites)

ECON 201 and ECON 202

Economics Department Student Learning Outcomes

1. Define, describe, interpret and apply the choice calculus of different economic entities (individuals, firms, groups, government).
2. Describe, explain and employ the economic way of thinking.
3. Explain and analyze how markets work.
4. Define, describe and employ the scientific method to answering economic questions
5. Explain and analyze how the economy works.
6. Apply the knowledge and methods in PSLOs 1-5 to formulate and answer economic questions.

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand which types of economic questions can be examined using experiments.
2. Evaluate the internal and external validity of experimental economics research.
3. Evaluate experimental evidence on a specific topic in conjunction with research using other methods on the same topic.
4. Construct an effective experiment for analyzing an economic question.

Textbook

There is no required textbook for this course. The material will come from various readings, video lectures and other materials provided online via Cougars Courses. All assigned reading must be completed by the start of class on the date specified in the schedule.

Course Materials:

All course materials will be stored on Cougars Courses. Throughout the course we will use the app Poll Everywhere to record your answers to questions posed in class. The app can be accessed via laptop (internet), tablet, smartphone or text message.

Course Policies

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all class meetings. Students are responsible for all information presented in class. While the topics we will discuss are covered in the readings, in some instances the material presented in class may go beyond the discussion in the readings. If you must miss a class please notify me ahead of time via email. Please arrive on time; when you arrive late it is distracting for your fellow students and me.

There is evidence that suggests that students who attend class more often receive higher course grades and have higher GPAs (Roch and Kieszczynka, 2010). *Can you see a problem with the previous statement?*

Computers/Cell Phones

Please turn off cellphones (unless we are using Poll Everywhere!) prior to the start of class. You may use laptops or tablets during class as the lectures will occasionally use projected slides and videos. However, please do not use electronic devices for non-course related activities as you may distract other students.

Working Together

Students are encouraged to work together on problem sets, but do not directly copy from each other. Each student must provide their own solutions.

Academic Honesty and Integrity

Students are expected to adhere to standards of academic honesty and integrity, as outlined in the Standards for Student Conduct Code. All assignments must be original work, clear and error-free. All ideas/material that are borrowed from other sources must have appropriate references to the original sources. Any quoted material should give credit to the source and be punctuated accordingly.

Students are responsible for honest completion and representation of their work. Your course catalog details the ethical standards and penalties for infractions. There will be zero tolerance for infractions. If you believe there has been an infraction by someone in the class, please bring it to the instructor's attention. The instructor reserves the right to discipline any student for academic dishonesty, in accordance with the general rules and regulations of the university. Disciplinary action may include the lowering of grades and/or the assignment of a failing grade for an exam, assignment, or the class as a whole. Academic dishonesty cases will be referred to the Dean of

Students Office and may result in suspension or expulsion from CSU San Marcos and the CSU System.

Grading

A	= 93%-100%
A-	= 90%-92.9%
B+	= 87%-89.9%
B	= 83%-86.9%
B-	= 80%-82.9%
C+	= 77%-79.9%
C	= 73%-76.9%
C-	= 70%-72.9%
D	= 60%-69.9%
F	= 0%-59.9%

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations must be approved for services by providing appropriate and recent documentation to the Office of Disabled Student Services (DSS). This office is located in Craven Hall 5205, and can be contacted by phone at (760) 750-4905, or TTY (760) 750-4909. Students authorized by DSS to receive reasonable accommodations should meet with me during my office hours in order to ensure confidentiality.

Assignments:

1. **Participation (5%):** *Participation is a crucial part of the course.* I will ask you many times each class to make decisions (real or hypothetical). We will also spend considerable time discussing the assigned readings. The participation grade is based on engaging in class discussions, asking and answering questions and overall level of attentiveness.
2. **Quizzes (5% each):** There will be four quizzes. Quizzes will be given at the beginning of the class on the days specified in the schedule. They will cover the material presented in the given section of the course as well as the required readings.
3. **Problem Sets (10% each):** There will be three problem sets. The problem sets will cover the required readings and lectures. Each problem set will require you to respond to questions about the required readings. These essay responses will fulfill the university's writing requirement of 2,500 words.
4. **Midterm (20%):** There will be one midterm exam. The midterm will cover the first two sections of the course (Introduction and Experimental Design). It will be given during class. No makeup exams will be offered.
5. **Final Presentation (25%):** Presentations are scheduled for Monday May 9th and Wednesday May 11th during class. The goal of the final presentation is to propose an economic experiment. Students will not have to conduct the experiment, but they will have to display how the experiment would be conducted, what hypotheses are tested and how different results affect their potential conclusions.

Schedule (Subject to Change):

Date	Topic	Assignments
1/25	Examining Economic Questions with Data	
1/27	Examining Economic Questions with Data	
2/1	Causal Effects	
2/3	Randomization	
2/8	Randomization	
2/10	When Are Experiments Appropriate?	
2/15	Incentives	Problem Set #1
2/17	Between Subject Designs	
2/22	Within Subject Designs	
2/24	2x2 Experimental Design <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read, D., & van Leeuwen, B. (1998). "Predicting Hunger: The Effects of Appetite and Delay on Choice." <i>Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes</i>, 76(2), 189-205. 	
2/29	Internal Validity	Problem Set #2
3/2	External Validity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Levitt, S.D., & List, J.A. (2007). "What Do Laboratory Experiments Measuring Social Preferences Reveal About the Real World?" <i>Journal of Economic Perspectives</i>, 21(2), 153-174. 	
3/7	Review	
3/9	Midterm	Midterm
3/14	Experimental Economics vs. Experimental Psychology	
3/16	Double Oral Auction	
3/21	Spring Break	
3/23	Spring Break	
3/28	Economic Theory as Motivation	
3/30	Economic Theory as Motivation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smith, V.L. (1962). "An Experimental Study of Competitive Market Behavior." <i>Journal of Political Economy</i>, 70(2), 11-137. 	
4/4	Field Experiments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> List, J.A. (2011). "Why Economists Should Conduct Field Experiments and 14 Tips for Pulling One Off." <i>Journal of Economic Perspectives</i>, 25(3), 3-16. 	
4/6	Field Experiments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> List, J.A. (2003). "Does Market Experience Eliminate Market Anomalies?" <i>Quarterly Journal of Economics</i>, 118(1), 41-71. 	Quiz #1
4/11	Comparison to Other Empirical Methods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fraker, T., & Maynard, R. (1987). "The Adequacy of Comparison Group Designs for Evaluations of Employment-Related Programs." <i>Journal of Human Resources</i>, 22(2), 194-227. 	
4/13	Comparison to Other Empirical Methods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heckman, J.J., Hotz, V.J. (1989). "Choosing Among Alternative Nonexperimental Methods for Estimating the Impact of Social Programs: The Case of Manpower Training." <i>Journal of the American Statistical Association</i>, 84(408), 862-874. 	Quiz #2
4/18	Experimental Macroeconomics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duffy, J. (2008). "Experimental Macroeconomics." In S. Durlauf and L. Blume (Eds.), <i>The New Palgrave Dictionary of Economics</i>, 2nd ed. New York: Palgrave Macmillan. 	Problem Set #3

4/20	Studying Property Rights Using Experiments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wilson, B.J., Jaworski, T., Schurter, K.E., & Smyth, A. (2012). "The Ecological and Civil Mainsprings of Property: An Experimental Economic History of Whalers' Rules of Capture." <i>Journal of Law Economics and Organization</i>, 28(4), 617-656. 	
4/25	Experimental Labor Economics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ariely, D., Kamenica, E., & Prelec, D. (2008). "Man's Search for Meaning: The Case of Legos." <i>Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization</i>, 67(3-4), 671-677. 	Quiz #3
4/27	Experiments in Behavioral Economics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dana, J., Weber, R.A., & Kuang, J.X. (2007). "Exploiting Moral Wiggle Room: Experiments Demonstrating an Illusory Preference for Fairness." <i>Economic Theory</i>, 33(1), 67-80. 	Quiz #4
5/2	Neuroeconomics	
5/4	Neuroeconomics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kosfeld, M., Heinrichs, M., Zak, P.J., Fischbacher, U., & Fehr, E. (2005). "Oxytocin Increases Trust in Humans." <i>Nature</i>, 435(2), 673-676. 	
5/9	Presentations	Presentations
5/11	Presentations	Presentations