

Public Choice, ECO 3532  
Fall 2016

Professor: Michelle A. Phillips  
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Lecture: Mondays and Wednesdays 1:55-3:50pm at Matherly Hall 114  
Office: Matherly Hall 334  
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:55-3:55pm or by appointment  
Office Phone: 352-392-5017

*Recommended Text and Readings*

We will not be using a textbook. Readings will be available on Canvas and/or distributed in class.

*Grading*

Your grade will be determined by your performance on the following:

Graded Event	Weight
“Group article” paper and presentation	15%
Participation	15%
Exam 1	35%
Exam 2	35%

The following scale will be used to determine your final grade:

A	93.00 and above
A-	92.99 to 90.00
B+	89.99 to 86.67
B	86.66 to 83.00
B-	82.99 to 80.00
C+	79.99 to 75.00
C	74.99 to 70.00
D	69.99 to 64.00
E	63.99 and below

*Exams*

Exam 1 and Exam 2 will rely on a variety of question formats and be closed book/closed note. The exams are not cumulative. However, some information in this course is foundational and overlap between the first and second sections of the course is unavoidable. NON-PROGRAMMABLE calculators are allowed. The use of cell phones, PDAs or any other programmable device during any graded event is not allowed and violating this policy may result in failing that graded event and/or the class. Please note that make-ups are not guaranteed and will only be given for verifiable reasons (medical emergencies, academic conflicts, and religious conflicts). Make-ups that are for academic, university sanctioned sport activities, or religious conflicts, will be set up at least 2 weeks before the graded events, since the dates for these should be known ahead of time. Please refer to the “schedule” section for dates.

*Participation*

Although attendance is not strictly required, your course grade is based on participation in the classroom. I will send emails with information on what articles you should read before each class session. I expect you to come to class ready to discuss the readings mentioned in the emails.

*Group Project:*

Students will form groups of at most 4. Each group will select a reading from the approved list on Canvas, and using original creative thought, discuss a related idea. This can consist of either a criticism, extension, test proposal, or a combination thereof. Each group will both write a paper and have a presentation of their project. The paper must be 6-12 double-spaced pages, providing a thorough summary of the article so a nonreader will understand the relevant points, concentrating on what will be relevant for your original contribution, and then your original contribution. The focus will of course be on your contribution. The presentations should consist of the same sections as the paper.

You will submit your 2 preferred dates to present. If your team doesn't submit preferences, I will assign a date. Please see the schedule for relevant dates. As an incentive to reward team members whose contributions had a significant impact on their teams, a team evaluation "peer review" sheet must be completed by all team members. In this sheet you will evaluate both yourself and your team members, this is also part of your grade.

### *Office Hours*

This is a great time to ask the questions you were unable or too uncomfortable to ask in class. If the office hours listed above are not convenient due to class or work conflicts, I will work with you to find a better solution. The easiest way to schedule office hours by appointment is to email me. **Extra office hours will take place before each exam.**

### *Contacting Me*

The best way to contact me is via e-mail. If you haven't received a response within 72 hours, please assume I didn't receive your email and re-send it.

### *Course Website*

We will be using Canvas. The address is: <http://elearning.ufl.edu/>. You log-in using your Gatorlink ID and password and the course should automatically appear as one of your e-learning options. If it does not, check to make sure you are properly registered for the course. If that is not the issue, contact the UF Computing Helpdesk at: <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/>. Do not contact me about access issues. I cannot help you and the help you do need will only be delayed if you do. Most course materials and grades will be posted here.

### *Academic Honesty*

You are expected to abide by the University's rules for academic honesty. These are available for your review at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr>. Cheating, plagiarism and any other action that violates these rules will be prosecuted to the fullest extent. It should be noted that creating an excuse to take a make-up exam that cannot be verified constitutes cheating under the University guidelines.

### *Students with Special Needs*

If you are a student with special needs and you require additional resources to participate in this course, please contact me immediately. The Dean of Students makes special accommodations for students as needed. After approval by the Dean of Students, the appropriate paperwork will be forwarded to me and accommodations can be made.

### *Schedule* M = Monday, W = Wednesday

<i>Date</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Activity</i>
M Aug 22	Introduction	W Aug 24	Lecture
M Aug 29	Lecture	W Aug 31	Lecture
M Sept 5	HOLIDAY (no class)	W Sept 7	Lecture
M Sept 12	Lecture	W Sept 14	Lecture
M Sept 19	Lecture	W Sept 21	Lecture
M Sept 26	Lecture	W Sept 28	Lecture
M Oct 3	Lecture	W Oct 5	Exam 1 Review
M Oct 10	<b>Exam 1</b>	W Oct 12	Lecture
M Oct 17	Lecture	W Oct 19	Lecture, <b>Group project paper due at 1pm on Canvas.</b>
M Oct 24	Lecture, Group project presentations day 1	M Oct 26	Lecture, Group project presentations day 2
M Oct 31	Lecture, Group project presentations day 3	W Nov 2	Lecture
M Nov 7	Lecture, <b>Team eval. peer review due</b>	W Nov 9	Lecture
M Nov 14	Lecture	W Nov 16	Lecture
M Nov 21	Lecture	W Nov 23	HOLIDAY
M Nov 28	Lecture	W Nov 30	Lecture
M Dec 5	Exam 2 review	W Dec 7	<b>Exam 2</b>