

Economic Issues and Policy

Eighth Edition



Instructors' Manual

Jacqueline Murray Brux

*Emeritus Professor of Economics and
Founder/Director of the Center for International Development
University of Wisconsin–River Falls*



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Preface to the Instructors' Manual



This instructor's manual is intended to help you teach a course in the economics of social issues, whether you've never taught it before or whether you've taught it numerous times. Over the last few years, the news cycle has become extraordinarily short, meaning the issues and how they are dealt with are changing rapidly. Furthermore, the availability of online data means there is little excuse for not being as up-to-date as possible. The textbook is revised every three years, as is the instructor's manual. The instructor's manual is intended to help you keep up and let you know what is new in the text.

As you know, today's politics is volatile, and controversy surrounds us. Some of this will make its way into the classroom, and the thoughts and ideas in this manual will help you deal with the controversy from a fact-based and unemotional position.

And, of course, instructors like to have classroom exercises and sample test questions. The set of classroom exercises is a new feature, and the sample test questions contain multiple choice, true/false, and critical thinking questions. Some of these questions are new, representing new data and material, and some are old yet still relevant. The critical thinking questions could be used in essays or class discussion. Updated PowerPoint slides are also included.

As the textbook portends, the fundamental structure underlying our economy is one of inequality and systemic racism. In the text and in the instructors' manual, you will read the word "contempt" over and over. This is deliberate, intended to draw attention to the attitude that finds these conditions acceptable.



Today, February 24, 2022, Russia attacked Ukraine, and at this point, we know very little of what will transpire in the days ahead. We do know with certainty, however, that this European war will impact many of the issues in this text. From the Chapter 1 topics of scarcity and opportunity costs, to the final chapter on global economics and ideology, the old world order has just been shattered and a new one will rise up. It is for circumstances such as this that my constant urge is to add breaking news to the text until the very last moment. Since each new revision of the text goes to print before the new *Instructor's Manual*, my last chance is to place late breaking material into the *Instructor's Manual*. I don't think you will have any trouble locating the News Update in each chapter of the manual.

I hope you find this manual helpful, and I hope you will contact me if you have suggestions or critiques. Thank you.

Jacqueline Brux
Jacqueline.m.brux@uwrj.edu

