

How Can Business Cycles & Economic Policy Cause Financial Crisis?

WALL STREET ETHICS and



ECONOMIC CALAMITIES (RS 190WE)

Continuing scandals in the wake of the '08 Financial Crisis may have created the impression that Wall Street ethics have suffered a tremendous deterioration. In reality, periodic downturns have been a normal part of U.S. economic cycles since 1785, and unethical behavior by Wall St. participants has contributed to many. This course will explore the most significant recessions/depressions where market manipulation, insider trading, and regulatory lapses may have either significantly contributed to their cause and/or magnified their impact. The goal is to gain an historical context of questionable ethical behavior, heighten awareness of self-interest acts that harmed the common good, and create “lessons learned” that could guide students toward positive ethical behavior in their lives.

COURSE GOALS: By the end of this course you will:

- Gain a practical understanding of how money, banking, and finance work.
- Learn what repetitive behavior patterns typically contribute to economic downturns.
- Develop critical thinking and advocacy skills to effectively convey your passion, inspire, and persuade.

TIME: Class meets every Thursday, 2-4:50 pm in Fall 2020 Quarter.

PREQUESITES: Upper division status; students from all majors are welcome. *Credit applies toward ethics coursework requirements.*

INSTRUCTOR: Mitchell Kauffman is a nationally recognized Wealth Manager and Certified Financial Planner who has built his independent practice over the past 35 years. As a Gaucho alumni and Santa Barbara resident, he is an active philanthropist who offers his business consultant expertise to a variety of non-profits.

Contact Professor Kauffman directly with questions: mitchk@ucsb.edu