Economic Growth & Distributive Justice – Prof. Yoram Margalioth – 1882-1401

Course Description
The course will seek to enrich students with basic knowledge and understanding of how the state functions in the socio-economic sphere, while presenting and analyzing those main policymaking tools that are available to it. This basic knowledge is important for every resident and especially for those with voting rights. No previous knowledge of math, economics or law is assumed.

The course will cover the tax system, and how the government balances between tax collection and government expenditures.

The course will explain basic terms and discussions about: social welfare (happiness), the function of social welfare, public goods, externalities,
inequality, poverty, minimum sustainability, the tension between social division of goods and effectiveness (efficacy), minimum wages versus wage subsidies (negative income tax), GDP (gross domestic product), free trade, optimal tax models, capital gains tax, family taxation, gift taxing (philanthropy), the consequences of globalization (with an emphasis on international tax) and an attempt to predict the necessary adaptations to the future workplace (market).

This is an on-line course on Coursera. It offers a novel learning experience, which allows the student to determine her or his own pace, and combines several mediums: pre-recorded short lectures, short readings from primary and secondary sources, and discussion questions. The course is offered in English, with Hebrew subtitles.

Requirements:

A final test that will account for 100% of the final grade. The multi-choice exam is held both in English and Hebrew.

Practice quizzes; At the end of each week, you will find an online quiz. Use it as practice.