Course Description: This is an introductory course. No prior background in economics is necessary. The course begins with a presentation of basic economic analysis as applied to fundamental legal problems (e.g., how to define and assign property entitlements). The goal is to learn the basic concepts (e.g. cost/benefit analysis, rational choice, efficiency, externalities) so as apply them in a variety of concrete legal settings drawn from tort law, contracts, criminal law, etc. After the basics have been assimilated, the course turns to a critical examination of economic reasoning in law. Through an examination of cognitive errors and biases (as these are described in behavioral law and economics) critical pressure will be brought to bear on the model of rational choice and the rational utility maximizer. We will then examine the political and ethical legitimacy of economic reasoning in law, drawing from works in moral thought and critical theory.