

**The following assignment is optional** (that is, you may not submit it and get a perfect grade in the course). The extra credits will be assigned as follows:

- The authors of the two best submissions will have their **final grade** in the course increased by **4%**
- The authors of the following next two best submissions will have their **final grade** in the course increased by **3%**
- The authors of the following next two best submissions will have their **final grade** in the course increased by **2%**

**The due date for submission is October 15th, 6:00PM.** The submissions must be attached in an email to boin@bc.edu, putting “EC 131 Extra Credit 1” in the subject.

Find some piece of news, opinion, fiction, or any other media that you may think is interesting, making some statement over **taxation**. Analyze its merits using our model of taxation under perfect competition.

One example could be an opinion article published in a newspaper over a candidate for presidency’s tax plans. Another could be a deep analysis of a comic strip that is related to the subject. Another could be a story in a movie, etc.

I will evaluate two main aspects of your submission: creativity and correct application of the model.

In order for an analysis to be a correct application of the model, the object of analysis must follow the assumptions of the model in a reasonable way. For example, if you analyze an article that makes a statement over a market that has only one firm in it, our model of perfectly competitive market doesn’t apply. On the other hand, no real-life market follows precisely all the assumptions of our model, so good judgement should be enough. A good application would then compare the statement being made in the article/fiction/etc with the effects that our model predicts.

Don’t be afraid to take risks, but don’t forget what is the main objective of the task: use our model to better understand the world.