

English 102  
**Inquiry into Wealth and Money**  
**Course Description**  
Lisa Gibson

In this course, we will use an inquiry into wealth and money as a backdrop for learning various modes of research. We will explore the benefits of wealth, using Barbara Ehrenreich's *Nickel and Dimed* to see the extreme hardships that result from living below the poverty line. Students will discuss the role of education in acquiring a high paying job, and look into whether or not the assumption is true that obtaining a college degree guarantees a high paying job. We will also explore the negative effects of attaining great wealth, utilizing Edward Ugel's newly released work *Money for Nothing*. By looking at the difficulties brought on by an instant onslaught of wealth, the class will discuss Ralph Waldo Emerson's quote that "money often costs too much." Along these same lines, we will read excerpts from *All the Money in the World* to see the numerous ways the Forbes 400 deal with their billions. Ultimately, this course will seek to find a new awareness of the numerous ways in which money affects the society we live in. Inquiring into both the beneficial and detrimental effects of wealth will provide the class with numerous avenues to discuss the topic of money while also working to refine research skills.

Please email [lcloud1@utk.edu](mailto:lcloud1@utk.edu) for more information!