

# Economics Workshop

Todd M. Nesbit, Ph.D.

Ball State University

Thursday  
March 8, 2018

DMH 347  
3:30-5:00pm

## "Challenges of Taxation Designed For Your Own Good"

Proponents of sin taxes often claim that such taxes will fund projects that promote the public well-being and help curb unhealthy and undesirable behavior. Yet sin taxes often represent inefficient public policy and may lead to a host of ill effects and unintended consequences that not only fail to improve public well-being but also disproportionately hurt the poor. In this talk, Dr. Nesbit explores the failures of sin taxation to fulfill the promises of their proponents and discusses potential solutions to improving the tax code as it relates to excise taxation.



**Todd M. Nesbit, Ph.D.** Todd Nesbit is an assistant professor of economics at Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, and is on the Board of Scholars at the Mackinac Center for Public Policy. He earned his Ph.D. in economics at West Virginia University in 2005. Much of Dr. Nesbit's academic research is centered on the secondary and unintended effects of excise taxation, although he has also published on topics related to the economics of sports. He has authored numerous papers that have appeared in such peer-reviewed professional journals as the *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, the *Southern Economic Journal*, and *Public Budgeting and Finance*. Dr. Nesbit is the co-editor of the recently released book *For Your Own Good: Taxes, Paternalism, and Fiscal Discrimination in the Twenty-First Century*.

<https://sites.google.com/site/toddmnesbit2/>

Economics Workshops offer an opportunity for SJSU students, faculty and invited guests to enjoy academic research presentations by scholars from around the world in their areas of expertise. Following most workshop events, the Barstool Economists group meets at a local eatery, where conversations with the speaker may be continued in a less formal environment.

For information on upcoming workshops,  
Please see our website: [www.sjsu.edu/economics/events](http://www.sjsu.edu/economics/events).