



# SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

## COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS AND INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

### COURSE SYLLABUS FALL SEMESTER 2007

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <b>Course Number</b>         | ECO 230   |
| <b>Course Title</b>          | Introduction to Economics   |
| <b>Course Time</b>           | Tuesday and Thursday 8:00 to 9:20 a.m.  |
| <b>Course Location</b>       | Smith-Hutson – Room 134   |
| <b>Prerequisites</b>         | None  |
| <b>Credit Hours</b>          | 3 hours   |
| <b>Instructor</b>            | Marilyn M. Butler   |
| <b>Office Location</b>       | 305-B Smith-Hutson Building   |
| <b>Office Hours</b>          | Tuesday and Thursday 10:00- 12:00 and 4:00–5:00 p.m. or by appointment  |
| <b>Office Phone</b>          | 936-294-1266  |
| <b>E-mail Address</b>        | eco_mmb@shsu.edu  |
| <b>Course Schedule</b>       | See Attached  |
| <b>Required Text</b>         | Bade, R. & Parkin, M., <i>Essential Foundations of Economics, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition</i> , Pearson, Addison-Wesley, 2006.   |
| <b>Suggested Supplements</b> | The Wall Street Journal, news magazines, and Newspapers   |
| <b>Course Description</b>    | The combined study of microeconomic and macroeconomic principles designed for general business administration minors and other students who would benefit from a one-semester introduction to economic principles.  |
| <b>Course Objectives</b>     | <p>The course objective is to acquire, retain, and apply a foundation in the fundamentals of economics preparing the student for subsequent course work in their curriculum through interactive learning. The student should expect to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gain factual knowledge about the economy</li><li>• Learn fundamental principles, generalizations, and theories underlying economic analysis</li><li>• Apply economic principles to improve thinking, problem solving and decision making</li><li>• Develop an appreciation for the underlying logic of economic decision making</li><li>• Distinguish between various market structures found in a capitalistic economy</li></ul> |

- Understand the role of markets in the development of policy making and evaluation
- Appreciate the role of profits as a central driving force in market-based economics
- Investigate the purposes of comparative advantage, information, and international relationships as they impact on the role of the firm in the economy.
- Apply economic concepts through team projects and interactive learning.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and of the classroom. <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>

**Attendance Policy:** Regular and punctual attendance is expected and the roll will be checked at each class meeting. A student is counted absent if they are not in their seat at the completion of class roll call. One (1) class absence is allowed without penalty **excluding** an examination day or a team project presentation day. Attending class is essential to understanding, integrating, and applying the concepts discussed during the lecture and class discussion. Therefore, attendance is rewarded with bonus points. A student can earn a maximum of twenty-five (25) bonus points, added to the total course point count, based on class attendance. The only excused absences are University related activities requiring the student to be out-of-town. The available class attendance bonus points are listed below:

| Class Absences | Bonus Points |
|----------------|--------------|
| 0-1            | 25           |
| 2              | 15           |
| 3              | 5            |
| More than 3    | 0            |

**Disabled Student Policy:** It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center in the Lee Drain Annex or by calling (936)294-1720.

**Student Absences on Religious Holy Days:** Students are allowed to miss class and other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Students remain responsible for all work.

**Classroom Rules of Conduct:** Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Students are to treat faculty and students with respect. Students are to turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices such as Ipods/Shuffles/Nanos/MP3 Players while in the classroom. Under no circumstances are cell phones, camera phones, or any electronic devices to be used or seen during times of examination. Students may tape record lectures provided they do not disturb other students in the process.

**Visitors in the Classroom:** Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.

| <u>EXAMS</u>   | <u>CHAPTERS COVERED</u> | <u>DATE</u> | <u>POINTS EARNED</u> |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| 1  | 1-5                     | 9/25/07     | 100 points           |
| 2  | 7, 8, 13-15, & 17       | 10/30/07    | 100 points           |
| 3  | 9-12                    | 11/20/07    | 100 points           |
| 4  | Comprehensive Final     | 12/11/07    | 100 points           |
| Team Research Project                                    |                         | Semester    | 100 points           |
| Quizzes  |                         | Weekly      | 100 points           |
| <b>FINAL GRADE TOTAL</b>                                 |                         |             | 600 points           |
| <b>TOTAL BONUS POINTS AVAILABLE</b> for Class Attendance |                         |             | 25 points            |

**Exams** will consist of either true/false, fill-in the blanks, short answer essay, or multiple choice questions drawn from material covered in class and in the text. There are three (3) exams of equal value throughout the semester and a comprehensive final exam. There are no makeup exams. The final exam can count twice if an exam is missed **due to an excused absence** and with the permission of the professor. You must provide a scantron, form #882-E, for each exam.

**Quizzes** will cover material presented in the previous two (2) days of class. They will consist of approximately 15 multiple-choice questions. You must provide a Quizstrip, scantron form #815-E, for each quiz. The purpose of the quiz is to accomplish mastery of the material and prepare the student for major exams. **There are no make-up quizzes available.** You must be present in class to have the opportunity to earn this portion of the 100 points toward your total point count and final grade.

**Team Current Events Project** will apply the microeconomic and/or macroeconomic principles presented in class, through the textbook, utilizing the vast resources of the library, exploring the Internet, and current economic issues in the world today. A team of 5 to 6 students researching relevant topics and reporting the results will accomplish the project. The learning outcomes of the project are: team building skills, communication skill, research skills, and the application of microeconomic principles to real world situations. The project is ongoing throughout the semester.

**Assignments:** Students are to read each chapter in the textbook before the scheduled date the chapter is discussed in class.

**YOU WILL BE SUCCESSFUL IN THIS CLASS IF YOU ARE PRESENT, PREPARED, AND PARTICIPATE.**

**Blackboard** is an online classroom system used to integrate and manage the activities of the classroom. Each student is expected to register on Blackboard and have access to it by week two (2) of the fall semester. **Blackboard is an integral part of classroom communication and necessary for success in this class as it is utilized for grades, class announcements, and to set-up discussion forums for the Team Internet Research Project.**

**Letter Grade Assignment:**

The student's final average grade based upon the preceding point count will be assigned a letter grade as follows.

| <b>Final Grade % Total</b> | <b>Letter Grade</b> |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| 100 - 89.5%                | A                   |
| 89.4 - 79.5%               | B                   |
| 79.4 - 69.5%               | C                   |
| 69.4 - 59.5%               | D                   |
| 59.4 - 0.0%                | F                   |

**INTRODUCTION TO ECONOMICS COURSE SCHEDULE  
FALL SEMESTER 2007**

| DATE               | CLASS ASSIGNMENT   | CHAPTER                   |
|--------------------|--|---------------------------|
| <b>August 21</b>   | Introductions, Discussions, and Syllabus                             |                           |
| 23                 | Getting Started & Making and Using Graphs                            | 1 & Appendix              |
| 28                 | The U.S. and Global Economics  | 2                         |
| 30                 | The Economic Problem   | 3                         |
| <b>September 4</b> | The Economic Problem   | 3                         |
|                    | <b>Quiz #1</b>   |                           |
| 6                  | Demand and Supply  | 4                         |
| 11                 | Demand and Supply  | 4                         |
|                    | <b>Quiz #2</b>   |                           |
| 13                 | Elasticities of Demand and Supply                                    | 5                         |
| 18                 | Elasticities of Demand and Supply                                    | 5                         |
|                    | <b>Quiz #3</b>   |                           |
| 20                 | <b>Review and Team Economic Research Project</b>                     |                           |
| 25                 | <b>EXAM # 1</b>  | 1-5                       |
| 27                 | Efficiency and Fairness of Markets                                   | 6                         |
| <b>October 2</b>   | Government Influences on Markets                                     | 7                         |
|                    | <b>Teams Formed – Roster due</b>                                     |                           |
| 4                  | Government Influences on Markets                                     | 7                         |
|                    | <b>Quiz #4</b>   |                           |
| 9                  | Externalities*   | 8                         |
|                    | <b>Team Research Topics (3) Due<br/>Consultation Appointment – 1</b> |                           |
| 11                 | GDP and the Standard of Living                                       | 13                        |
| 16                 | Jobs and Unemployment  |                           |
|                    | <b>Quiz #5</b>   | 14                        |
| 18                 | The CPI and the Cost of Living                                       |                           |
|                    | <b>Team Charter Due &amp; Consultation Appointment – 2</b>           | 15                        |
| 23                 | Money and the Monetary System  |                           |
|                    | <b>Quiz #6</b>   | 17                        |
| 25                 | <b>Review for Exam #2</b>  | 17                        |
| 30                 | <b>EXAM # 2</b>  | 7, 8, 13-15, & 17         |
| <b>November 1</b>  | Production and Cost  | 9                         |
| 3                  | Production and Cost  | 9                         |
|                    | <b>Quiz #7</b>   |                           |
| 6                  | Perfect Competition  | 10                        |
| 8                  | Perfect Competition  | 10                        |
|                    | <b>Quiz #8</b>   |                           |
| 13                 | Monopoly   | 11                        |
|                    | <b>RESEARCH PROJECT DUE &amp; Quiz #9</b>                            |                           |
| 15                 | Monopolistic Competition and Oligopoly*                              | 12                        |
| 20                 | <b>EXAM #3</b>   | 9-12                      |
| 22                 | Thanksgiving Holiday   |                           |
| 27                 | <b>TEAM RESEARCH PROJECT PRESENTATION</b>                            |                           |
| 29                 | <b>TEAM RESEARCH PROJECT PRESENTATION</b>                            |                           |
| <b>December 4</b>  | <b>TEAM RESEARCH PROJECT PRESENTATION</b>                            |                           |
| 6                  | <b>TEAM RESEARCH PROJECT PRESENTATION</b>                            |                           |
| 13                 | <b>Final Exam 8:00 – 10:00</b>                                       | <b>Comprehensive Exam</b> |