

**SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION  
Department of Economics and International Business**

**Course Syllabus**

**Course Number:** Economic 230

Summer II, 2008

**Course Title:** Introduction To Economics

**Prerequisites:** None

**Instructor:** Dr. William B. Green

**Office:** Smith-Hutson College of Business Administration Building, Room 107 – B

**Phone and e-mail:** 936-294-1267 & green@shsu.edu

**Office Hours:** M-Th 1:30-4:30 and by appointment.

## **Required Text:**

Robin Bade & Michael Parkin, *Essential Foundations of Economics, 3rd Edition*, Pearson/Addison Wesley, 2007

## **Supplemental Materials:**

- **Course information, practice essay questions, and exam grades can be found at:** <http://www.shsu.edu> Connect to **Blackboard**. Log In by typing in your **SHSU Username** and your **Password**, (the last six digits in your social security number).
- *Wall Street Journal*
- Newspapers

## **Tutoring:**

Tutoring for Economics is available Monday - Friday from 11:00 to 1:00 in Smith-Hutson Room 140.

## **Course Description:**

A combination of micro-economic and macro-economic principles designed for general business administration minors and other students who would benefit from a one semester introduction to economic principles.

## Course Objectives:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the economic way of thinking, including concepts of opportunity cost, rational self-interest, supply and demand, and price elasticity of demand.
- Demonstrate an understanding of how government, through its monetary and fiscal policies, influences the market.
- Demonstrate the ability to understand basic economic information as presented by news media.

## Learning Outcomes:

The student should expect the following measurable learning outcomes:

- Gain factual knowledge about the economy
- Learn fundamental principles, generalizations, and theories underlying economic analysis
- Apply economic principles to improve thinking, problem solving and decision making
- Develop an appreciation for the underlying logic of economic decision making
- Distinguish between various market structures found in a capitalistic economy
- 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

## Course Evaluation Process:

There will be four examinations during the semester, which includes the final. The examinations will consist of some combination of multiple choice and short answer questions. Questions will be taken from assigned textbook reading material, class lectures, and any additional material that may have been assigned. Each examination will count 100 points. Your course grade will be computed in the following manner: Add together your four (4) examination grades. To your exam total add any bonus points you may have earned for attendance (see Attendance Policy). Course grades will be assigned using the following scale:

90%	360 Pts.	= A
80%	320 Pts.	= B
70%	280 Pts.	= C
60%	240 Pts.	= D
Below 60%	<240 Pts.	= F

## Attendance Policy:

Attendance is expected and will be recorded on a daily basis. One (1) class absence is allowed without penalty, unless it is an exam day. **If you do not miss more than one (1) class, 25 bonus points will be added to your point total. For each class missed (for any reason except University related functions), beyond the allowed absences, five (5) points for each class will be subtracted from the bonus. Any student arriving in class after attendance has been checked will be counted as absent for 1/2 of a class meeting. Two (2) tardies counts as one absence.** If you are tardy please make me aware before leaving class that you came in late. Otherwise, you will be counted as absent.

## Student Syllabus Guidelines:

Students can find online a more detailed description of the following policies at:

<http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>

These guidelines will also provide you with a link to the specific university policy or procedure.

## Academic Dishonesty:

Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. *See Student Syllabus Guidelines* for the specific university policy.

## 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 while in the classroom. Under no circumstances are cell 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.

## **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. *See Student Syllabus Guidelines.*

## **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 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. *See Student Syllabus Guidelines.*

## **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.

## **Other Class Policies:**

- TURN OFF CELL PHONES AND/OR PAGERS BEFORE ENTERING THE CLASSROOM
- NO FOOD, DRINKS (except bottled water), OR DIPPING IN THE CLASSROOM
- LAPTOP COMPUTERS MAY BE USED FOR NOTE-TAKING ONLY. IF IT IS DETERMINED THAT YOU ARE USING THE LAPTOP FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE WHILE IN CLASS, YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO TURN YOUR COMPUTER OFF AND WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO USE THE COMPUTER FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SEMESTER.
- HATS MAY BE WORN DURING EXAMINATIONS ONLY SO LONG AS THE "BILL" OF THE CAP IS ON THE BACK OF THE STUDENTS HEAD

## **Helpful Hints For Preparing For Exams**

Before the Exam:

Form a study group with other students. Keep the group small and your meetings brief.

Reserve time for study on your own.

Gain access to old exams given by the same teacher – if possible. Specific questions will vary from year to year, but the test’s structure and content will likely be similar.

Take a vigorous walk or swim – to shake pre-test anxiety.

For Multiple Choice Exams:

Read every answer before choosing.

If two choices are very similar, the answer is probably neither one of them.

If two choices are opposite, one is probably correct.

Follow your first impulse – unless you are SURE you are wrong.

The answer is usually wrong – if it contains ALL, ALWAYS, NEVER, or NONE.

The answer is often right if it contains SOMETIMES, PROBABLY, or SOME.

Eliminate obviously wrong answers – when you don’t know the right answer.

For Essay/Short Answer Exams:

Reread the question and underline the verbs. Then follow directions exactly. You’ll lose points if you “explain” when you’re asked to “argue”.. or “describe” when asked to “compare and contrast.” Make an outline. It doesn’t need to be formal or elaborate. (You can skip the Roman numerals). A simple list of abbreviated words will do. Point: to make sure you include everything you need and want to stay – in order.

## **Time Management and Your Semester**

The key to managing your time and having a productive semester is planning ahead. The following are some tips that can help you manage your time better and get all your tasks completed on time.

1. Use a calendar that allows you to see a week at a time.
2. On your calendar, record all set activities for the semester: committee meetings, projects, exams, work commitments, etc.
3. As you learn of appointments, other meetings, or activities, add them to your calendar immediately.
4. Make a list of major projects you have set for yourself for the semester.
  - (a) Set priorities for your projects.
  - (b) Break big projects into smaller tasks.

5. Make a daily list of things you need to do (include both work and non-work items).
  - (a) Try to prepare your list at the same time each day.
  - (b) List phone calls you need to make.
  - (c) List projects to complete or work on.
  - (d) List appointments or meetings you need to schedule.
  - (e) Set priorities for your daily list.
  - (f) Move forward to the next day any items you did not complete.
6. Plan time for recreational activities and use your calendar and lists to reduce stress by helping you stay organized. You do not have to worry about forgetting a project or not having enough time to finish a project by its deadline because you have planned effectively.

**Economics 230  
Class Schedule  
Summer II, 2008**

Class Meeting	Topic	Chapter
July	8 Getting Started	1
	9 The U.S. and Global Economics	2
	10 The Economic Problem	3
	11 Demand & Supply	4
	14 <b>First Examination</b> Demand & Supply	4
	15 Elasticities of Demand & Supply	5
	16 Elasticity of Demand & Supply	5
	17 Efficiency and Fairness of Markets	6
	18 Government Influences on Markets	7
	21 <b>Second Examination</b> International Trade	20
	22 Production & Cost and the Four Market Models	9
	23 Perfect Competition	10
	24 Monopoly	11
	25 <b>Class Does Not Meet</b>	
	28 Monopolistic Competition and Oligopoly	12
	29 <b>Third Examination</b> GDP and the Standard of Living	13
	30 GDP and the Standard of Living	13
	31 The CPI and the Cost of Living	15
August	1 <b>Class Does Not Meet</b>	
	4 Jobs and Unemployment	14
	5 Money & the Monetary System	17
	6 Catch Up Day	
	7 <b>"Fourth" Final Examination</b>	