

**TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
A.R. SANCHEZ, Jr. SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
DIVISION OF INTERNATIONAL BANKING AND FINANCE STUDIES**

**COURSE SYLLABUS
FALL 2013**

Course: Survey of Economics (ECO 1301-102)
Instructor: Andres Rivas, Ph. D.
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Office Hours: TBA, by appointment.
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Required Text: Survey of Economics, 8th Edition. Irvin B. Tucker ISBN- 13: 9781111989668

Recommended: Financial Times (If you do not already have access to Financial Times, student rate subscription forms will be available in class), The Wall Street Journal, Business Week, among others. All are available at the Killam Library.

Websites and additional online publications and resources will also be used throughout the semester.

Prerequisite: MATH 1314 Minimum Grade of D.

Course Description: Emphasis is given to application of economic principles and concepts in solving economic problems encountered by individuals at the firm or household level up to the national level. (Catalog course description.)

Course Goal: This course is designed to introduce economics to non-business majors. It offers students a broad knowledge of economic issues and institutions relevant to the contemporary world, and provides them with the basic rules of efficient decision making for households and business firms. Topics include supply and demand, costs, profits, fiscal and monetary policies. Special attention is paid to international economic relations.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

Upon completion of the course students will be able to:

1. Explain what Economics is and how it is relevant to their daily and professional lives.
2. Utilize specialized terms and vocabulary in common usage in economics and business.
3. Explain the models of microeconomic and macroeconomic principles and concepts such as GNP, supply, demand and trade.
4. Understand and explain current media articles about the state of the general economy.
5. Understand simple to complicated graphs, slope, and functional relationships.

6. Explain and describe the market system and how it differs from other economic systems.
7. Apply the supply and demand model to real world events.
8. Explain the causes and consequences of such events as unemployment, inflation, and recession.
9. Evaluate the various policy choices available to stabilize the economy.
10. Write an individual report that demonstrates their knowledge of microeconomic issues such as price elasticity of demand, explains the managerial decision involved in the process, and its ethical consequences when applying the strategy. Written reports address SLOs 2, 4, 5, and 7.

Core Curriculum Objectives (CCOs):

Communication Skills: Include effective written, oral, and visual communication. (SLO 1, 2, 4, 8)

Critical Thinking Skills: Include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information. (SLOs 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)

Empirical and Quantitative Skills: Include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions. (SLOs 3, 4, 5, 6, 10)

Social Responsibility: Includes intercultural competency, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities. (SLOs 6, 7, 8)

Grading Policy

Activity	Points	Grading Scale
2 Mid-Term Exams	50%	A = 90% to 100% B = 80% to 89% C = 70% to 79% D = 60% to 69% F = 0% to 59%
Final Exam	30%	
Online quizzes	10%	
Individual Project	10%	

Attendance Policy:

Class attendance is required. Students are responsible for any class work, assignments, announcements, or tests that they miss because of class absence or failure to check Angel.

Other course policies:

No Fault – No Make Up Policy: No make-up partial exam will be given. If one partial exam is missed, the grade on the comprehensive final exam will replace it. If a second or third partial exam is missed, the grade of that exam will be zero. Students who take all partial exams may use the grade on the comprehensive final exam to replace the lowest grade on a partial exam. No make-up final exam will be given, except under highly unusual circumstances (such as a documented medical emergency or the observance of a religious holiday).

The Two-Mid Term Exams will constitute 50% of your class grade (25% each exam).

A Final Exam consisting of multiple-choice questions.

Online Quizzes There will be Online Quizzes assigned for the chapters during the semester, multiple-choice questions. The purpose of this quiz is to prepare you to the Mid-Term Exams and you can take them as many times you want. I will be selecting the highest grade.

Individual project involves writing a two-page report that demonstrates the knowledge of microeconomic issue such as price elasticity of demand, explains the managerial decision involved in the process, and its ethical consequences when applying the strategy. Written reports will address SLOs 2, 4, 5, and 7.

Problem sets will be posted on Angel. It is the responsibility of the student to solve the assigned problem sets. Problem sets will not be graded. Instead, problem sets will be discussed in problem solving lectures and/or on Angel.

Classroom Behavior

The A.R. Sanchez, Jr. School of Business encourages classroom discussion and academic debate as an essential intellectual activity. It is essential that students learn to express and defend their beliefs, but it is also essential that they learn to listen and respond respectfully to others whose beliefs they may not share. ARSSB will always tolerate diverse, unorthodox, and unpopular points of view, but it will not tolerate condescending or insulting remarks. When students verbally abuse or ridicule and intimidate others whose views they do not agree with, they subvert the free exchange of ideas that should characterize a university classroom. If their actions are deemed by the professor to be disruptive, they will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, which may include being involuntarily withdrawn from the class. Major disruptive behavior will be penalized, after one warning per semester, by subtracting points from the overall final grade of the disruptive student in progressively larger 5-points (e.g., minus 5 points for the first offense; minus 10 points for the second offense, etc.). You will be given clear warning when your behavior is becoming disruptive.

Copyright Restrictions

The Copyright Act of 1976 grants to copyright owners the exclusive right to reproduce their works and distribute copies of their work. Works that receive copyright protection include published works such as a textbook. Copying a textbook without permission from the owner of the copyright may constitute copyright infringement. Civil and criminal penalties may be assessed for copyright infringement. Civil penalties include damages up to \$100,000; criminal penalties include a fine up to \$250,000 and imprisonment.

Copyright laws do allow students and professors to make photocopies of copyrighted materials, but you may copy a limited portion of a work, such an article from a journal or a chapter from a book for your own personal academic use or, in the case of a professor, for personal, limited classroom use. In general, the extent of your copying should not suggest that the purpose or the effect of your copying is to avoid paying for the materials. And, of course, you may not sell these copies for a profit. Thus, students who copy textbooks to avoid buying them or professors who provide photocopies of textbooks to enable students to save money are violating the law.

Plagiarism and Cheating

Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else's work as one's own. Recently, the Internet has complicated the picture. Getting something from the Internet and presenting it as one's own is still plagiarism. Copying another student's paper or a portion of the paper - is usually called "copying". Neither plagiarism nor copying will be tolerated. Should a faculty member discover that a student has committed plagiarism; the students will receive a grade of 'F' in that course and the matter may, if necessary, be referred to the TAMIU Honor Council for possible disciplinary action.

Students with Disabilities

Texas A&M International University seeks to provide reasonable accommodations for all qualified persons with disabilities. This University will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal education opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to register with the Disabilities Services Coordinator located in the Student Counseling Center and to contact the faculty member in a timely fashion to arrange for suitable accommodations.

Safety and Security- You are the Difference

Your safety and security are of prime concern here at Texas A&M International University, and the University police department work hard to ensure the campus is a safe place to live, learn, work and play. TAMIU is not, however, exempt from crime. To be safe and secure, you must take common sense precautions. Be alert and aware of those around you; look out for the safety of others. Do not leave valuables unattended; do not attempt to touch or interfere with our wildlife.

Student Responsibility for Dropping a Course

It is the responsibility of the STUDENT to drop the course before the drop date. Faculty are not responsible for dropping students who suspend class attendance.

Final Examination

The University requires all final Examinations be comprehensive and be given on the day specified.

**THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE CHANGES TO THIS SYLLABUS AS NEEDED
AND WITH NOTIFICATION TO STUDENTS**

Course Calendar:

Detailed lecture calendar is posted in Angel.

Date	Topic	Reading	Quizzes
Thu-23-Aug	Introduction and syllabus discussion		
Tue-28-Aug	1. Introducing the Economic Way of Thinking.	Chapter 1	
Thu-30-Aug	2. Production Possibilities, Opportunity Cost, and Economic Growth.	Chapter 2	
Tue-04-Sep	2. Production Possibilities, Opportunity Cost, and Economic Growth.	Chapter 2	2
Thu-06-Sep	3. Market Demand and Supply.	Chapter 3	
Tue-11-Sep	3. Market Demand and Supply.	Chapter 3	3
Thu-13-Sep	Review Session		
Tue-18-Sep	Mid-Term 1		
Thu-20-Sep	5. Price Elasticity of Demand.	Chapter 5	
Tue-25-Sep	5. Price Elasticity of Demand.	Chapter 5	5
Thu-27-Sep	6. Production Costs.	Chapter 6	
Tue-02-Oct	6. Production Costs.	Chapter 6	6
Thu-04-Oct	7. Perfect Competition.	Chapter 7	
Tue-09-Oct	7. Perfect Competition.	Chapter 7	7
Thu-11-Oct	Review Session		
Tue-16-Oct	Mid-Term 2		
Thu-18-Oct	Fall Break		
Tue-23-Oct	8. Monopoly.	Chapter 8	
Thu-25-Oct	8. Monopoly.	Chapter 8	8
Tue-30-Oct	9. Monopolistic Competition and Oligopoly.	Chapter 9	
Thu-01-Nov	9. Monopolistic Competition and Oligopoly.	Chapter 9	9
Tue-06-Nov	11. Gross Domestic Product.	Chapter 11	
Thu-08-Nov	11. Gross Domestic Product.	Chapter 11	11
Tue-13-Nov	12. Business Cycles and Unemployment.	Chapter 12	
Thu-15-Nov	12. Business Cycles and Unemployment.	Chapter 12	12
Tue-20-Nov	13. Inflation.	Chapter 13	
Thu-22-Nov	Thanksgiving Holiday		
Tue-27-Nov	13. Inflation.	Chapter 13	
Thu-29-Nov	13. Inflation.	Chapter 13	13
Tue-04-Dec	Review Session Last class day. Individual Paper due.		
Tue-11-Dec	FINAL EXAM	8:00 AM	
Sat-15-Dec	Commencement		

Note: Course content is not limited to the topics listed above.