

ECN 100 1T

Introduction to Economics

Instructor: Raphael Shen,S.J.

Class meets: T & Th. @ 5:30-8:00 B 25

Text: *[An Illustrated Guide to the] American Economy. A Hundred Key Issues. Authors: Herbert Stein and Murray Foss. Publisher: The American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research.*

Office Hours: Please feel free to make meeting arrangement(s). Or, decide on a meeting time/place with me before or after class. Whenever needed, phone: 993-1055 or 993-1000. There is a long recorded message to 993-1000 (one minute and 10 seconds!). As soon as the recording kicks in, press "0" and you will be connected with the operator instantly. Please leave a message at either number and I shall return your call a.s.a.p.

Course Objective and topics of discussion:

That the students may understand the most basic aspects of the U.S. economy in general. Representative areas to be discussed and analyzes in the course include the following: what and how much [GNP] the nation produces, who produces the GNP and how [on what bases] is it being distributed for use/consumption by diverse segments of the economy/society, labor force and its productivity increases over time, measures of income distribution [equality and poverty], how is the economy structured, the economy's functioning and performance over time, the role of the government [policies, taxation and spending], social safety-net and the relationship between the U.S. economy and the world at large.

Quizzes: There will be periodic quizzes [usually on Mondays, beginning on May 13th]-pending on the amount of materials being covered during class periods--and a final exam.

Grading: Quizzes account for 75% of the course weight. The final exam counts for the remainder 25%.

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| 93 or better = A | 89-92 = A- | 85-88 = B+ |
| 80-84 = B | 75-79 = B- | 70-75 = C+ |
| 66-69 = C | 62-65 = C- | 60-61 = D+ |
| 58-60 = D | Below 58 = F | |

Course Requirements:

Students are expected to pre-lect the class material and should always be at least one step ahead of the material to be covered in class. Class attendance is expected.

Order of presentation and tentative schedule:

Material presentation follows quite closely the topical-orderings in the text. We hope to cover as many of the most important topical areas as possible.