

Course Syllabus:
Issues In Today's Economy
ECON*191*99
Online

Spring 2023

Instructor: Mr. Michael McKinnis, MBA, CMA, CFM

Office: 211G

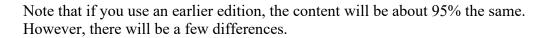
Hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 8:30-9:00am, 12:00-1:30pm

Phone: (620) 235-6575

Canvas: Message inbox is monitored every weekday until 5:00pm.

Textbook

Tucker, Irvin B. 2019. Survey of Economics, 10th Ed. Cengage. ISBN 9781337111522.





Students will need to install the Respondus LockDown Browser on their computer in order to take the Unit Exams. Linux and Android devices, including Chromebooks running Chrome OS, are not supported. Students who do not own, or do not have access to, a computer running macOS or Windows with the Respondus LockDown Browser installed cannot take this course.

Catalog Course Description

An issues-oriented practical guide to introductory economics. Through examination of contemporary social issues and problems, a framework of economic analysis is developed. Topics such as world poverty and development, discrimination, pollution, monopoly power, unemployment, international trade, taxes, global competition, and social security are covered. Upon completion of the course, students will be able to view current events with an economic understanding of the issues involved. Designed for non-business students: not open to students with credit or concurrent enrollment in ECON 200 Principles of Microeconomics or above.

Prerequisites

None.



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Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes

- 1. Understand the fundamental economic concepts of supply/demand and opportunity cost.
- 2. Explain the mechanics and significance of measuring important macroeconomic variables such as Gross Domestic Product, unemployment, and inflation.
- 3. Identify the major sources of U.S. government revenue and primary categories of government expenditures; differentiate between the major philosophies of taxation; explain how the national debt affects the economy of the United States; describe the theoretical constructs of money; explain the role of the Federal Reserve System in the U.S. economy.
- 4. Explain the economic principles of international trade and finance; explain the economic implications of Capitalism, Communism, and Socialism; articulate the economic approach to the challenges of addressing poverty and stimulating growth in less developed countries.

Note: All times in this syllabus are Central Time (US & Canada).

Course Outline

Unit 1

Chapter 1: Introducing the Economic Way of Thinking

Chapter 2: Production Possibilities, Opportunity Cost, and Economic Growth

Chapter 3: Market Demand and Supply

Unit 2

Chapter 11: Gross Domestic Product

Chapter 12: Business Cycles and Unemployment

Chapter 13: Inflation

Unit 3

Chapter 16: The Public Sector

Chapter 17: Federal Deficits, Surpluses, and the National Debt

Chapter 18: Money and the Federal Reserve System

Unit 4

Chapter 21: International Trade and Finance

Chapter 22: Economies in Transition

Chapter 23: Growth and the Less-Developed Countries



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The Unit Exams and Chapter Quizzes must be completed before 11:59pm on each of the following dates:

	<u>Available</u>	Due Date
Chapter 1 Quiz	Tuesday, January 17	Thursday, January 26
Chapter 2 Quiz	Friday, January 27	Thursday, February 2
Chapter 3 Quiz	Friday, February 3	Thursday, February 9
Unit 1 Exam	Monday, February 13	Tuesday, February 14
Chapter 11 Quiz	Wednesday, February 15	Tuesday, February 21
Chapter 12 Quiz	Wednesday, February 22	Tuesday, February 28
Chapter 13 Quiz	Wednesday, March 1	Tuesday, March 7
Unit 2 Exam	Wednesday, March 8	Thursday, March 9
Chapter 16 Quiz	Monday, March 21	Thursday, March 23
Chapter 17 Quiz	Friday, March 24	Thursday, March 30
Chapter 18 Quiz	Friday, March 31	Thursday, April 6
Unit 3 Exam	Monday, April 10	Tuesday, April 11
Chapter 21 Quiz	Wednesday, April 12	Tuesday, April 18
Chapter 22 Quiz	Wednesday, April 19	Tuesday, April 25
Chapter 23 Quiz	Wednesday, April 26	Tuesday, May 2
Unit 4 (Final) Exam	Monday, May 8	Tuesday, May 9

Students will not be allowed an extension beyond these deadlines for any reason, nor will they be permitted to work ahead of these deadlines and proceed through the course at a quicker pace.

Teaching Methods

Textbook reading accompanied by supplementary material available online.

Canvas

Canvas will be used for class management, assessments, and for delivering supplementary course material.

Students should have their Canvas account configured to notify them of announcements, direct messages, due dates, and other important course information. Use of the mobile Canvas app, with notifications enabled, is strongly encouraged.

Attendance Policy

Not applicable. Students who quit completing coursework will fail the class.

The last day to drop a class without withdrawing from the university for the entire term is Monday, April 3. Students who withdraw from the class after this date, without withdrawing from the university for the entire term, will still receive a letter grade.

Students who decide to drop this course are solely responsible for initiating and completing the withdrawal process. The instructor will not drop them from the class.



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Students taking this class should expect to commit approximately six to nine hours per week reading the text and using the online study aids. This will vary depending on what is being covered in a given week, your goals, and your learning style. This estimate is merely a guideline and not a guarantee of how much time investment is required in order to earn an A.

Classroom Conduct

Students who communicate with the instructor, electronically or otherwise, in a manner that uses vulgar language and/or expresses disproportionate anger or threats of physical violence will be reported to the PSU Behavior Intervention and Threat Assessment Team.

Academic Integrity

All Pitt State students are bound by the academic integrity policies of the university as described and outlined in the current Syllabus Supplement. Please familiarize yourself with these rules and guidelines. In addition, as a course offered through the Kelce College of Business, students in this class are obligated to adhere to the college's Student Code of Ethics as outlined below. Students pledge to:

- Arrive on time, remain until dismissed at all class sessions, and notify instructors in advance of anticipated absences, late arrivals, or early departures whenever possible.
- Turn off cell phones or other electronic devices while in class, unless permission to use them has been granted.
- Refrain from class disturbances.
- Refrain from use of profane or vulgar language in a threatening or disruptive manner.
- Treat fellow students, staff, faculty, administrators, and property with respect.
- Refrain from giving or receiving inappropriate assistance.
- Prepare assignment and exams honestly, refraining from such unacceptable conduct as plagiarism or unacknowledged appropriation of another's work in any academic work.
- Obey the policies, regulations, and laws of the United States of America, the State of Kansas, The Kansas Board of Regents, Pittsburg State University, and the Gladys A. Kelce College of Business.
- If a student observes someone committing dishonesty in connection with academic work, the student is encouraged to report that dishonesty to the appropriate individual (ex, faculty member, or administrator).

Students with Disabilities

Please inform the instructor if you have a learning or physical disability that interferes with course requirements. Assistance and/or appropriate accommodations may be available through the contacts listed on the current Syllabus Supplement.



Course Evaluation Methods

Unit Exams (4 @ 75 points each) Chapter Quizzes (12 @ 10 points each)

Grading Scale:

A = 100%-90%

B = 89% - 80%

C = 79%-70%

D = 69% - 60%

F = 59% - 0%

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300 Points

120

420 Points

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Extra credit will not be offered in this course.

Your final grade is <u>NOT</u> open for negotiation. Your grade will be determined by the points you earn during the semester and will not be influenced by the grade you need for graduation, to maintain academic standing, to gain admittance into a degree program with competitive admissions, or for any other reason.

Each Unit Exam must be completed within fifty minutes. Each Chapter Quiz must be completed in ten minutes. Once you start an exam or quiz, you must complete it. You may not start and save your unfinished questions for later. After the time limit is reached, the exam or quiz will end and it will be automatically submitted. All unanswered questions will be counted wrong. Students who find the time constraint on the Unit Exams and/or Chapter Quizzes to be unreasonable or unrealistic should not take this course.

Chapter Quizzes not completed by the stated deadline will earn a grade of 0%. Since Chapter Quizzes are available to take well in advance of their due date, make-up quizzes will not be given.

Students may make-up <u>ONE</u> Unit Exam that they fail to complete. Make-up exams will become available at 12:00am, Thursday, May 4, and must be completed before 11:59pm that day. The make-up exam option is not a recommended avenue of testing and should only be utilized in emergency situations. Make-up exams will never receive the benefit of any curve or adjustment and will be penalized 7.5 points. Students who do not take their make-up exam on the assigned day will earn an exam grade of 0%.

Students are encouraged to take their Unit Exams and Chapter Quizzes as early as possible in the event they are unable to take the exam or quiz on its due date.



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After completing each Unit Exam or Chapter Quiz, you will only be shown your grade. If you wish to review your exams and quizzes, you may do so by making an appointment to conduct a review in my office during my scheduled office hours. You will use my office computer to view your quiz or exam, your responses, and the correct answers. You will not be permitted to take notes or otherwise copy any material during the review. Students who feel this policy is unreasonable or unacceptable should not take this class.

Occasionally, exam or quiz scores may be curved to compensate for the level of difficulty, unusually difficult questions missed by most of the class, errors in the answer key, and other similar situations. Any student who wishes to challenge the grading of a question is free to do so. However, if the student's appeal is successful, their grade will be recalculated without the benefit of the additional points which were applied to compensate for such issues in the first place.

Students cannot retake Unit Exams or Chapter Quizzes in an attempt to earn a higher grade.

All Unit Exams and Chapter Quizzes will count towards the student's course grade. No exam or quiz scores will be dropped.

Students who enroll in this course are expected to have access to a functional computer with reasonably reliable internet access. This access may be through an internet connection at your home, at the home of a friend or relative, at your place of employment, on the PSU campus, or at some other public access point. Students should also have some sort of alternative plan formulated in the event their primary internet access is disrupted. Students who do not have regular access to a reliable internet connection and/or do not have access to a reliable computer should not enroll in this course. Additionally, any student that finds their access to the internet will be disrupted for any significant length of time during the semester should drop this course immediately. This includes students who plan to travel to locations where internet access is unreliable or nonexistent. Extensions of time to complete work in this course will never be given simply because a student does not have internet access or does not have access to a functional computer.

If a student is unable to complete an exam or quiz that they have started due to a technical problem, the student must contact the instructor via Canvas before 11:59pm on the day that they take the exam or quiz describing the problem that they have encountered. If the instructor decides to grant a retake or other accommodation, the student will have twenty-four hours from the time of the instructor's response to retake the exam or quiz. No extensions beyond this time will be permitted. Since this arrangement potentially lends itself to abuse, the instructor reserves the right to refuse any request to retake a quiz or exam if the Canvas quiz log does not confirm the nature of their technical problem.



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Incomplete grades will be awarded only in rare instances when a student is unable to complete the course due to circumstances beyond his/her control. The student must have successfully completed a majority of the course work to be eligible for an incomplete.

The Syllabus Supplement is available on the Registrar's office web site at: http://www.pittstate.edu/office/registrar/

Note

The instructor reserves the right to amend and to reorganize this syllabus at any time.