

REEDLEY COLLEGE

ECON 1B INTRODUCTION TO MICROECONOMICS # 51855

SPRING 2010 MWF 9:00-9:50am ROOM: BUS 42

INSTRUCTOR: David Meier
OFFICE HOURS: MW 10:00-11:00
TTH 1:30-2:30

OFFICE: SOC 37
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REQUIRED TEXTBOOK: The Economy Today, Bradley R. Schiller 11th Edition
McGraw-Hill

BASIC SKILLS ADVISORIES : Eligibility for English 125,126 and Math 101
(A, CSU-GE, UC, I)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: An introduction to microeconomic theory covering consumer and producer choice, income distribution, the structure of product markets, and the role of the public sector.

COURSE OUTCOMES: Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to: compare and contrast trade surplus/deficit with future growth, demonstrate profit maximization, describe market structure, and hypothesize the direction of movement in civil rights, ecology, and anti-trust legislation.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class period. Regular attendance is expected. Economics is a cumulative discipline. This means if you do not attend class on Tuesday, you will likely not understand the material presented on Thursday. You are responsible for all material presented which you miss. Moreover, the attached schedule is tentative and events beyond my control may require me to modify it. **It is the student's responsibility to keep up with schedule changes.** These changes will be announced in class. There will be NO MAKE-UP TESTS unless there has been A MAJOR CATASTROPHY OR YOU ARE PART OF A SCHOOL FUNCTION and only if the instructor is notified IN ADVANCE.

Class activities and participation are mandatory. It is expected that you will do the reading before class and be prepared to discuss the chapter during class. A student with more than FIVE ABSENCES may be dropped from the course. If you are habitually tardy or leave class early, your grade will be affected.

EXAMS: There will be 5 examinations including the final examination. **ALL EXAMINATIONS ARE REQUIRED.** Exams will consist of any or all of the following question types: multiple choice, short answer, true/false, fill-in the blank, and essay. In addition to the material in the textbook, this course incorporates current events that

unfold in the economic and business world. As such, the dates for the exams prior to the final exam are not predetermined. I will notify the class at least 1 week in advance prior to an examination.

ARTICLE REPORTS: Two short (2-3 pages) reports dealing with contemporary economic issues are required. These reports are worth 50 points each. Please see details under Written Assignments.

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS, QUIZZES, AND CLASS

PRESENTATION/ANALYSIS: There will be a minimum of 15 homework assignments, quizzes, and/or class presentations. THESE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ANANNOUNCED. Each will be worth 5 points.

GRADING: The total number of points you accumulate over the semester will determine your grade. The total possible points are:

Exam 1-5 (100 points each)	= 500 points
2 Article Reports x 50	= 100 points
10 Assignments/ Quizzes, etc x 10	= <u>90 points</u>

690 TOTAL POSSIBLE

- 90% = A
- 80% = B
- 70% = C
- 60% = D
- 59% and less = F

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS: The general objectives of economic writing assignments are to encourage you to think and communicate clearly in writing and to express economic thoughts clearly, coherently, concisely and sensibly. You will be required to:

- a) Apply economic concepts that you have learned in class to current real world situations
- b) Read business and economic articles analytically and critically
- c) Evaluate and analyze economic ideas and facts and arrive at conclusions

ARTICLE REPORT # 1: Type a 2 page, double spaced report about any article from popular media dealing with a contemporary economic issue (Macro or Micro). First, summarize the article using your own words. Second, explain and analyze the article using economic theories learned in class. Third, state your position on the issue(s) raised in the article. A copy of the article must be handed in with your report. Additionally, you should be able to verbally summarize the article and your work as well. Further details regarding this assignment will be given in class.

ARTICLE REPORT # 2: Follow the same guidelines as in # 1.

For your paper to be graded, IT MUST BE TYPED AND DOUBLE SPACED USING TIMES NEW ROMAN 12 FONT WITH 1 INCH MARGINS AND IT MUST BE HANDED IN ON TIME. Well written papers include focus, logic, organization, and ideas that are well developed and supported. They are grammatically correct with proper punctuation and spelling. Poorly written assignments will be marked “unacceptable” and will be returned to you without credit.

Emphasis is on your thought process and your ability to convey these thoughts clearly. Well written papers are most often achieved only after a great deal of editing and revision. Grades will reflect the quality of both the content and the presentation of your writing. Choose appropriate topics that interest you. Contact me well in advance of the deadline if you are not sure of the appropriateness of your topic.

All written assignments must include the following information on a COVER SHEET: Name of Instructor, Course Name and Code, Title of Paper, Student Name, Student Number, Publication, and Due Date. Your 2-page paper should be divided into approximately 1/3 summary, 1/3 analysis and 1/3 conclusion.

Please site your references using APA or MLA Citation Style

Papers turned in will not be returned. If you wish to see your paper after it is graded, please make an appointment during my office hours.

DROP POLICY: If you decide to drop this course, YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR FILLING OUT ALL OF THE NECESSARY PAPERWORK. For more details on dropping a class, as well as drop dates, please refer to the admissions and records office, the Reedley College catalogue or the Reedley College Class Schedule. The final drop date for full term Spring 2010 classes is March 12.

CONDUCT: PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. IF YOU ARE SUSPECTED OF PLAGIARIZING OR CHEATING, YOU WILL RECEIVE A ZERO FOR THE RESPECTIVE ASSIGNMENT, EXAM, ETC. IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE YOU WILL FAIL THE COURSE.

CLASS DISRUPTIONS: No food or drink in the classroom. If you have pagers, cell phones, etc. please turn them off unless there is a verifiable reason that necessitates otherwise. A ringing cell phone or pager will negatively affect your participation points and may initiate a pop quiz or additional assignment for the entire class.

APPAREL: If you are wearing any headgear or sunglasses, please take them off.

ACCOMMODATIONS: If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation, or materials in alternate media (i.e., Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE; SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Chapter 20 Consumer Demand
Chapter 21 The Costs of Production

EXAM 1

Chapter 22 The Competitive Firm
Chapter 23 The Competitive Markets
Chapter 24 Monopoly
Chapter 25 Oligopoly
Chapter 26 Monopolistic Competition

EXAM 2

Chapter 27 (DE) Regulation of Business
Chapter 28 Environmental Protection
Chapter 29 The Farm Problem

EXAM 3

Chapter 30 The Labor Market
Chapter 31 Labor Unions
Chapter 32 Financial Markets
Chapter 37 Global Poverty

EXAM 4

Chapter 33 Taxes: Equity versus Efficiency
Chapter 34 Transfer Payments: Welfare and Social Security
Chapter 35 International Trade
Chapter 36 International Finance
Chapter 37 Global Poverty

MAY 19, 9:00am -10:50am FINAL EXAM

THIS SYLLABUS AND THE ACTIVITIES FOR THE COURSE ARE SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION AS THE INSTRUCTOR DEEMS NECESSARY.

I HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO READ THE ABOVE SYLLABUS AND TO ASK QUESTIONS CONCERNING ITS CONTENTS BY WAY OF EXPLANATION AND CLARIFICATION.

STUDENT SIGNATURE

STUDENT NAME PRINTED

ECON 1B FALL 2009 SHORT TERM