

**FALL 1998**

**ECONOMIC LIFE**

**EC 200 Section 01**

Syllabus

**Basic Information**

**# Course:**

EC 200 Economic Life (Section 01)  
MW 12:30 PM-1:45 PM  
Room 168 Rike Hall

**# Instructor:**

Dr. Tran H. Dung  
Office: 254H Rike Hall  
Office Hours: MTW Th 11:00 - 12:00 PM, M 6:15 - 6:45 PM, W  
3:00-3:45 PM, or by appointment  
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**# Textbooks:**

Required:

Irvin B. Tucker, III, **Survey of Economics** (2nd Edition) South-Western Publishing Company

Recommended: Irvin B. Tucker, III, **Study Guide to Accompany Survey of Economics**, (2nd Edition) South-Western Publishing Company

**Objectives of the Course**

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.

! As a component of the General Education curriculum, the course seeks

- to sharpen critical thinking, problem solving, and communication skills as a basis for life-long learning;
- to cultivate an awareness of the moral and ethical insight needed for participation in the human community;

- to increase knowledge and understanding of the past, of the world in which we live, and of how both past and present have an impact on the future.

## Prerequisites

None

## Mode of Instruction

Lecture and discussion.

## Class Rules

### # Exams:

Two one-hour examinations	30% of the final grade (each)
Comprehensive final exam	40% of the total grade

### # Type of Exam:

True False (1 point each), Multiple Choice (3 points each)

### # Short Papers.

Each student is required to submit TWO short papers:

*Topics:* Topics of papers will be suggested in class.

*Length:* Each paper must be between 1000 and 1500 words (excluding footnotes and references), i.e., approximately four typed, double-spaced, pages with an 1½-inch margin on each side.

*Due dates:* The first paper will be due on WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 14  
The second paper will be due on MONDAY NOVEMBER 16



### # Class Participation:

Students are expected to read the assigned textbook chapters before class and be prepared to discuss the material in class.

### # Attendance Policy:

Regular class attendance is highly recommended. Attendance sheets are circulated in each session. Be sure to sign them.

Attendance records will be taken into consideration in borderline cases.

### # Retake Policy

No retake is allowed.

### # Makeup Policy

Request for a make-up MUST BE MADE BEFORE THE EXAM IS GIVEN IN CLASS. Approval is at the instructor's discretion.

No make-up, once allowed and scheduled, may be re-scheduled.

## Grading Policy

Two grades will be given in this course: one grade for the economics component, and the other (Pass /No Pass) for the writing component of the course.

Grades on the economics component will be curved.

*SPECIAL INCENTIVE: Those who have a perfect attendance record throughout the course, and score above 95% in each of the two midterms and the two papers, do not have to take the final exam to receive an A for the course.*

## Assignments (tentative)

You should read the assigned chapter prior to class.

Week	Date	Topic	Chapter
1	W 9/16	Introducing the Economic Way of Thinking	1
2	M 9/21	Production Possibilities and Opportunity Cost	2
	W 9/23	Market Supply and Demand Markets in Action	3 4
3	M 9/28	Production Costs	6
	W 9/30	Perfect Competition	7
4	M 10/5	Perfect Competition	7
	W 10/7	Monopoly REVIEW	8
	M 10/12	<b>FIRST MIDTERM</b>	
5	W 10/14	Gross Domestic Product FIRST PAPER DUE	11
6	M 10/19	Business Cycles and Unemployment	12
	W 10/21	Inflation Aggregate Demand and Supply Fiscal Policy	13 14 15
7	M 10/26	The Public Sector	16
	W 10/28	Federal Deficits and the National Debt Money and the Federal Reserve System	17 18
8	M 11/2	Money Creation Monetary Policy REVIEW	19 20
	W 11/4	<b>SECOND MIDTERM</b>	
9	M 11/9	International Trade and Finance	21
	W 11/11	VETERANS DAY -- NO CLASS	
10	M 11/16	International Trade and Finance SECOND PAPER DUE	21
	W 11/18	Comparative Economic Systems	22
11	M 11/23	REVIEW	
12	W 12/2	<b>FINAL EXAM (1:00 PM - 3:00 PM)</b>	