

AGEC 217 –ECONOMICS
21700-Y01 (53420)
Fall 2011
Distance Education

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Welcome. Welcome to the very first semester of the on-line version of my AGECE 217 Economics course. “Very first” means I’ve never tried this before, so while you’re learning economics, I’ll be learning how to run an on-line course. The main advice: don’t panic. Any problems will be addressed, any glitches will be fixed.

Keeping Up. The most important thing to do is to keep up with the course schedule. Do the readings, view the lectures, do the assignments and quizzes on time. Lecture notes and lectures will be posted as they are recorded. You should view them within a day or two. Quizzes become available on most Thursdays, and are due the following Thursdays, based on the previous week’s lectures and readings. Quizzes are no longer available after 11:59 p.m. on the due date. Assignments are also cut off after 11:59 on the due date.

Class Web Site. The class will be run on the web using Blackboard. The Blackboard address is www.itap.purdue.edu/tlt/blackboard. There’s also a link to Blackboard at the bottom of the Purdue homepage, at www.purdue.edu. Everyone registered for the course should see a link to AGECE 217 on their “My Blackboard” page.

Boilercast. I’ll be recording lectures as podcasts and vodcasts so you can listen and watch the powerpoint slides on your iPods or computers. See the Boilercast website for instructions, at www.itap.purdue.edu/tlt/Boilercast. There is a link to Boilercast on the Lecture Notes page on Blackboard. These are recordings of my on-campus lectures. You should view these lectures within a day or two of the day they are posted. That will help you keep up.

Mixable. Mixable is a new discussion website. You can post questions and comments for the class to see, and our TA and I will be looking in frequently to provide answers. I’ll be posting announcements and other material there too. It’s at www.purdue.edu/mixable. This also is a way to get to know the other members of the on-line class.

Text. Larry DeBoer, *MacroPolicy: Learning Macroeconomics With Policy History*; 6th edition, 2011, ISBN 1-256-36689-7. The best way to get it is to order it directly from Pearson Custom Press, at 800-922-0579 with credit card.

Articles. I will be posting newspaper articles on the website Class Readings page. These are required; they are covered in lectures, and are fair game for quizzes and exams.

Grades. You can see your current grade on the class website. Grades are based on 1,000 points, earned for the assignments, quizzes and exams like this:

Exams and Assignments	Points for each	Total Points
3 Spreadsheet Assignments	@ 60 points each	180 points
11 On-line Quizzes	@ 20 points each	220 points
2 Midterm Exams	@ 150 points each	300 points
Final Exam	@ 300 points	300 points
Total, all exams and assignments		1,000 points

Due dates are on the other side of this page. Exams are in class. There will be several extra credit opportunities, including an extra credit spreadsheet assignment. Final grades are awarded using the usual 90%=A, 80%=B, 70%=C scale. I round up, so you need 895 or more points to get an A for the course, 795 to 894 for a B, 695 to 794 for a C. I'll be using plusses and minuses. The final exam is comprehensive.

Exams. If you are on the West Lafayette campus, or within 50 miles of the West Lafayette campus, you will need to take the exams in class on the exam dates and times listed on the schedule. They will take place in the Class of 50 Lecture Hall, room 224, at 4:30 to 5:45, on September 22 and November 1. The Final Exam will also be on campus, but the date has not yet been set.

If you are beyond the 50-mile range, contact me through email and we will make arrangements for the exams.

Makeup and Late Policy. If you cannot attend an exam, contact me before to schedule an alternate time. It is important to do this as soon as possible, because I post the answers to the exams on the website after the exam dates. Homework assignments and quizzes are submitted through Blackboard, and submission is cut off at one-minute to midnight on the due dates. Late submissions aren't possible, so don't be late!

Signals. This course uses Course Signals. Each week the Signals program totals your accumulated points and factors in your use of materials on Blackboard to create a signal for you. It's a traffic light icon on the main Blackboard page. Green means you are on track to succeed in the course, yellow means you can do some things to improve, and red means you are at high risk of not succeeding in the course and should seek help. Click the Signals icon for details about your progress and what resources are available to help you succeed in this course. The first Signal will appear after the first quiz.

Academic Integrity. That means, "don't cheat." Purdue has a guide for students on integrity at www.purdue.edu/purdue/about/integrity_statement.html. You may work in groups on any of the on-line assignments, but you must submit your answers through Blackboard yourself. We'll be proctoring the exams to prevent cheating.

Teaching Assistant. Jeff Michler, Krannert 345 (jmichler@purdue.edu; 494-9672). Jeff will be monitoring the Mixable discussion site.

Agricultural Economics 217 Economics Professor DeBoer Fall 2011

Date	Day	Lecture	Topic	Reading	Due Dates
23-Aug	Tue	1	Introduction & Motivation		
25-Aug	Thur	2	Measurement	Chapter 1	
30-Aug	Tue	3	Measurement		
1-Sep	Thur	4	Measurement		On-line quiz #1
6-Sep	Tue	5	Demand/Supply	Chapter 2	
8-Sep	Thur	6	Demand/Supply		On-line quiz #2
13-Sep	Tue	7	Demand/Supply		
15-Sep	Thur	8	Macroeconomic Model	Chapter 3	On-line quiz #3
20-Sep	Tue	9	Macroeconomic Model		Spreadsheet #1
22-Sep	Thur		Exam #1		
27-Sep	Tue	10	The Civil War	Chapter 4	
29-Sep	Thur	11	Bimetallism and Hot Money		On-line quiz #4
4-Oct	Tue	12	Financial Panic	Chapter 5	
6-Oct	Thur	13	The Founding of the Fed		On-line quiz #5
11-Oct	Tue		October Break		
13-Oct	Thur	14	The Great Depression	Chapter 6	On-line quiz #6
18-Oct	Tue	15	Money	Chapter 7	
20-Oct	Thur	16	Fiscal Policy		On-line quiz #7
25-Oct	Tue	17	The New Deal		
27-Oct	Thur	18	Social Security		Spreadsheet #2
1-Nov	Tue		Exam #2		
3-Nov	Thur	19	World War II		
8-Nov	Tue	20	The Accord	Chapter 8	
10-Nov	Thur	21	Trade and Tariffs		On-line quiz #8
15-Nov	Tue	22	Exchange Rates	Chapter 9	
17-Nov	Thur	23	The Rise of the Great Inflation		On-line quiz #9
22-Nov	Tue	24	The Fall of the Great Inflation	Chapter 10	
24-Nov	Thur		Thanksgiving Break		On-line quiz #10
29-Nov	Tue	25	Budget and Trade Deficits	Chapter 11	Sprdsht #3 & Ex. Credit
1-Dec	Thur	26	The Long Expansion of the 1990s		On-line quiz #11
6-Dec	Tue	27	The Panic of 2008	Chapter 12	
8-Dec	Thur	28	Recession and Recovery(?)		
December 12-17			Finals Week		