EC2111A: Essentials of Economics
Landmark College, Spring 2009
Class meets MWF 11:30-12:45

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Office Hrs. Thurs. 10:00-11:30, 1:45-3:00 and by appointment.

Course Description:

EC2111 is Essentials of Economics. As described in the catalog, “Students are introduced to microeconomic concepts such as consumer demand, producer supply decision-making, and market structure and labor market behavior. The analytical framework of aggregated supply and aggregate demand along with monetary and fiscal policy, money and banking and influence of government regulations on economic activities are among the macroeconomic concepts discussed. The course will also introduce and develop the math skills associated with economics.”

Students learn about economic concepts and actual cases involving individual companies and/or the national economy in the context of factors including technology, natural resources, global competition, and the active involvement of government. Students analyze economic functions in regard to supply and demand, the business cycle, fiscal and monetary policies, and international trade. Students learn to interpret and create diagrams, as well as using math skills to answer questions about economic data. Two paper assignments require students to apply theoretical concepts and to research information about individual companies and the macro economy.

Text and Materials:

Students are required to purchase Essentials of Economics, 7th edition, by Bradley R. Schiller (McGraw-Hill Irwin, 2007). Landmark has made this available for reading with the Kurzweil program. Supplemental readings will be provided by the instructor, usually online in the Moodle system, which students are required to use routinely. Students are also expected to keep course materials organized with a notebook as appropriate.

Learning Objectives and Outcomes:

The main objectives are to learn the course content and to exercise critical, analytical thinking about economics. Students will become familiar with a substantial outline of main ideas, key details, and terminology about the overall economy of the United States in a global context. Outcomes are assessed in regard to performance in all major components of the course (see below, Assessment and Grading).
Students will demonstrate understanding of the main principles of Micro and Macroeconomics:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Microeconomics</th>
<th>Macroeconomics</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Basic Economic Problem</td>
<td>Measuring Aggregate Economic Performance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Markets and Price Determination</td>
<td>Aggregate Supply and Aggregate Demand</td>
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<td>Theories of the Firm</td>
<td>Money and Financial Markets</td>
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<td>Factor Markets</td>
<td>Monetary and Fiscal Policies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Role of Government in a Market Economy</td>
<td>Policy Debates &amp; Applications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Economics</td>
<td>International Economics</td>
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**Learning Process:**

To be successful in learning the content of the course, students are expected to implement a range of skills that they have been developing in college:

- **Decoding:** Reading skillfully and accurately (perhaps with assistive technology).
- **Comprehension and Critical Thinking:** Understanding and recalling basic stated information; understanding implications, biases, and elements of reasoning; writing summary and synthesis pieces.
- **Study Skills:** Applying SQ3R steps, test preparation strategies, and assistive technology; using a system for writing notes.
- **Executive functioning skills:** Understanding strategies for concentrating and completing tasks, in class and during homework. *This includes routine use of GroupWise email, ISIS, and Moodle systems as needed to read and respond to communications in a timely manner.*
- **Class participation:** Engaging in class in a mature, considerate, thoughtful, productive manner.
- **Research skills:** Generating questions, accessing and evaluating resources, taking orderly notes, synthesizing information in papers, and documenting sources.

**Assessment and Grading:**

20%  Weekly Grade: Attendance, Homework, and Participation
30%  Quizzes (7)
20%  Unit Tests (2)
10%  Final Exam
20%  Paper/Presentation projects (2)