



**ECO 2301 01W – Principles of Macroeconomics  
SPRING 2022**

**Instructor:** Dr. Jared Pickens, CFP®

**Classroom:** Zoom

**Lecture times:** Fridays 12pm – 1:20 (lectures are recorded)

**Office Location:** BA 102 F and Online

**Office Hours:** by appointment

**Phone:** (972) 546-0059 (call or text)

**Preferred Form of Communication:** Please send emails through the MyLeo Online message system only. This will let me know which class you are in and will keep the class more organized. Always make sure the prefix of the course is listed example: ECO 2301 or ECO2301

**Communication Response Time:** Emails will be responded to within 48 hours Monday – Friday.

## **COURSE INFORMATION**

### **Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings**

#### **Textbook/Materials Required**

There is not a required text for the course—as such. Included in the course (and course fee) is access to an e-text: MyLab Economics Pearson eText—Essentials of Economics, 7th ed., by Hubbard and O'Brien.

*Syllabus/schedule subject to change*

## **Course Description**

Introduces the student to the workings and interrelationships of the U.S. and world economics. Principles of economic analysis including measurement of aggregate economic activity, national income determination, money and banking, monetary and fiscal policy, and business fluctuation. Emphasis is given to analyzing real world problems such as poverty, inflation, unemployment, and economic instability.

## **Student Learning Outcomes**

### **Successful students will be able to accomplish these objectives toward understanding the economy:**

1. Explain how choices and trade improve welfare.
2. Be able to use the supply and demand model to describe individual decision makers, an industry, and the economy as a whole.
3. Be able to calculate features of the economy given a simplified dataset. Be able to discuss the limitations and benefits of using each construct to describe the economy.
4. Model the effects on society for changes in macroeconomic variables.

### **Successful students will be able to accomplish these objectives as critical thinkers:**

- A. Identify assumptions used in models
- B. Identify information and data that is relevant to an economic problem.
- C. Be able to identify alternative solutions to an economic problem.
- D. Be able to relate and explain economic topics to economic models.
- E. Identify the societal and/or civic issues that are relevant to an economic problem or event.
- F. Use critical thinking skills (creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis of information) to propose solutions to selected economic problems or events.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

## **Instructional / Design of Course Overview**

The class will be conducted very similar to a traditional classroom setting and maintains flexibility for students who cannot attend in a physical setting. Each week opens on Mondays and closes on Sundays at 11:59pm. There will be a combination of pre-recorded and live instructional content. There will be ONE live lecture each week. The lectures are recorded and can be viewed later. The attendance policy for the course is located under "Lecture Attendance" in this document. Students need to either attend the live lecture via Zoom or watch the lecture at a later time. **Students are not required to attend the live lectures, but students will need to watch the recordings for the lectures during the week conducted.**

**Students should use the weekly checklists found in D2L to identify what is due each week in terms of content and/or assignments.** There will be a combination of pre-recorded and live instructional content throughout the semester. There will be homework assignments, interactive learning quizzes (ILQ), 3 discussion assignments, and 3 exams. There will be ONE live lecture each week that lasts approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes. The attendance policy of the course is located under "Lecture Attendance" in this document. Students need to either attend via the zoom lecture or watch the recording. Extra credit is provided for attending the majority of the live lectures.

The course is structured so that students can learn in various formats providing a richer learning experience. The professor will use various learning tools to help students master the course learning objectives. Students are expected to read the assigned chapters in the textbook, watching the eBook chapter videos, and attending/watching lectures and other instructional resources. **Students should commit between 6-9 hours of study time per week at a minimum (not including lectures).**

As mentioned previously, students will be assigned a weekly homework in D2L to help them master the learning objectives. All homework and lectures are required to be completed by Sunday at 11:59 PM. Students will also be assigned 3 discussion assignments due at various times during the semester. Finally, there will be 3 exams in the course with the 3<sup>rd</sup> exam being a comprehensive final exam. See the course schedule for more details on due dates. The professor may or may not offer extra credit assignments. **All exams will be completed online throughout the semester.**

**The professor will not repeat questions that can be found within the syllabus.** Furthermore, the professor will not answer questions regarding the class or content that have been addressed in lectures and/or e-mails to the course.

## **COURSEWORK/GRADING**

It is important that students are organized to avoid missing assignments. The due dates for all assignments are located within the weekly checklists and the course calendar within D2L. No late work will be accepted unless there is a serious situation preventing the student from completing an assignment – and is always up to the professor’s discretion. Students that miss an exam will receive a zero. A student that misses more than one exam will need to drop the course. It is possible that students will have opportunities to earn extra credit, but no extra credit opportunity is guaranteed.

### **Exams**

All exams will be administered online for this course. Exams open on Fridays by 12 pm and close at 11:59 pm on Sunday night of the week assigned. The professor may provide an extension or open exams earlier. There will be three exams including the final. The final is comprehensive and will cover all course material covered during the semester. Students are responsible for information from live/recorded lectures, required readings, interactive lecture quizzes, and any guest speakers. **There are no makeup exams. The professor will allow the final exam score to replace ONE of a student’s previous exam score if the final exam score is higher.**

### **Weekly Homework Assignments**

In order to help students, test their understanding of course learning objectives, students will be assigned weekly homework assignments within MyLab Economics (accessible within D2L). Homework assignments are due on Sundays at 11:59PM of the week assigned. The homework questions are taken directly from the chapters in the textbook. Students have 2 attempts for each homework assignment. The highest grade will be used for grade calculations. The homework assignments are very important as they help prepare you for the exams.

## **Discussion Posts**

It is important that students are able to demonstrate mastery of learning objectives; however, mastering learning objectives on a quiz and/or exam is not enough. It is more important that students are able to have intelligent dialogue with their peers pertaining to course topics. These dialogues help prepare students for what is expected in upper-level courses and after graduation. The discussion posts (message boards) require students to discuss a specific topic in a professional, well-written, and evidenced-based manner. While opinions are welcomed, it is research and data that are most important.

Students are expected to follow net etiquette and respect each other. Posts that are deemed by the instructor to be unprofessional and/or verbally abusive will not be tolerated and will result in a zero for the assignment.

There will be 3 discussion prompts during the semester. Students will be required to make an initial post and then reply to at least 2 other posts. Students will be graded using a rubric that is available in D2L. **A student's first post is due on Wednesday and replies are due by Sunday.**

Note: This is NOT busy work, but instead an opportunity for us to discuss economics in more depth. Students should take discussion posts very seriously.

## **Interactive Learning Quizzes (ILQs)**

In addition to our ONE live weekly lecture, students are required to complete Interactive learning quizzes (ILQ) by 11:59 of each week. An ILQ is simply a video lecture that has quiz questions embedded within the recording. The ILQs vary in time, but will never exceed 30 minutes each. There will be at least one ILQ each week and possibly more depending on the topic. Students must answer all questions correctly to complete an ILQ. Students have unlimited chances to answer the questions correctly. An individual ILQ's score is either a zero (not completed) or a 100% in that each one is either complete or incomplete. There are no partial points for ILQs. **It is important that students understand that 10% of their grade in the course comes from completing ILQs.**

**Live Lecture Attendance (Zoom)**

This is an online course that is designed to be very accommodating to individuals with busy schedules. The course has a weekly live lecture where students are encouraged to attend. However, attendance isn't required, but all students should watch the recorded lecture each week by Sunday at 11:59PM. However; the lectures are very important in meeting the course learning objectives. The professor takes substantial extra time to provide a quality learning environment built for discussion and dialogue.

It is understandable that many students will not be able to attend all of the live lectures; however, **students are encouraged to meet at least ONE of the 2 options listed below to receive extra credit.** Recorded lectures need to be watched by Sunday at 11:59 of the week assigned. Students may qualify for attendance credit in one of the following TWO ways:

**Option 1** – Only miss 2-3 lectures and watch the missed lectures via recorded lectures (3% bonus on average provided).

**Option 2** – Only miss 4-5 lectures and watch the missed lectures via recorded lectures (2% bonus on average provided).

NOTE: Students don't have to select their option at any time during the semester. Each student needs to keep track of their attendance record. The student will be required to report their attendance record at the end of the semester. **Missing more than 5 lectures will result in no bonus points.**

NOTE: Online attendance for the live lecture requires participating in the lecture by either answering questions, responding to being called upon, asking questions. Students must be present for at least 75% of the live lecture to earn attendance.

**LIVE TEACHING LINK / LECTURE RECORDINGS**

Students will be provided this information before class begins.

**Final Grades**

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

|                 |            |                  |
|-----------------|------------|------------------|
| Exam 1          | 20%        | A = 90%-100%     |
| Exam 2          | 20%        | B = 80%-89%      |
| Exam 3          | 20%        | C = 70%-79%      |
| Discussions     | 20%        | D = 60%-69%      |
| ILQs.           | 10%        | F = 59% or Below |
| <u>Homework</u> | <u>10%</u> |                  |
| Total           | 100%       |                  |

## COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

| Week | Dates         | Chapter | Due        | Talking Points   |
|------|---------------|---------|------------|--|
| 1    | 1/12- 01/16   | 1       | N/A        | Introduction, Foundations, Defining Economics  |
| 2    | 01/17 - 01/23 | 2       | HW 1,      | Trade-offs, Comparative Advantage and the Market System                                      |
| 3    | 01/24 - 01/30 | 3       | HW 2,      | Where Prices Come From   |
| 4    | 01/31- 02/06  | 3/4     | HW 3, D1   | Where Prices Come From / Economic Efficiency, Government Price Setting, and Taxes + Appendix |
| 5    | 02/07 - 02/13 |         | Exam 1     | Chapters: 1 - 4  |
| 6    | 02/14 - 02/20 | 8       | HW 4       | GDP: Measuring Total Production and Income   |
| 7    | 02/21 - 02/27 | 9       | HW 5       | Unemployment and Inflation   |
| 8    | 02/28 - 03/06 | 10      | HW 6, D2   | Economic Growth, the Financial System and Business Cycles                                    |
| 9    | 03/07 - 03/13 | N/A     | Exam 2     | Chapters: 8 - 10 (Exam on Friday)  |
|      | 03/14- 03/20  | 11      | HW7        | <b><u>SPRING BREAK (NO CLASS)</u></b>  |
| 10   | 3/21 - 03/27  | 12      | HW 8       | Long-run Economic Growth: Sources and Policies   |
| 11   | 03/28 - 04/03 | 13      | N/A        | Aggregate Expenditure and Output in the Short Run  |
| 12   | 04/04- 04/10  | 13      | HW 9       | Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply Analysis   |
| 13   | 04/11 - 04/17 | 14      | N/A        | Money, Banks and the Federal Reserve System  |
| 14   | 04/18 - 04/24 | 14/15   | HW 10/ D3  | Money, Banks and the Federal Reserve System, Monetary Policy                                 |
| 15   | 04/25 - 05/03 | N/A     | N/A        | Putting it all together / Review for exam (if necessary)                                     |
| 16   | 05/09 - 05/13 | ALL     | Final Exam | Note: Comprehensive – all chapters (see exam schedule)                                       |

Note: This schedule is simply a guide and the professor has the right to change due dates if necessary. Students are responsible for updated due dates and can find updates via D2L announcements and e-mails.

## COVID 19 INFORMATION

Please see the following links related to COVID 19 including mandatory COVID 19 testing for students. Students are required to follow all policies in order to attend class and stay enrolled in the course.

[FALL PLAN](#)

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The College of Business is committed to maintaining the integrity and respectability of degrees conferred and course credit earned through our department. Academic dishonesty restricts the understanding of subject material by the perpetrator, distracts and discourages other class members, and reduces the value of the economic signal of degrees conferred through Texas A&M University-Commerce.

Whether courses are online, face-to-face or hybrid combinations; the faculty, staff and student members of the College of Business are committed to protecting the integrity of our courses, regardless of the delivery method.

Students are required to electronically sign an Academic Honesty Policy for this course. This document can be found within D2L. **A student who breaches the policy will receive a zero for quizzes, homework, and/or discussions. A student that commits academic dishonesty with regards to an exam will receive an automatic "F" for the course.**

## CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

Texas A&M University-Commerce has established standards of conduct to create and foster an environment that facilitates student learning and development. Students and University student groups are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that demonstrates respect for the rights and property

of others, and that is consistent with the educational goals and mission of the University. This Code of Student Conduct ("Code") focuses on personal responsibility and accountability for students' actions and the impact those actions may have on the greater community. The Student Code of Conduct can be found here:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campuslife/campusservices/studentRights/documents/Code%20of%20conduct%20in%20english.pdf>

Students are expected to be professional, courteous, and respectful at all times.

## **OFFICE OF STUDENT DISABILITY RESOURCES AND SERVICES**

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

## **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

### **Browser support**

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems

and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

### Desktop Support

| <b>Browser</b>                | <b>Supported Browser Version (s)</b> | <b>Maintenance Browser Version (s)</b> |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Microsoft® Edge               | Latest                               | N/A                                    |
| Microsoft® Internet Explorer® | N/A                                  | 11                                     |
| Mozilla® Firefox®             | Latest, ESR                          | N/A                                    |
| Google® Chrome™               | Latest                               | N/A                                    |
| Apple® Safari®                | Latest                               | N/A                                    |

### Tablet and Mobile Support

| Device   | Operating System | Browser               | Supported Browser Version(s)   |
|----------|------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Android™ | Android 4.4+     | Chrome                | Latest   |
| Apple    | iOS®             | Safari, Chrome        | <p>The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or <b>point</b> release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or <b>point</b> release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2L supports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version.</p> <p>Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.</p> |
| Windows  | Windows 10       | Edge, Chrome, Firefox | Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.   |

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
  - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
  - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
  - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- You must have a:
  - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer

- Speakers or headphones.
- \*For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.
- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: [JAVA web site](http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp)  
<http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp>
- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.

Pop-ups are allowed.

JavaScript is enabled.

Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
  - [Adobe Reader](https://get.adobe.com/reader/) <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
  - [Adobe Flash Player](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/) (version 17 or later)  
<https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>
  - [Adobe Shockwave Player](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/) <https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/>
  - [Apple Quick Time](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/) <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>
- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

## **ACCESS AND NAVIGATION**

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password,

contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

## **COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

### **Brightspace Support**

#### **Need Help?**

#### **Student Support**

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

#### **Technical Support**

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the **Live Chat** or click on the words "[click here](#)" to submit an issue via email.



#### **System Maintenance**

Please note that on the 4th Sunday of each month there will be System Maintenance which means the system will not be available 12 pm-6 am CST.

#### **ADA Statement**

##### **Students with Disabilities**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable

accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

**Nondiscrimination Notice**

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

**Statement on Campus Concealed Carry**

Texas Senate Bill – 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to (<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>) and or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.