PRINCIPLES OF MACROECONOMICS
ECONOMICS 234
Summer 2008

Professor: George Samuels  Office: Smith-Hutson 237F
Phone: 294-1269  Email: eco_ges@shsu.edu
Office Hours: MWF 7:30-8:00;12:00-1:00; or by appointment

Required Text:
Economics (Prentice-Hall), Hubbard and O’Brien

Suggested Supplements:
Wall Street Journal

Course Description:
The economic role of government, public finance and taxation, national income
analysis, national income theory, money and banking, economic fluctuations and
growth, and international trade and finance.

Learning Objectives:
The student will have learned to understand the beginning level of
macroeconomic analysis so that they are knowledgeable at the required level
for their particular degree or are prepared for subsequent course work in
their curriculum. To this end, each student should: (1) gain factual
knowledge about the economy; (2) learn fundamental principles,
generalizations, and theories underlying economic analysis; (3) learn to apply
economic principles to improve thinking, problem-solving and decision making,
(4) learn and develop an appreciation for the logic underlying economic
decision making, (5) learn possible causes and consequences of economic growth
and divergences from potential production, and (6) learn measures used to
gauge the level of economic activity, e.g., inflation rate, unemployment rate
and growth rate.

Examinations
There will be three (3) exams, which includes the final, during the semester.
Each exam will be weighted equally with a maximum point value of 100, except
the best grade will be counted twice. Only one (1) makeup exam allowed per
semester.

Course Grades
Total points available for the semester = 400. Course grades will be computed
on the following basis.

A = 90% (360 points)
B = 80% (320 points)
C = 70% (280 points)
D = 60% (240 points)
F = below 60% (less than 240 points)

Attendance Policy
Attendance is required and will be checked at each class meeting. Three hours
of absences are allowed without penalty, so long as the absences do not occur
on examination days.
Student Absences on Religious Holy Days
The student must notify the instructor of each scheduled class that he/she
would be absent from a religious holy day. Request forms are available in the
Department of Economics office in BA 232. The form must be completely filled
out and personally presented to the instructor or sent certified mail, return
receipt requested, with the time limits established. The student and the
instructor will agree on a time that missed assignments must be completed.

Disabled Student Policy
It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified
disabled individual shall, solely by reason of his/her disability, be excluded
from the participation in, be denied and benefit of, or be subjected to
discrimination under any academic, Student Life program, or activity.
Disabled students may request academic assistance when needed from a Committee
for Continuing Academic Assistance for Disabled Students by visiting the
Director of the Counseling Center in the Lee Drain Building Annex, or by
calling ext. 1720.

Other Class Policies
NO FOOD, DRINKS, OR SMOKING IN CLASSROOMS. NO INDIVIDUALS (INCLUDING
CHILDREN) WILL BE ADMITTED INTO THE CLASSROOM UNLESS THEY ARE ENROLLED IN THE
CLASS. NO HATS MAY BE WORN DURING EXAMINATIONS.
Shown below is an attempt to forecast what material will be covered each class meeting. It is the responsibility of each student to have read prior to class the material assigned for each class day. Forecasting is more an art than a science, so it is possible that more class time will be spent on some topics than indicated by the outline. On examination days, if less material has been covered than was forecasted, you will only be held responsible for those chapters that have been covered in class.

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