

<p><b>Course Term</b></p>	<p><b>BUSN 5620 - Current Economic Analysis</b> Summer 2009</p>
<p><b>Instructor</b></p>	<p><b>Name:</b> Dr. Alex Mukathe, DBA, MBA, MPA. <b>Phone:</b> (562) 367-4770 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:alex@bsc5.com">alex@bsc5.com</a></p>
<p><b>Catalog Description</b></p>	<p>Implications of current economic events are examined through the applications of economic theory. Emphasis is placed on acquainting the student with methods of economic analysis in the context of current economic issues.</p>
<p><b>Prerequisites</b></p>	<p>NONE</p>
<p><b>Course Level Learning Outcomes</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The student can utilize the Demand and Supply model to determine the impact of changes in demand or supply on price and quantity.</li> <li>• The student can define GDP and describe its measurement, uses, and limitations as a measure of economic well being.</li> <li>• The student can define Inflation and describe its measurement, consequences, and how to adjust for it.</li> <li>• The student can explain the measurement of unemployment, its forms (i.e. structural, frictional, cyclical, and seasonal), and its shortcomings.</li> <li>• The student understands how fiscal policy is used to counteract the business cycle.</li> <li>• The student can describe the impact of fiscal deficits on the aggregate economy.</li> <li>• The student can describe the role and tools of a central bank.</li> <li>• The student understands how monetary policy is used to counteract the business cycle.</li> <li>• The student can describe the arguments both for and against international trade and verbally describe the consequences of trade.</li> <li>• The student understands the balance of payments and can describe the relationship between trade in goods and services and international investment.</li> </ul> <p>The student can predict the effect on exchange rates of changes in relative</p>

	inflation, relative income, and other macroeconomic events.
<b>Course Content</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Introduction to Demand and Supply Analysis</b> - The student should receive a thorough introduction to basic demand and supply analysis. This should include the nature of markets and their role in the allocation of goods and services. Particular attention should be given to familiarizing students with the demand and supply model. It is not necessary to discuss market failures including imperfect competition, externalities, etc. Nor is it necessary to introduce price elasticity. This portion of the course might cover two weeks or approximately 25%.</li> <li>• <b>Familiarization with Measures of Economic Activity</b> - The three primary measures of economic activity should be covered thoroughly. An effort should be made to make these coincide with the data as presented in the press. This portion of the course might cover two weeks or approximately 25%. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ GDP - In addition to explaining the determination of GDP, the course should discuss Real GDP and the determinants of growth in RGDP. International comparisons in RGDP should be presented.</li> <li>○ Inflation - The basic concept and construction of a price index should be included. In addition students should become familiar with the dominant price indices, the problems with utilizing price indices, and the concept of a "chain weighted" index. The computation of inflation and its adverse effects should also be discussed. International comparisons in inflation rates should be included.</li> <li>○ Unemployment - The computation and issues surrounding the measure of unemployment should be covered. Differences in unemployment rates across countries (particularly the US versus Europe) should be discussed.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Develop an Understanding of Fiscal and Monetary Policy</b> - The two primary policy instruments of government should be presented. A slightly heavier weight might be given to monetary policy given its preeminence in counter-cyclical policy. This portion of the course might cover two weeks or approximately 25%. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Fiscal Policy - The course should discuss the counter-cyclical effects of deficit and surplus budgets. This should include both deliberate and automatic stabilization. The discussion should also include the impact of a budget deficit on private spending and on the balance of payments.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Monetary Policy - The role of monetary policy in the conduct of counter-cyclical policy should be covered thoroughly. The discussion should include a descriptive portion on the role of the central bank. The strengths and limitations of monetary policy should also be included. A particular effort should be made to relate the course material to current policy activity. The impact of monetary policy on exchange rates should be addressed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Familiarization with the International Economy</b> - The student should be sensitized to the growing importance of international commerce. This can be accomplished by discussing the motivations for both free trade and trade protection, by discussing the importance of the balance of payments as related to trade and capital flows, and by discussing the importance of exchange rates and exchange-rate regimes on relative economic well-being. This portion of the course might cover two weeks or approximately 25%.</p>																														
<b>Materials</b>	<p><b>Text:</b> Essentials of Economics (7th ed)  <b>Author:</b> Bradley Schiller  <b>Publisher:</b> McGraw-Hill  <b>ISBN:</b> 978-0-07-337580-9</p> <p>Publication Manual of A P A, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, 1994, American Psychological Association, ISBN: 1-55798-791-2....<b>Key pages are 268-315-pay special attention to the examples starting on page 306.....</b>Students should acquire these texts in sufficient time to read the assignments for the first class and be prepared to participate in class discussions.</p> <p><b>Supplemental Readings:</b>  Current newspapers and business periodicals.</p> <p><b>Visual Aids:</b>  PowerPoint and overheads for class presentations as appropriate.</p>																														
<b>Grading</b>	<p><b>COURSE EVALUATIONS:</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Class Participation</td> <td></td> <td>10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Class Projects</td> <td></td> <td>30%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mid Term Exam</td> <td></td> <td>25%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Final Exam</td> <td></td> <td><u>35%</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total:</b></td> <td></td> <td><b>100%</b></td> </tr> </table> <hr/> <p><b>Grading Scale:</b>  Students will earn a final letter grade based on the following schedule:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>4.00</td> <td>93.00 – 100.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A-</td> <td>3.67</td> <td>90.00 – 92.99</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B+</td> <td>3.33</td> <td>87.00 – 89.99</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B</td> <td>3.00</td> <td>84.00 – 86.99</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B-</td> <td>2.67</td> <td>80.00 – 83.99</td> </tr> </table>	Class Participation		10%	Class Projects		30%	Mid Term Exam		25%	Final Exam		<u>35%</u>	<b>Total:</b>		<b>100%</b>	A	4.00	93.00 – 100.00	A-	3.67	90.00 – 92.99	B+	3.33	87.00 – 89.99	B	3.00	84.00 – 86.99	B-	2.67	80.00 – 83.99
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	<p style="text-align: center;">C            2.00            70.00 – 79.99  F            0                      Under 70.00</p> <p>Note: No grades of D, C-, C+ or A- will be assigned.</p>
<b>Weekly Schedule</b>	TBD
<b>Policy Statements: University Policies</b>	<p><b>University policies are</b> provided in the current course catalog and course schedules. They are also available on the university website. This class is governed by the university’s published policies. The following policies are of particular interest:</p> <p><b>Academic Honesty</b>  The university is committed to high standards of academic honesty. Students will be held responsible for violations of these standards. Please refer to the university’s academic honesty policies for a definition of academic dishonesty and potential disciplinary actions associated with it.</p> <p><b>Drops and Withdrawals</b>  Please be aware that, should you choose to drop or withdraw from this course, the date on which you notify the university of your decision will determine the amount of tuition refund you receive. Please refer to the university policies on drops and withdrawals (published elsewhere) to find out what the deadlines are for dropping a course with a full refund and for withdrawing from a course with a partial refund.</p> <p><b>Special Services</b>  If you need accommodations for a disability, please let the instructor know at the beginning of the course so that they can be provided.</p> <p><b>Disturbances</b>  Since every student is entitled to full participation in class without interruption, disruption of class by inconsiderate behavior is not acceptable. Students are expected to treat the instructor and other students with dignity and respect, especially in cases where a diversity of opinion arises. Students who engage in disruptive behavior are subject to disciplinary action, including removal from the course</p> <p><b>Attendance</b>  The University reserves the right to cancel a student’s course enrollment if the student does not attend class the first or second week of the term/semester. Students are expected to attend all class sessions. In the case of unavoidable absence (e.g., medical reason, work related travel), the student must contact the instructor directly and immediately. The instructor may give warning to the student and then recommend that the student withdraw from the course. The student is subject to appropriate academic penalty for incomplete or other make-up work, or for excessive or unexcused absences. A student who misses two class meetings per</p>

	course without a documented reason or (advance) permission from the instructor should withdraw from the course.
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**The instructor may revise this syllabus without the notification or consent of the students.**