Money and Banking  
ECO – 331 – 001  
Fall 2010  
Tuesday and Thursday, 2:00 – 3:15, Room 452

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Office Hours: 8:30 – 10:30, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; 10:45 – 11:45 and 3:15 – 4:15, Tuesday and Thursday; or by appointment.

Course Description: Study of the monetary system, commercial banking and central banking in the United States. Prerequisite: ECO 231.

Student Learning Outcomes: The course is divided into four main parts. The first part of the course will focus on financial markets. Upon successful completion of the course, the student should develop a basic understanding of how interest rates are defined, measured, and determined, the risk and term structure of interest rates, how stock prices are determined, and the efficient market hypothesis. The second part of the course will focus on financial institutions. Upon successful completion of the course, the student should develop a basic understanding of the structure of U.S. financial structure, with particular emphasis on the impact of asymmetric information. The student will also study the causes and effects of financial crises. The third part of the course will focus on money and central banking’s role in its creation and destruction. Upon successful completion of the course, the student should develop a basic understanding of bank management, and how the banking system, the Federal Reserve, and the public interact to ultimately determine the money supply. The fourth part of the course will focus on monetary policy. Upon successful completion of the course, the student should develop a basic understanding of the impact of changes in the money supply on real gross domestic product, unemployment, and the inflation rate. The student will also learn what different schools of economic thought have to say about the impact and effectiveness of monetary policy on the macro economy.


Attendance: Attendance is not mandatory. The first few days of the semester, I will take roll to ensure that people are registered and in the right class. However, attendance is highly recommended because the lecture will help you understand the material and provide you with the opportunity to ask any questions you might have. If you miss a class, you are responsible for getting the notes from a classmate and discussing with the classmate what we covered. PLEASE COME TO CLASS ON TIME. It is very distracting and disrespectful to your classmates and me when you arrive after the lecture has begun.

E-mail Policy: Contact me via e-mail only in an emergency and you simply cannot get to a phone. I will not answer any questions pertaining to the course or your performance in the course through e-mail. Answering such questions requires face-to-face communication in my office.

Course Material: I plan to cover the following chapters in order: 2, 4 – 10, 3, 13 – 15, 19, and 22 – 25. Of course, the amount of material I cover will depend on how quickly we progress.

Grading:  
Exam #1  Thursday, September 23rd  25%  
Exam #2  Tuesday, October 19th  25%  
Exam #3  Thursday, November 11th  25%  
Exam #4  Thursday, December 16th  25%
Exams are multiple choice and will cover four or five chapters. In other words, approximately 4 ½ chapters should be covered every three weeks. However, the number of chapters on the exam will depend on how quickly we progress. You are required to bring a number 2 pencil, a calculator (no cell phones, please), and a scantron (the skinny one) to each exam. The exams are open book (not open note), so you are required to bring your textbook, too.

The dates of the exams will not change so plan accordingly. Your fourth exam is NOT COMPREHENSIVE and is scheduled for the day of your final exam AT 1:00 pm IN THIS CLASS ROOM.

If you miss an exam and you have a university-approved excuse, I will give you a make-up that you and I will schedule accordingly. What constitutes a university-approved excuse? The following statement is from the university’s Policy Manual:

“Students may be excused from attendance for certain reasons, among these are absences related to health, family emergencies, and student participation in certain university-sponsored events. However, students are responsible for notifying their instructors in advance whenever possible for excusable absences.

Students are responsible for providing timely documentation satisfactory to the instructor for each absence. Students with acceptable excuses may be permitted to make up work for absences to a maximum of three weeks of a semester or one week of a six-week summer term when the nature of the work missed permits. Whether excused or unexcused, a student is still responsible for all course content and assignments.

In the case of absences caused by participation in university-sponsored events, announcement via My SFA will constitute an official excuse. Faculty members sponsoring activities which require their students to be absent from other classes must submit electronically to the provost and vice president for academic affairs (VPAA) an explanation of the absence, including the date, time and an alphabetical listing of all students attending to be posted on MySFA.”

You must provide me with the proper documentation in a timely manner. Otherwise, you do not have a university-approved excuse. If you become sick the day of the exam, you must call me before the exam. If I am not in my office, please leave a message on my voice mail. You must then provide me with a doctor’s excuse before you take the make-up. If you do not call me before the exam, you will not get a make-up.

If you do not have a university-approved excuse, I will still give you a make-up, but it will cost you. You have two days to make up an exam. For example, let’s say an exam is scheduled for Tuesday. If you miss the exam, you must make it up the next class day (Wednesday) or the day after (Thursday). If you take the make-up on Wednesday, 15% is automatically deducted from your exam score. If you take the make-up on Thursday, 30% is automatically deducted from your exam score. No make-ups will be given after Thursday, and you will receive a zero on the exam. Your fourth exam is scheduled on the day set aside for your final exam. Due to time constraints with respect to me turning in your grades, there will be no make-up given if you miss the exam (unless you have a university-approved excuse), and you will receive a zero if absent.

Finally, a make-up exam must be completed prior to the next exam.

Extra Credit: I do not offer extra credit assignments. Your grade is determined solely by your performance on the four exams. There are no exceptions to this policy.

Non-class Related Materials: Please put away your cell phones, notes from other class, newspapers, etc. Dedicate your time in class to listening to the lecture, taking notes, and, if necessary, asking questions.

Concluding Remarks: Economics is a very difficult course. Take detailed notes during class and ask questions if you are unclear on a concept. Read your text outside of class and compare what your notes to the text. If
there are any inconsistencies, figure out why either on your own or ask me. You cannot wait until the night before an exam to study and expect to perform well.
Rusche College of Business  
Syllabus Addendum

Program Learning Outcomes:

Program learning outcomes define the knowledge, skills, and abilities students are expected to demonstrate upon completion of an academic program. These learning outcomes are regularly assessed to determine student learning and to evaluate overall program effectiveness. You may access the program learning outcomes for your major and particular courses at http://cobweb.sfasu.edu/plo.html.

General Student Policies:

Academic Integrity (A-9.1)
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit. Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp.

Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

Students with Disabilities
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

Acceptable Student Behavior
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy D-34.1). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic, or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.

August 20, 2010