

SYLLABUS
URBAN STUDIES 300
ECONOMICS OF POLICY ANALYSIS
Fall Semester, 2006

Professor: Dr. Larry Ledebur
Class: Tuesdays 6:00-9:45 PM
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 3:00-5:00, and by appointment
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Course Description: This course is an introduction to microeconomics and public policy. Microeconomics is the study of how households and firms make decisions and interact in the market place. The course is designed to build the analytical tools of microeconomics and apply them to major public policy issues such as the minimum wage, rent controls, income distribution, taxes, tariffs, pollution, public goods, price discrimination, and traffic congestion. In this course, you will develop a basic understanding of microeconomic theory and the way it is applied to policy issues. The goal of the course is to help students understand the basics of how economists think about behavior, outcomes and markets, and how they approach policy analysis.

Required Text: N. Gregory Mankiw, *Principles of Microeconomics*, 4th Edition [Harcourt College Publishers, 2004]. Copies of the 2nd and 3rd editions may also be used. [Check Amazon.]

Accessing Lectures and Supplemental Materials. Lectures can be accessed on the College's N drive using the following instructions. Open your web browser. Type in the following as the web address <ftp://urban.csuohio.edu/utility>. Click on the UST 300 folder. You will need to have the PowerPoint application to open the lectures. You can save materials to your hard drive if you wish or simply print out the presentation.

Evaluation:	First Exam	September 19	30%
	Second Exam	October 17	30%
	Third Exam	November 7	30%
	Final Exam	December 12	30%
	Class Attendance and Participation		10%

The lowest grade on the first three exams will be excluded from the calculation of the final average.

Policies: Students are expected to attend class and take exams at the scheduled times. The material discussed in class will be covered on the exams.

Attendance is important. Missing an evening class is equivalent to missing two class modules. One point will be deducted from the final grade for each class module missed and an additional point for not participating in the discussion. Missing five class modules, therefore, will result in a deduction of ten points in the final grade.

Cell Phones: Do not leave your cell phones on during class period. If there is an emergency requiring you to do so, you must inform the instructor prior to class.

ASSIGNMENTS

August 29	Preface: To the Student Chapter 1: Ten Principles of Economics
September 5	Chapter 2: Thinking Like an Economist Chapter 4: The Market Forces of Supply and Demand
September 12	Chapter 5: Elasticity and Its Application Chapter 6: Supply, Demand, and Government Policies
September 19	Exam
September 26	Chapter 8: Application: The Costs of Taxation Chapter 7: Consumers, Producers, & the Efficiency of Markets
October 3	Chapter 10: Externalities Chapter 11: Public Goods and Common Resources
October 10	Chapter 12: The Design of the Tax System Chapter 13: The Costs of Production
October 17	Exam
October 24	Chapter 14: Firms in Competitive Markets Chapter 15: Monopoly
October 31	Chapter 16: Oligopoly Chapter 17: Monopolistic Competition
November 7	Exam
November 14	Chapter 18: The Market for Factors of Production Chapter 19: Earnings and Discrimination
November 21	Chapter 20: The Distribution of Income Chapter 21: The Theory of Consumer Choice
November 28	Chapter 9: Application: International Trade Globalization: Distributed Materials
December 5	Review
December 12	Final Exam