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## About the Course

Macroeconomics covers basic economic concepts including resource scarcity, supply and demand, and the economic roles of households and businesses. We will also look at the role of government in providing public services, encouraging growth, and fighting inflation and unemployment. The course will also cover current economic events such as unemployment, imports and exports, national debt, tax cuts and budget deficits, and the actions of the Federal Reserve Board in setting interest rates. Students will also learn about economic data commonly reported by the news media.

ECN 231 is equivalent to first year economics courses in colleges and universities and transfers as an equivalent course. The course is intended for business or other majors who require economics as part of their program. However many students take it as an elective so they may become more knowledgeable about the US economy and the government's economic policies. The course benefits:

- ◆ business majors and others who need some overall economic understanding
- ◆ working people who want some understanding of economic forces affecting their jobs
- ◆ investors who need to understand the economy and economic data

This course will contribute to the following Associate Degree Outcomes:

ADO 5 Understanding human behavior and social systems Students will learn to:

Recognize factors that determine and govern human behavior. Distinguish between individual and external factors.

Understand the methods of analysis and interpretation used by economics to explain economic outcomes.

Begin to use appropriate terms and concepts.

Describe at least two economic principles that govern human behavior.

ADO 7 Critical Thinking Students will learn to:

Identify impact of human emotion on economic behavior.

Describe larger consequences of choices made by individuals and groups.

Describe steps in solving an economic problem.

Apply an economic principle to a new context

## Class Resources

The text is Macroeconomics by McConnell and Brue, 17th edition (ISBN 978-0-07-327308-2). There is some useful material at the text website [www.mcconnell17.com](http://www.mcconnell17.com) (click on Macroeconomics and follow the "Students" link). A DVD accompanies the text and has some good short video presentations, check the "DVD Reviews" at the course web site for a guide to the best ones. You can buy the DVD or there are some on reserve in the JCC library. You should consider purchasing the Study Guide that accompanies the text, many students find it helpful. The Lecture Outlines that will be used in class are available at the bookstore or you can download them from the course web site. Buying is optional but many students like it for note taking.

Course Web Site Practice tests, homework, grades, and other useful materials are found on the course's web site. To access this site, go to the JCC home page ([www.jccmi.edu](http://www.jccmi.edu)) and click on "Online Classes". Log in and go to the site for ECN 231. If you have problems getting into the system see the instructor or the JCC Solution Center in Atkinson Hall (796 8639).

## Tests

There will be five tests during the semester, each covering 2 or 3 chapters. They will be mostly multiple choice questions with 1-3 essay questions.

## Homework Assignments

There will be an assignment for each chapter covered. You may work with other students on assignments but each student must turn in their own individual work. Follow the guidelines in the Academic Honesty policy. Due dates will be approximately one week after the assignment is handed out. Late assignments will not be accepted unless you have made arrangements ahead of time with the instructor.

## Activity Points

Students are required to earn 40 points by participating in various activities that will help you understand economics better. You can choose among several options:

Attending Project Success Day workshops	10 per session	20 maximum
Tutoring or Being Tutored	10 per session	30 maximum
Participate in a Study Group	10 per session	30 maximum
Prepare study materials	10 per task	30 maximum
Summarize an approved article or DVD clip	10 per article	20 maximum
Make a 5 minute Class Presentation	10 per presentation	10 maximum
Take quizzes at text web site (go to the link above and open the "Choose One" box)	10 per chapter	30 maximum
Do research for the instructor	10 per task	20 maximum
Community, work, or JCC service	variable	40 maximum

Look at "Earning Activity Points" on the course web site for details on how to participate in these activities and how your effort will be graded.

## Grading System

Grades will be based on points earned on all tests, assignments, and activity points. Occasionally an unannounced quiz or in class assignment will be given (there will be no make ups on unannounced quizzes or assignments). Class average will be used to determine the points needed for a 2.0 grade. Usually this is around 70%. If something prevents you from successfully completing the course, please talk to the instructor so that a solution may be worked out. If you feel you must drop check with Student Services for the final drop date. After that date college policy requires a 0.0 grade be given.

## Tutoring and Study Groups

You can reach economics tutors at the Center for Student Success in BW 123 or by calling 796 8415. Students requiring special assistance (including those affected by the Americans with Disabilities Act) should contact the Center.

There will also be at least one economics study group, maybe more. The instructor will have more information on this.

## How To Do Well in This Class

Economics is a hard subject which means it takes more time to learn it. Previous students who did well in this class reported they spent at least six hours a week outside of class studying economics. Reading the text is important but you should also use the other class resources on the course and text web sites. Some students like to use the Study Guide that accompanies the text. Tutors and study groups are available and are good sources of help.

It's important for students to get as much out of class time as possible. To minimize disruptions please turn off cell phones and pagers or set them for silent alert. Please don't leave the room once the class has begun.

## **JCC Academic Honesty Policy**

Academic honesty is expected of all students. It is the ethical behavior that includes producing their own work and not representing others' work as their own, either by plagiarism, by cheating, or by helping others to do so.

Plagiarism is the failure to give credit for the use of material from outside sources. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

- Using data, quotations, or paraphrases from other sources without adequate documentation
- Submitting others' work as your own
- Exhibiting others behaviors generally considered unethical

Cheating means obtaining answers/material from an outside source without authorization. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- Plagiarizing in all forms
- Using notes/books without authorization
- Copying
- Submitting others' work as your own or submitting your work for others
- Altering graded work
- Falsifying data
- Exhibiting other behaviors generally considered unethical

### **Collaboration**

While JCC encourages students to collaborate in study groups, work teams, and with lab partners, each student should take responsibility for accurately representing his/her own contribution.

### **Consequences/Procedures**

Faculty members who suspect a student of academic dishonesty may penalize the student by taking appropriate action up to and including assigning a failing grade for the paper, project, report, exam, or the course itself. Instructors should document instances of academic dishonesty in writing to the Academic Dean.

### **Student Appeal Process**

In the event of a dispute, both students and faculty should follow the Conflict Resolution Policy. The policy is presented in the Student Rights and responsibilities (student handbook) and the Master Agreement.

\*Refer to Student Complaint Process for Academic Complaint form.