

Economics Survey Course Description

The changing face of a global economy

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By the time this class is finished students should have a basic survey of:

- A) The role and function of the U.S. economy
- B) The effect on the economy of other countries
- C) Money, trade, and goods

Texts to be used

~Selected websites

~ *The Everything Government Book* (ch.15)

~Selected writings

Grades will be based on

- 1) Weekly paper (4)~50 pts. each
- 2) Midterm- test (take home) 50 pts.
- 3) Participation in discussions ~100 pts.
- 4) Final test (take home) ~50 pts.
- 5) Final project – 100 pts

Total 500

Weekly papers should be: 2-5 pages Typed, and double spaced.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1

Intro/ macro/micro, supply and demand

The business cycle/ school of econ.

Fiscal policy/ budget deficits

Monetary policy/ money credit, and banking

Paper: What is happening to the economy? Describe in detail, what happened, and what is being done to fix it?

Week 2

Unemployment/ inflation

International trade/ protectionism

The international monetary system/ exchange rates/ trade deficits.

Paper: Current event of your choice. –who, what, when, where, why.

Week 3

Supply and demand equilibrium, how prices are set, consumer behavior, producer behavior, perfect competition, market structure, conduct and performance

Paper: Pick one economic concept (i.e. capitalism, free enterprise, communism, minimum wage, economics of an industry, etc.) and tell about it.

Week 4

Government interventions, the good the bad and the ugly; taxation, land, labor, and capital.

Paper: Review one of the documentaries that we have watched, or another economically significant documentary.

Week 5

Summary class discussions, summery writings. Final project presentations

Daily Class Break Down

A) Class discussion about thought ideas about the readings and what's being learned (50 minutes)

B) Access the readings, work on your papers, and develop your project (50minutes)

C) Reconvene as a class for the final discussion (5 minutes)

Videos

~ *The Corporation*, ~*Enron*, ~*The smartest Guys in the room*, ~*Sicko*, ~*Frontline*



Most of the course materials will be available at <http://jeclark.org/> ~Click on Assignments