

Economics (ECON)

ECON 204 INTRODUCTION TO MACROECONOMICS (4)

An examination of the basic characteristics of the American economy and the principles that determine its performance. Emphasis is given to those factors that determine the levels of production, employment, prices, interest rates, and inflation. Satisfies GE Area D5 (Contemporary International Perspectives).

ECON 205 INTRODUCTION TO MICROECONOMICS (4)

An examination of the basic principles that determine the behavior of individual consumers and firms in the United States economy as they respond to changing economic conditions. Topics include demand, supply, pricing, production, cost, competition, and industrial structure. This course may be taken before ECON 204. Satisfies GE Area D1 (Individual and Society).

ECON 217 STATISTICS FOR ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS (4)

Microsoft Excel based statistics. Topics include the collection and presentation of data, discrete and continuous distributions, probability and sampling theory, statistical inference and hypothesis testing. Parametric and nonparametric statistical tests will be examined, including t-tests, Chi-square, and ANOVA. Additional topics include regression, time series analysis, and applications in business forecasting. Prerequisites: computer competency and pre-business math requirement.

ECON 295 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM (1-4)

A community service course allowing students the opportunity to earn credit for volunteer activities pertaining to their academic program. Requires 30 hours of service per unit and approval by an Economics Department advisor. Cr/NC only.

ECON 303 INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS (4)

A study of issues, theories, and policies regarding international trade and finances, international movements of capital and labor, economic development, external debt, and foreign aid. Prerequisites: ECON 204 and 205 or consent of instructor.

ECON 304 INTERMEDIATE MACROECONOMIC THEORY (4)

A study of economic theories that explain the levels and fluctuations in production, employment, income, money, and prices in an economic system, with an emphasis on the macroeconomic framework of the U.S. economy. Topics include national income accounting, models of short-run equilibrium and long-run growth, macroeconomic aspects of international economics, labor markets, monetary policy, and fiscal policy. Prerequisites: ECON 204, ECON 205, and MATH 165 or BUS 211 or ECON 217 or equivalents.

ECON 305 INTERMEDIATE MICROECONOMIC THEORY (4)

A study of theories that explain consumer behavior and managerial decision-making in organizations and firms in the economy. Deals with theories of demand, pricing, production, cost analysis, and competition. Prerequisites: ECON 204, ECON 205, and MATH 165 or BUS 211 or ECON 217 or equivalents.

ECON 311 PUBLIC ECONOMY (4)

A basic introduction to the economics of the public sector designed to give the student a broad overview of the economic roles of government in our society. Emphasis will be on understanding current public policy issues and the effects of government policies on resource allocation (efficiency) and income distribution (equity). Prerequisites: ECON 205 and ECON 317 or consent of instructor.

ECON 317 INTRODUCTION TO ECONOMETRICS (4)

Statistical techniques, based on linear regression, most frequently employed in economics. Topics include multiple regression, Gauss-Markov Theorem and its violations, cross-sectional techniques, time series analysis, simultaneous equation modeling, and forecasting. Applying widely-used computer programs to economic phenomena is emphasized. Prerequisites: ECON 204, ECON 205, and MATH 165 or BUS 211 or ECON 217, or equivalents or consent of instructor.

ECON 319 MANAGERIAL ECONOMICS (4)

Economic analysis applied to the management decisions of public or private firms. The course is oriented to case studies that illuminate the content and applicability of such basic economic concepts as marginality, opportunity costs, and market structure. Topics include: demand analysis, resource allocation, production economics, and cost analysis; profitability analysis; price and nonprice competition; capital budgeting; and long-range strategy formulation. Prerequisites: ECON 305 and 317.

ECON 321 LABOR ECONOMICS (4)

A study of economic and social issues in U.S. labor markets. Topics will include U.S. labor history, market structure, labor laws, gender and race, education and training, and collective bargaining. Prerequisite: ECON 205.

ECON 322 URBAN ECONOMICS (4)

An exploration of issues facing communities and regions in their attempts to manage growth and enhance the quality of life. Microeconomic tools are applied in a spatial context to solve problems associated with land use, firm location, transportation, housing, congestion, open space, and environmental protection. Prerequisite: ECON 204 and 205.

ECON 330 GAME THEORY (4)

Analytical approach to studying rational behavior in interactive situations. This course develops basic theory, including Nash equilibrium, mixed strategies, credibility, coalitional games, and the core. Applications may include public goods, voting, auction design, bargaining, and the competitive market mechanism. Prerequisites: ECON 305 and MATH 165 or BUS 211 or ECON 217. MATH 161 recommended.

ECON 375 MONEY AND BANKING (4)

An examination of financial institutions, monetary theory, and the rapidly changing domestic and international banking system. Topics will include alternative theories of monetary policy, the determination of interest rates and price levels, and the influence of financial institutions on inflation, recession, and growth. Prerequisites: ECON 204 and ECON 205, or consent of instructor.

ECON 381 NATURAL RESOURCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS (4)

A study of public and private sector strategies for achieving the optimal use of natural resources and the control of pollution. Topics include: energy, water, minerals, forests, air pollution, climate change, and the valuation of environmental benefit and costs. Prerequisites: ECON 204 and 205, or consent of instructor.

ECON 388 ECONOMICS AND LAW OF BUSINESS REGULATION (4)

An analysis of the regulatory environment of American business. Studies the way the legal system resolves economic conflicts among business, consumers, labor, and government. Topics include: constitutional law, administrative law, regulation of monopoly and competition, labor law, and international law. Prerequisite: ECON 205 and ECON 305 preferred.

ECON 403A SEMINAR IN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (4)

Review of current issues and study of conceptual frameworks for thinking about economic development with a global perspective. Focuses on sources of economic growth, poverty alleviation, resource sustainability, and reform of economic institutions in Latin America, Africa, Asia, and ex-socialist economies. Prerequisites: ECON 303 and 304, or consent of instructor.

ECON 403B SEMINAR IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE (4)

This course covers international trade, foreign direct investment, and immigration. Topics include international trade under imperfect competition and policies to regulate international trade. Vertical and horizontal foreign direct investment models and the relationships among direct foreign investment, immigration, and international trade will be examined. Prerequisites: ECON 303 and ECON 305.

ECON 403C SEMINAR IN INTERNATIONAL FINANCE (4)

The goal of this course is to explain movements in the trade balance, exchange rates, national output, and inflation. The first portion of the course develops building blocks regarding these movements. The second part of the course develops a theoretical framework which we will use to analyze policy issues such as the sustainability of the U.S. trade deficit, the Asian currency crisis, the Argentine crisis, the European Monetary Union and the Euro, the debt crisis, the international monetary system, and capital market integration. Prerequisites: ECON 303, 304, and 317 or equivalents with consent of instructor. Do not take this class without these prerequisites.

ECON 404 SEMINAR IN MACROECONOMIC THEORY (4)

A study of theories dealing with inflation, unemployment, macro-economic policies, equilibrium, and disequilibrium. Topics may include: investment, growth theory, monetary theory, international trade, aggregate demand and supply, comparative statics, post-Keynesian economics, and recent theoretical developments and policy issues. Prerequisites: ECON 304 and MATH 165, or equivalents.

ECON 405 SEMINAR IN MICROECONOMIC THEORY (4)

This course is devoted to explorations of economic theory and policy issues and is designed to deepen student understanding of economic theory learned in ECON 305. Prerequisites: ECON 305 and MATH 165, or equivalents or consent of instructor.

ECON 408 SEMINAR IN MATH APPLICATIONS IN ECONOMICS (4)

Applications of mathematical techniques in economics. Construction of micro- and macroeconomic models using calculus and linear algebra. Topics include: optimization, competition, supply and demand, national income, growth theory, general equilibrium, disequilibrium, and dynamics. Recommended for students considering graduate study in economics or business. Prerequisites: ECON 304, ECON 305, and MATH 161, or equivalents or consent of instructor.

ECON 411 SEMINAR IN PUBLIC ECONOMICS (4)

Applications of economic theory to public project analysis for students seeking careers in the public sector. Topics include: resource allocation, modeling and simulation, decision theory, fiscal impact analysis, benefit-cost analysis, government investment criteria, and project evaluation. Prerequisite: ECON 304 and 305, or consent of instructor.

ECON 417 SEMINAR IN ECONOMETRICS AND FORECASTING (4)

This course is devoted to explorations of statistical applications and theory used to analyze economic phenomena and is designed to deepen the student's understanding of econometric and forecasting techniques learned at a basic level in ECON 317. Prerequisites: ECON 317, 304 or 305, or consent of instructor.

ECON 419 SEMINAR IN MANAGERIAL ECONOMICS (4)

An exploration of the problems facing American firms in competing in a global economy. Topics include: product markets, production efficiency, technology, competitive markets, generic industry environments, and competitive strategies. Students will write and present case studies of firms and industries. Prerequisites: ECON 304, 305, 317.

ECON 421 SEMINAR IN LABOR ECONOMICS (4)

An analysis of the theory of labor supply and demand. Topics include: wage determination and the theory of human capital, labor force participation, antipoverty programs, the causes and consequences of wage inequality, theories of race and gender discrimination, the role and effects of labor unions, and the effects of the minimum wage on employment and income. Prerequisites: Econ 305 and 317, or consent of instructor.

ECON 426 SEMINAR IN HISTORY OF ECONOMIC THOUGHT (4)

The interaction of economic thought, economic policy, and political ideology from mercantilism to the present day. The works of Smith, Malthus, Ricardo, Marx, Marshall, Keynes, and the post-Keynesians are discussed in the context of the economic problems of their times. Satisfies GE Area D5 (Contemporary International Perspectives). Prerequisites: ECON 204 and 205, or consent of instructor.

ECON 432 SEMINAR IN U.S. ECONOMIC HISTORY (4)

Economic development of the United States since the American Revolution. Topics to be covered include: capital formation and the growth of business concentration, the distribution of national income; problems of agriculture, growth of the labor movement, patterns of inflation and depression, and the impact of international relationships on U.S. economic development. Prerequisite: ECON 204 or 205 or consent of instructor.

ECON 440 SEMINAR IN INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION (4)

Economists understand firm behavior by applying a simple rule for profit maximization: Marginal Revenue equals Marginal Cost. Models of perfect competition and monopoly are the simplest applications of this rule, but fail to explain many of the things firms do in real markets. Industrial Organization (IO) is motivated by observed deviations from the classical models of perfect competition and monopoly. Topics include models of price discrimination, product differentiation, oligopoly, entry deterrence, collusion, etc. in order to understand how different market institutions lead to different restatements of the profit maximization rule. Prerequisites: ECON 204, 205, 304, 305, and 317.

ECON 447 SEMINAR IN GENDER AND ECONOMICS (4)

The course explores feminist and neoclassical economic contributions to gender analysis. The main focus will be on work, development, and globalization. Topics explored in depth will include the environment, the family, and methodological issues. The diversity of women's experience, due to their differing racial, class, geographical, and cultural positions will also be emphasized. Prerequisites: ECON 204 and 205, or consent of instructor.

ECON 449 SEMINAR IN PROGRAM EVALUATION (4)

This class aims to teach students to apply and interpret the counterfactual model and associated methods in answering policy-relevant questions. The primary focus will be on study design: identifying causal questions and variables of interest, how the question would be answered, necessary assumptions, and potential sources of bias. Prerequisite: ECON 317.

ECON 454 SEMINAR IN BEHAVIORAL AND EXPERIMENTAL ECONOMICS (4)

Economics is the study of how people make choices in a world with constraints. In Neoclassical models, behavior is based on assumptions that may or may not be true. Behavioral economics, on the other hand, takes as its starting point actual behavior (observed either experimentally or in naturally occurring situations), using observations to incorporate more realistic psychological foundations. Typically this means enriching the theory rather than replacing it. Experimental methods are particularly useful in this kind of research. Prerequisites: Econ 305 and Econ 317.

ECON 481 SEMINAR IN ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS (4)

An exploration of the sustainable use of three types of capital: natural, human, and financial. Public and private sector solutions are developed to promote the long-term viability of market-based economies. Topics include pollution control, fishery management welfare measurement, performance metrics, and product design. Prerequisites: ECON 204 and 205, or consent of instructor.

ECON 488 SEMINAR IN ECONOMICS AND LAW OF BUSINESS REGULATION (4)

Advanced topics in economic and legal aspects of business regulation. Prerequisites: ECON 204 and 205.

ECON 494 SPECIAL TOPICS IN ECONOMICS (1-4)

Course of lectures on a single topic or set of related topics not ordinarily covered in the economics curriculum. May be repeated for credit with a different topic. Prerequisite: consent of the instructor.

ECON 495 SPECIAL STUDIES (1-4)

Open to economics majors only. Prerequisite: consent of the instructor. May be repeated once for credit.

ECON 496 TUTORING ECONOMICS (2)

Intended for advanced students working as tutors in Economics courses.

Cr/NC only. Prerequisite for first semester of tutorial work: concurrent enrollment in ECON 497.

ECON 497 SEMINAR IN TEACHING ECONOMICS (2)

A faculty-directed seminar in teaching methods and concepts for students tutoring in economics. Cr/NC only. May be repeated up to 8 times for credit.

ECON 499 INTERNSHIP (1-4)

May be repeated twice for credit.

ECON 501 ECONOMICS OF MARKETS AND INDUSTRIES (2-3)

Price theory and resource allocation as applied to the analysis of market demand behavior and firm/industry production decisions. For the purpose of market demand estimations and forecasts, the course covers basic macroeconomic concepts (GDP and Price indexes, etc.). For the purpose of understanding industry performance, the course covers the basics of regulations. Prerequisite: a B.A. or B.S. degree.

ECON 595 SPECIAL STUDIES (1-4)

Independent study designed in consultation with instructor. Subject matter variable. Students must complete the standard SSU form. Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

Education (EDUC)

EDUC 150 PROSPECTIVE TEACHERS (3)

Focuses on realities of the classroom from the teacher's point of view. Includes child development, teachers' roles and responsibilities, and the culture of schools in a changing society. Includes an apprenticeship with a teacher. Grade only.

Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

EDUC 250 TEACHING IN A CHANGING WORLD (3)

This course is designed to provide an introduction to the classroom from teachers' points of view. Areas of content include child and adolescent development, teachers' roles and responsibilities, the culture of schools in a changing society, as well as an apprenticeship with a practicing teacher. Particular emphasis will be on teacher decision-making. Institutional changes that could improve teacher and student performance will also be explored. Each student will spend 30 hours observing and participating in an assigned public school classroom. Grade only.

EDUC 291 MENTORING IN SCHOOL BASED PROGRAMS (4)

Open to students who are tutoring in the community. Focus is on the profiles of mentors and mentees and how their individual and mutual relationships are affected: learning styles and strategies, self-esteem, perceived locus of control, communication, stress/anxiety, use/misuse of tutoring strategies, diversity, and social/family and educational systems. A wide variety of techniques and skills are used and developed by class participants to empower their tutees and to enhance their own effectiveness as a tutor/human being. Cr/NC only. Certificate received upon successful completion of training. Instructor permission required to enroll in the course. May be repeated for credit.

EDUC 295 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM (1-4)

CIP involves students in the community, performing such tasks as tutoring.

Students receive 1 to 4 units, depending on the specific tasks performed. A total of 6 units of CIP credit may be applied toward a degree. Cr/NC only. Recommend to have EDUC 250 as prerequisite, but not required. Thirty hours of fieldwork is mandatory. May be repeated for credit.

EDUC 329 THE MIGRANT EXPERIENCE (2)

An examination of the migrant plight in our society and educational system through study of the literature and by a direct, active contact with the migrant community. Grade only. Prerequisites: functional Spanish language skills and participation in the mini-corps program, or consent of instructor.

EDUC 390 SELECTED TOPICS IN EDUCATION (1-4)

May be repeated for credit under different topic.

EDUC 395 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM (1-4)

CIP involves students in the community, performing such tasks as tutoring, coaching, and reading for the blind. Students receive 1 to 4 units, depending on the specific tasks performed. A total of 6 units of CIP credit may be applied toward a degree. Cr/NC only.

EDUC 417 SCHOOL AND SOCIETY (3)

A critical examination of current issues in today's schools and future directions in education through the perspectives of history, philosophy, sociology, anthropology, and the politics of education. Content includes: trends, movements, and issues of the development of our present-day school systems and current educational practice; development of an individual philosophy of education through examination and evaluation of educational philosophies from early Greek through modern/post-modern thought; analysis of American society and its effect on the functioning of schools; the role of explicit and implicit cultural assumptions in educational contexts; and the influence of federal, state, and local governing agencies, the knowledge industry, and special-interest groups on education. Grade only. Satisfies GE, Area D1 (Individual and Society). Restricted to: juniors, seniors CRED, CREDC, CREDP, CRED2, plan of EDUC-MA and to credential student group (RUCR).