



Course Syllabus: General Economics

College of Business Administration
ECON 1333 X20

Spring 2026

1/20/26 to 5/8/26 with break from 3/9/26 to 3/15/26

Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Rob Shah, PhD, MBA, CPA, CMA

Office hours: Online by Appointment

Office phone: (602) 359-6710

E-mail: To ensure timely and consistent communication, all course-related questions and messages must be sent through the "**Messages**" feature within the D2L course. This is located in the upper toolbar within the course. For backup only, you can email me at rob.shah@msutexas.edu

Course Description

This course gives students a comprehensive introduction to international economics and finance. The first half of the course focuses on international trade theory and policy. This includes comparative advantage and the basis for trade, trade models, the international location of production, and the role of firms in the global economy. The second half of the course focuses on international finance and open economy macroeconomic issues. This includes issues of balance of payments, exchange rates, money, interest rates, price levels and output.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

**Krugman, *Essentials of Economics*, 12th Edition. Bradley Schiller. Boston: McGraw-Hill Irwin
ISBN 9781264122103 (REQUIRED)**

McGraw Hill Connect Registration

This course uses the McGraw Hill Connect lab.

Students can Register for McGraw Hill by clicking any Chapter Homework or Chapter Quiz in any Module in D2L.

Make sure you register with the same exact name you have in D2L.

Do NOT register using a "trial" account. That usually only lasts 2-3 weeks.

Once the registration is completed you can also access the Connect Course by clicking the Chapter Homework or Chapter Quiz in any Module.

Copyright

The class materials associated with this course are provided to facilitate student learning and are protected by the United States copyright laws. Dissemination or sale of the class material (including the World Wide Web) is not permitted. The class material is only available to students enrolled in the course that requires the use of the corresponding textbook. Students should abide by these restrictions. The publisher of the textbook owns the copyright for the class materials associated with this course.

Computer Operating System

The instructor uses Microsoft computer operating system. Students are responsible for submitting assignment documents/files that can be managed with the Microsoft operating system. The instructor will not be able to help students who use Mac computers due to different computer operating systems. I recommend you use a Microsoft operating system computer.

Course Prerequisites

Junior standing or above or consent of the chair, ECON 2333 and ECON 2433.

Course Learning Goals

The main objective of the course is to provide the student with an understanding of economics as a part of everyday life and introduce some basic economic concepts to help him/her better understand the economy of the United States and the world.

A. General Learning Goal:

1. **Critical Thinking and problem solving through critical analysis, evaluation, and interpretation of business information.** The students will demonstrate their abilities in critical thinking and problem solving and decision-making abilities by applying economic concepts to the problem/short essay section of homework, quizzes and examinations.
2. **Communication skills.** The students will demonstrate their abilities in effective and efficient skills in writing by applying economic concepts to the problem/short essay section of homework, quizzes, and examinations.
3. **Empirical and Quantitative Skills.** The student will demonstrate their competency in analyzing and interpreting economic data to make informed decisions on economic issues.
4. **Social Responsibilities.** The students will demonstrate their abilities in intercultural competency, civic knowledge, and the abilities to engage effectively in regional, national, and global economic issues.
5. **Personal Responsibilities.** The students will demonstrate their abilities in connecting choices, actions, and consequences to economic reasoning and ethical decision-making.

These general learning goals represent or are similar to those established by the Dillard College of Business Administration. The goals represent the skills that graduates will carry with them into their careers. While assessing student performance in obtaining these general learning goals, the College hopes to assess its programs. The assessments will assist us as we improve our curriculum and curriculum delivery.

B. Course Specific Learning Goals:

- Understand the nature of economics
- Understand economic incentives, motivations, and productivity
- Gain basic understanding of the U.S. economy
- Understand the demand and supply model
- Understand production and costs
- Understand pricing and production under competition and monopoly
- Understand the roles of government in the economy
- Become aware of the business cycle, economic growth
- Understand unemployment, inflation, and economic welfare
- Learn basic concepts of fiscal and monetary policies
- Gain basic knowledge of international trade and globalization

Teaching Method

This is an asynchronous course. All the reading material will be provided in the LMS. There are no live webinars.

Course Policies

A. Attendance Policy

Since this course is taught asynchronously over the web, we have no regular scheduled meeting times, and therefore no required in-classroom attendance. Your grade is completely determined by your work and participation. In lieu of a normal physical attendance policy based on absences, your attendance will be measured by your assignments being turned in on time and reading the discussion board posts.

Attendance will be checked every class period. Missing 2 classes during the semester is considered excessive by the instructor; therefore, students who reach this level of missed classes will be dropped by the instructor with a grade of “F”, given the university attendance policy. Additionally, missing 2 two assignments during the semester is also excessive; therefore, students who reach this level of missed assignments will get a final grade of “F”, given the university attendance policy, as shown in the Student Handbook which may be found at [Handbook](#).

B. Other Policies

Academic Integrity:

Regarding academic honesty, students are referred to the “Student Honor Creed” (See the Student Handbook).

Assignment submissions that do not represent students’ own work will receive zero credits. Be careful when using ChatGPT/AI because it can cause zero credits on a submission.

Exam Policies:

Exam policies are related to academic integrity and can also be stated on the first page of the test.

Syllabus Change Policy:

This syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change.

Correspondence:

All correspondence regarding class issues must be communicated by LMS messaging system or by email using Midwestern State University (MSU) email. I will not return answers to questions to other email accounts. Grades will be posted on D2L and on MSU Banner. I will not discuss grades or class standing over the phone or by emails. Since email is often the most convenient means of communication, it is recommended that students use and regularly monitor their MSU email account. Grades will not be transmitted electronically (e.g., emails).

Please link your D2L email with your MSU email, so the messages sent through D2L will be delivered to your MSU email. To do this,

- Log in to D2L.
- Click on your name on the right upper corner of the screen.
- Click on “account settings”.
- Click on “email”.
- Check “Forwarding incoming messages to an alternate email account” and enter your email in the box.
- Click on “save and close”.

Netiquette: Communication Courtesy Code:

Students are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, class discussions, lecture hall posts, chats, etc. If I consider any of them to be inappropriate or offensive, I will forward the message to the Chair of the department and the online administrators and appropriate actions will be taken.

Deadlines:

We cannot totally rely on cyberspace—emails get lost, and servers disconnect temporarily. Do not wait for the last hour to do your homework. Reply and check for replies on every email sent and received. The student is responsible for checking deadlines on D2L and submitting the work to the instructor on time. *I will not reply to emails regarding homework issues during the last 7 hours prior to the deadline.*

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

[Office of Student Conduct](#)

Chapter Homework, Chapter Quizzes, Mid-term and Final Exam

Exams: During the semester, there will be one midterm and one Final Exam. Mid-term Exam will cover chapter s1-7 and Final Exam will cover chapters 8-14. Each exam will have 110 MCQ/true-false questions. Students will have 240 mins to complete the exam. Detailed instructions are provided in McGraw Hill Exam page. Instructor can change the format of the exams if it is necessary.

If you miss an exam without prior approval from the instructor, please do not expect a make-up exam. With prior approval you may take a make-up exam during the week of finals if you wish. If you anticipate a valid reason for missing an exam, please inform the instructor in advance by email. An unexcused absence from an exam will result in a score of zero on that exam and may be compensated for by counting your final exam in its place with my approval, and a 20% penalty on that exam's score will be assessed. The exam dates are noted in the Tentative Course Schedule in this syllabus. The instructor can change the exam dates if it is necessary. Any changes in those dates will be announced as soon as possible and posted prominently on D2L as well as being announced in class.

Chapter Homework and Chapter Quizzes: There will be 14 homework and quizzes corresponding to each of the chapters that we will cover during the semester. The assignments will be completed in McGraw Hill Connect. There will be no make-up assignments under any circumstances. The student is responsible for having an appropriate internet connection. The student is responsible for submitting each assignment by the deadline set online in McGraw Hill Connect. The student will have an adequate amount of time for each assignment, and you must not fall behind. If you miss an assignment, you will earn zero credits. Each Homework will have 10 problem sums and will not have any time limit to complete. Each quiz will have 10 MCQ / True False questions and students will get 60mins to complete it. These assignments will need to be completed in the Module the chapters are covered.

No late work will be accepted after the course ends.

Grades will not be transmitted electronically (e.g., emails). Grades will be posted on D2L and on MSU Banner. I will not discuss grades or class standing over the phone or by emails. You are welcome to come by my office to discuss about your grade.

Table 1. Course Grading

Assessment	Maximum Points
Chapter Homework (14 x 100 pts each)	1,400
Chapter Quizzes (14 x 100 pts each)	1,400
Mid-term Exam (1100 pts)	1,100
Final Exam (1100 pts each)	1,100
Total Points	5,000

Moffett Library

Moffett Library provides resources and services to support student's studies and assignments, including books, peer-reviewed journals, databases, and multimedia materials accessible both on campus and remotely. The library offers media equipment checkout, reservable study rooms, and research assistance from librarians to help students effectively find, evaluate, and use information. Get started on this [Moffett Library webpage](#) to explore these resources and learn how to best utilize the library.

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into D2L through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Online Computer Requirements

This class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class.

**Assignments and tests are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests.*

Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center. *Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline!! There are many places to access your class! Our online classes can be accessed from any computer in the world which is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student helpdesk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations however they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help, log into D2L.

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. **HOWEVER**, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exists in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Student Wellness Center, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to Disability Support Services.

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled “*Run. Hide. Fight.*” which may be electronically accessed via the University police department’s webpage: ["Run. Hide. Fight."](#)

Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

Course Schedule

Table 2. Outline of the Course

MODULE/ DATE	READINGS	ASSIGNMENT
Module 1 01/20/26 - 01/25/26	Chapter 01- The Challenge of Economics	Introduction Discussion Chapter 1- Quiz Chapter 1- Homework
Module 2 01/26/26 - 02/01/26	Chapter 2- The U.S. Economy	Chapter 2- Quiz Chapter 2- Homework
Module 3 02/02/26 - 02/08/26	Chapter 3- Supply and Demand	Chapter 3- Quiz Chapter 3- Homework
Module 4 02/09/26 - 02/15/26	Chapter 4- Consumer Demand	Chapter 4- Quiz Chapter 4- Homework
Module 5 02/16/26 - 02/22/26	Chapter 5- Supply Decisions	Chapter 5- Quiz Chapter 5- Homework
Module 6 02/23/26 - 03/01/26	Chapter 6- Competition	Chapter 6- Quiz Chapter 6- Homework
Module 7 03/02/26 - 03/08/26	Chapter 7- Monopoly	Chapter 7- Quiz Chapter 7- Homework Mid-term Exam
Spring Break Week 03/09/26 - 03/15/26		
Module 8 03/16/26 - 03/22/26	Chapter 8- The Labor Market	Chapter 8- Quiz Chapter 8- Homework
Module 9 03/23/26 - 03/29/26	Chapter 9- Government Intervention in the Microeconomy	Chapter 9- Quiz Chapter 9- Homework
Module 10 03/30/26 - 04/05/26	Chapter 10- The Business Cycle	Chapter 10- Quiz Chapter 10- Homework
Module 11 04/06/26 - 04/12/26	Chapter 11- Aggregate Supply and Demand	Chapter 11- Quiz Chapter 11- Homework
Module 12 04/13/26 - 04/19/26	Chapter 12- Fiscal Policy	Chapter 12- Quiz Chapter 12- Homework
Module 13 04/20/26 - 04/26/26	Chapter 13- Money and Banks	Chapter 13- Quiz Chapter 13- Homework

Module 14 04/27/26 - 05/03/26	Chapter 14- Monetary Policy	Chapter 14- Quiz Chapter 14- Homework
Module 15 05/04/26 - 05/08/26	No Reading	Final Exam

Notes: Subject to some changes and additional readings. The instructor can change the exam dates and location if it is necessary. Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Follett Access Communication for Students

To: Students enrolled in ECON 1333 X20, X21

From: Dr. Rob Shah

Re: MSU Texas Access & Affordability Program (aka Follett Access)

Mustangs,

ECON 1333 is included in the above program for the Spring semester. What does this mean?

- Your course material is in D2L on the first day of class, for everyone in your class. Your professor has opted to have this course in the program

to save you time and money. Your course is also connected to the publisher's website.

- The money-saving charge of \$101.50 + tax has been added to your student account, which is below the publisher's website price.
- You have the choice to “opt out” of this special pricing and find your material on your own. If you prefer to “opt out”, please see below. **The last day to “opt out” of this content is 01/27/2026.**
- How Do I Opt Out?
- Access Opt-Out Customer Portal Process – Student Experience
- The Follett Access Program delivers **all required digital course materials to students for any of the courses participating in the program** on or before the first day of class, with the cost of those materials being added as a course charge on your student account with the university or college. You can opt out of this program and acquire the required course materials on your own if you choose to.
- **Emailed Opt-Out Portal Link Process**

You will receive an email from noreply@follett.com to your my.msutexas.edu email. This email will provide you with directions and a link to the Opt-Out Portal.

Please check your junk or Spam filters for this email.

If you “opt out”, you lose your course material. If you “opt out” by mistake, please contact the bookstore at the email address below and you will be “re-instated” with your course materials.

For questions concerning the program or if you need assistance, please contact the Bookstore at jenny.denning@msutexas.edu.

