



## **Syllabus: Business and Economics Statistics**

ECON 3743, Section 101

Fall 2021

Monday and Wednesday 3:30 pm to 4:50 pm

Dillard Building 121

---

### **Contact Information:**

Instructor: Dr. Joseph Smalley

Office: Dillard Building 211-B

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday, 02:00 pm to 03:30 pm, and

Tuesday 8:00 am to 9:30 am.

Otherwise, by appointment.

Phone: 940-397-6227

Email: joseph.smalley@msutexas.edu

### **Text:**

Stiglitz, Joseph and Rosengard, Jay, 2015. *Economics of the Public Sector*, 4th ed. W. W. Norton & Company, Inc., New York, and London (Not Required)

### **Course Description:**

Students will apply economic methodology to the government arena.

Covered topics include descriptive taxes, failures of the free market system, government finance, and welfare applications.

### **Learning Goals:**

The general objective of this course is to help students understand fundamental role that government can and does have on the free-market system.

## **A. General Learning Goals:**

1. **Effective critical thinking and problem solving skills using statistical methods:** Students will demonstrate their abilities in critical thinking and problem solving and decision-making abilities by applying statistical methods through homework, in class discussions, and exams.
2. **Communication skills:** Students will demonstrate their abilities in effective and efficient communication skills when reporting results of statistical analyses.
3. **Social Responsibilities:** Students will demonstrate their abilities in intercultural competency, civic knowledge, and the abilities to engage effectively in regional, national, and global economic and business issues.
4. **Personal Responsibilities:** Students will demonstrate their abilities in connecting choices, actions, and consequences to statistical analysis and ethics.

These general learning goals are consistent with established Dillard College of Business Administration objectives. The goals represent the skills that graduates will benefit from throughout their careers.

The College may evaluate its progress by assessing student performance in obtaining these general learning goals. The program assessment assists in curriculum improvement and curriculum delivery enhancement.

## **B. Course Specific Learning Goals: Learn**

- application of the economic methodology to the public sector
- types and reasons for government interference
- government distribution and transfer programs
- cost-benefit analysis for public choice
- social insurance programs
- tax structure and efficiency
- types and impacts for personal and corporate taxes
- impacts of deficit finance

## **Teaching Method:**

Course material is based on class notes and readings. The student is encouraged to ask questions at any appropriate time. The instructor may introduce technology into the course.

The student will access D2L. The instructor will post class notes, assignments, announcements, and grades on D2L.

## **Course Policies:**

### **A. Attendance Policy:**

Class attendance is important because your instructor will announce specific course requirements, instructions for assignments, and detailed discussions of critical material in class. **Attendance will be checked each class day. Entering class late or departing early may impact attendance.** Come to class on time. To avoid disturbing the class, you are not to walk in and out of the classroom during class except for an emergency. The instructor may consider attendance and participation in favor of a better grade if a student only misses a higher score by a narrow margin.

**Every five classes missed during the semester will result in a lowering of a student's final grade by one letter.**

**The last date withdrawal date for this course is 10/25/21.**

These policies are consistent with university attendance policy, as shown in the 2021-2022 Student Handbook and Activities ([Dean of Students Student Handbook Attendance Policy](#)).

### **B. Other Related Policies**

#### **Academic Integrity:**

Students should act and behave in an honorable manner. Please refer to the "Student Honor Creed" (See "Student Hand Book 2021-2022) academic honesty regarding academic honesty,

#### **Exam Policies:**

Exam policies fall under academic integrity.

#### **Americans with Disability Act:**

This class follows the guidelines suggested by the Center for Counseling and Disabilities Services for those students who qualify for disability services. Please notify the instructor of your special needs during the first week of classes (See the section on "Disability Support Services" in the Student Handbook 2021-2022).

#### **Dillard Building Classroom Policy:**

- There will be no food or drinks in the classroom.

## **Syllabus Change Policy:**

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

## **Correspondence:**

A student should correspond with the instructor regarding class issues in person or by email using the **Midwestern State University (MSU) email system**. I will not return answers to questions to other email accounts. I will post grades on D2L and on MSU Banner. Since email is often the most convenient means of communication, the student should regularly monitor their MSU email account.

The student should link their D2L email with their MSU email. D2L will forward messages to the student's 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 should follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, class discussions, lecture hall posts, chats, etc. If a communication is inappropriate or offensive, the instructor may forward the message to the department Chair and online administrators for appropriate action.

## **Deadlines:**

One cannot totally rely on cyberspace - emails get lost and servers sometimes temporarily disconnect. 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 for submitting the work to the instructor on time.

## **D2L Grades:**

The student is responsible for periodically checking their grades on D2L for consistency and completeness. **There will be no grade adjustments after final week of classes for discrepancies between D2L and student maintained records.**

## Classroom decorum:

- Free discussion, inquiry, and expression are encouraged in this class.
- Classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor's ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of students to benefit from the instruction is not acceptable. **The first time a student violates this rule, the instructor will give the student a verbal warning. The second time a student violates this rule, the instructor will ask the student to leave the discussion and a possible 20-point final score penalty may be assessed.**
- A student that routinely enters class late or departs early should expect will be marked absent.
- Use of laptop computers, iPad, or other electronic devices is not allowed in this class. These devices must be turned off. **The first time a student violates this rule, the instructor will give the student a verbal warning. The instructor may ask a student to leave should a second violation occur. The final score may assessed a 20-point penalty.**
- Use of cellular phones is not allowed in this class. Cellular phones must be turned off. **The first time a student violates this rule, the instructor will give the student a verbal warning. The instructor may ask a student this violates this rule to leave the room. The instructor may impose a possible 20-point penalty on the student's final score.** In the event that a student legitimately needs to carry a cellular phone to class, prior notice and approval of the instructor is required.
- Repeatedly talking in class without being recognized, talking while others are speaking, or arguing in a way that is perceived as "crossing the civility line" is not allowed. **The first time a student violates this rule, the instructor will give the student a verbal warning. The second time a student violates this rule, the instructor will ask the student to leave the room and a 20-point penalty on the final score will be assessed.**
- Classroom behavior which is deemed inappropriate and cannot be resolved by the student and the faculty member will be handled as per the Code of Student Conduct as shown in the 2021-2022 Student Handbook which may be found at [Dean of Students - Student Handbook - Code of Conduct](#).

**The instructor may assess a possible 20-point penalty on your final score for violating each of these rules.**

## Exams, Coursework and Grades

Exams: During the semester, there will be two midterm exams (200 points each) and a comprehensive final exam (320 points). Every student will be required to take the final exam. The exams' structure can include definitions, problems, short essays, and multiple-choice questions. Exams may be on D2L.

If a student fails to submit an exam prior to the due date, **the student should not expect a make-up exam. The instructor may allow a student to take a make-up an exam by counting the next exam or final exam in its place. There may be assessed a five percent penalty.**

The exam due dates are noted in the Tentative Course Schedule in this syllabus. The instructor can change the exam dates if necessary. The instructor will announce date changes as soon as possible and posted prominently on D2L.

Homework and Quizzes: There will be 14 homework Review Questions (HW-A), and 14 homework Problems and Applications (HW-B) corresponding to each of the chapters that we will cover during the semester. The student will complete the assignment using D2L. **There will be no make-up assignments under any circumstances.** The student is responsible for having an appropriate internet connection. **If you do not have appropriate internet connection and fail to submit an assignment, do not expect a make-up assignment.** The student is responsible for submitting each assignment by the deadline set online. The student will be provided plenty of time for each assignment and should not fall behind.

#### **Senate Bill 11:**

Senate Bill 11 passed by the 84th Texas Legislature allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus, effective August 1, 2016. Areas excluded from concealed carry are appropriately marked, in accordance with state law. For more information regarding campus carry, please refer to the University's webpage at [campus-carry/rules-policies](http://campus-carry/rules-policies).

#### **Course Grade:**

Course work			<b>Grade Scale</b>	<b>Percentages</b>	<b>Letter</b>
14 Review Questions (HW-A)	(20 each)	280 Pts	900 to 1,000 pts	90% & above	<b>A</b>
2 Mid-term Exam Scores	(200 each)	400 Pts	800 to 899 pts	80% to 89%	<b>B</b>
Final Exam Score	(320 each)	320 Pts	700 to 799 pts	70% to 79%	<b>C</b>
Total		1,000 Pts	600 to 699 pts	60% to 69%	<b>D</b>
			Below 600	Below 60%	<b>F</b>

## Course Outline

ECON 3743.101  
Fall 2021

**(Subject to change)**

Week and dates	Chapter	Topic
Week 1 (Aug. 22)	1	Syllabus D2L Public Sector Responsibilities
Week 2 (Aug. 30, Sept. 1)	2	Public Sector Size
Week 3 (Sept. 8)	3	Market Efficiency
Week 4 (Sept. 13, 15)	4	Market Failure
Week 5 (Sept. 20, 22)	5	Public Goods <b>(Test 1: Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)</b>
Week 6 (Sept. 27, 29)	6	Externalities
Week 7 (Oct. 4, 6)	7	Efficiency
Week 8 (Oct. 11, 13)	8	Public Production
Week 9 (Oct. 18, 20)	9	Public Choice
Week 10 (Oct. 25, Oct. 27)	22	Taxation <b>(Test 2: Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9, 10)</b>
Week 11 (Nov. 1, 3)	13	Health Care
Week 12 (Nov. 8, 10)	14	Education
Week 13 (Nov. 15, 17)	15	Welfare Economics
Week 14 (Nov 22)	16	Social Insurance
Week 15 (Nov, 29, Dec. 1)	N/A	Review
<b>Final Exam</b>	N/A	<b>TBA</b>

Note: The instructor retains the right to change the exam dates.