**PVAMU Course Syllabus**

**Principles of Macroeconomics – Fall 2011 (online)**

Department of Management and Marketing, College of Business

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instructor Name:</th>
<th>Lawrence McNeil</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office Location:</td>
<td>Architecture, Room 229C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Phone:</td>
<td>936-261-9205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax:</td>
<td>936-261-9220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email Address:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lrmcneil@pvamu.edu">lrmcneil@pvamu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mail (U.S. Postal Service) Address:</td>
<td>Prairie View A&amp;M University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P.O. Box 519</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mail Stop 2315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prairie View, TX 77446</td>
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**Office Hours:** Mondays and Tuesdays 2:00pm – 5:00pm

**Virtual Office Hours:** E-mail as needed to arrange telephone and/or chat meetings. See Communications and Expectations below.

**Course Location:** Online

**Class Meeting Days & Times:** Class is completely online. Please see course schedule below.

**Course Abbreviation and Number:** ECON 2123 – CRN: 14176

**Catalog Description:** Credit 3 semester hours. Analysis of the principles and problems of money and banking, national income, public finance, international trade, and economic growth.

**Prerequisites:** N/A

**Co-requisites:** N/A


During this course, to complete certain assignments, you will be required to access the McGraw-Hill Connect educational website ([http://connect.mcgraw-hill.com/class/l_mcneil_online_section](http://connect.mcgraw-hill.com/class/l_mcneil_online_section)). Connect allows you to sign in to a single site to access course-related materials. The registration instructions can be found in E-courses. The registration cost with included ebook is $58.75 and without the ebook is $45.

**Other requirements**

- Free student subscription to the Wall Street Journal weekly e-mail on Macroeconomics ([http://www.wsjstudentweeklywrapup.com/sign_up.cfm?reflink=djem_swssi te_signup](http://www.wsjstudentweeklywrapup.com/sign_up.cfm?reflink=djem_swssi te_signup)).
- Calculator
Purchase options
Books can be purchased at the university bookstore. They can also be purchased at various online locations, such as:

www.amazon.com  
www.half.com  
www.abebooks.com  

Books can be rented online at:

www.chegg.com

While it is the student’s responsibility to acquire the book as quickly as possible, accommodations have been made at the university library to have the first two chapters available for download via the electronic reservation system. The link can be accessed at:


Cognate Readings and Other Online Resources
I will electronically distribute other readings/articles throughout the semester that will assist you with the comprehension of economic concepts. Students will be expected to stay abreast of current events. It is highly recommended that students maintain the daily practice of reading periodicals, journals, or newspapers for economics related material.

Additional information will be posted on E-courses. It is critical that you know how to use various features of E-courses proficiently. Communication regarding class matters (information updates, announcements, etc.) will primarily occur through E-courses.

The book publisher, McGraw-Hill, maintains an online student website, which can be accessed via

http://highered.mcgraw-hill.com/sites/0077230973/student_view0/.

Access to Learning Resources:

PVAMU Library:
phone: (936) 261-1500;
web: http://www.tamu.edu/pvamu/library/

University Bookstore:
phone: (936) 261-1990;
web: https://www.bkstr.com/Home/10001-10734-1?demoKey=d

Course Goals or Overview:
The goal of this course is to help understand how society decides to use scarce productive resources to satisfy material wants. As such, it is important to comprehend the principles related to the basic economizing problem, specific economic issues, and the policy alternatives.

Course Objectives/Accrediting Body: The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>At the end of this course, the student will</th>
<th>Alignment with Academic Program</th>
<th>Alignment with Core Curriculum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Be able to understand and apply the scope and nature of economics, and other key issues, such as the difference between micro and macroeconomics, significance of globalization, etc.</td>
<td>The preparation of managers of organizations requires a liberal arts education emphasizing an understanding of the economic, social and political issues in a multicultural environment. The major emphases in the management curriculum are on problem identification, analysis and solution, decision-making, business ethics, communications, team dynamics and leadership, as well as understanding and integrating the functional areas of business operations.</td>
<td>To employ the methods and dates that historians and social and behavioral scientist use to investigate the human condition.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Be able to understand and apply fundamentals of demand and supply and the dynamics of market equilibrium.</td>
<td>To use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories;</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Demonstrate the ability to measure national income and understand its limitations.</td>
<td>To develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues;</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Define, measure, and apply cost of living indices.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Be able to understand the factors that contribute to production and economic growth.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Identify basic issues about savings and investment and their significance to the national economy.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Understand different types of unemployment and their underlying factors.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Understand and apply the basics of the monetary system and problems and issues associated with inflation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Understand and apply business cycles, aggregate demand and supply, and how they determine national output.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Understand and apply the means by which public policies affect national output through aggregate demand and supply.</td>
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I. Course Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

**Exams/Quizzes** – written tests designed to measure knowledge of presented course material  
**Exercises** – written assignments designed to supplement and reinforce course material  
**Discussion/Participation** – participation in class activities and discussions

### Grading Matrix

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instrument</th>
<th>Value (percentages)</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online exams</td>
<td>3 exams comprising 45%</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online HWs</td>
<td>6-8 HWs (problem sets) comprising 20%</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online discussions</td>
<td>4-6 discussion postings comprising 15%</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Participation</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online final exam</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grade Determination:**  
A = 90 and above;  
B = 80 - 89;  
C = 70 - 79;  
D = 60 - 69;  
F = 59 or below

*The objectives of the course can successfully be met by:*

1) Purchasing, reading, and studying the required materials as well as properly taking and studying notes from online lectures.  
2) Reading the text and supplemental readings and preparing relevant questions.  
3) Participating in online class discussions and utilizing teams/study groups.  
4) Asking for and seeking help during office hours.  
5) Keeping all deadlines.

II. Grading/Course Procedures

The **Final Exam** will be cumulative (covering all the chapters discussed throughout the semester) and will **comprise 15% of your grade**. The Final Exam will be administered online during the last week of class and last up to 120 minutes.

**Exams**  
Exams will be administered online during the 4th, 8th, and 12th week of class (see Class Schedule below). Exams may consist of calculation problems, essay questions, and multiple-choice questions. Makeup exams will not be allowed. A grade of zero will be given for a missed exam.

**Homework Problem Sets**  
Problem sets are helpful reviews for the exams. All problem sets come with deadlines. Missing the deadline for a problem set for any reason will result in a grade of zero for that problem set. At end of the
semester, the lowest problem set grade will be dropped.

Discussion Posts
All students are required to participate in economics-related discussion postings in E-courses. Throughout the semester, the instructor will post discussion commentary. Students will then be required to thoughtfully respond.

The general criteria for economics-related discussion posts are:

1. Students have a set time limit to post their discussions.
2. All discussion comments must be relevant and thoughtful. Superfluous commentary will result in zero points towards the discussion grade.
3. Students must post original thoughts and not a restatement (direct or indirect) of another student’s thought. Therefore, it is in the students’ interest to post as early as possible.
4. The maximum grade for a discussion posting is 100. The minimum is zero. Points are awarded for degree of thoughtfulness and grammar. More than one posting is not encouraged.

(We will also use the discussion board for questions about content, assignments, or processes. Please use the discussion for these types of general issues, so that all students can benefit from the answers. These less formal discussions are not subject to the above general criteria.)

III. University Rules and Procedures

Formatting Documents
Microsoft Word is the standard word processing tool used at PVAMU. If you’re using other word processors, be sure to use the “save as” tool and save the document in either the Microsoft Word, Rich-Text, or plain text format.

Disability statement (See Student Handbook)
Students with disabilities, including learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in class should register with the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal laws, a student requesting special accommodations must provide documentation of their disability to the SSD coordinator.

Academic misconduct (See Student Handbook)
You are expected to practice academic honesty in every aspect of this course and all other courses. Make sure you are familiar with your Student Handbook, especially the section on academic misconduct. Students who engage in academic misconduct are subject to university disciplinary procedures.

Forms of academic dishonesty
1. Cheating: deception in which a student misrepresents that he/she has mastered information on an academic exercise that he/she has not mastered; giving or receiving aid unauthorized by the instructor on assignments or examinations.
2. Academic misconduct: tampering with grades or taking part in obtaining or distributing any part of a scheduled test.
3. Fabrication: use of invented information or falsified research.
4. Plagiarism: unacknowledged quotation and/or paraphrase of someone else’s words, ideas, or data as one’s own in work submitted for credit. Failure to identify information or essays from the Internet and submitting them as one’s own work also constitutes plagiarism.
Nonacademic misconduct (See Student Handbook)
The university respects the rights of instructors to teach and students to learn. Maintenance of these rights requires campus conditions that do not impede their exercise. Campus behavior that interferes with either (1) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class, (2) the inability of other students to profit from the instructional program, or (3) campus behavior that interferes with the rights of others will not be tolerated. An individual engaging in such disruptive behavior may be subject to disciplinary action. Such incidents will be adjudicated by the Dean of Students under nonacademic procedures.

Sexual misconduct (See Student Handbook)
Sexual harassment of students and employers at Prairie View A&M University is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Any member of the university community violating this policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

Any form of misconduct will result in disciplinary procedures, which can include a student receiving a grade of F in the course.

Attendance Policy
Prairie View A&M University requires regular class attendance. Excessive absences will result in lowered grades. Excessive absenteeism, whether excused or unexcused, may result in a student’s course grade being reduced or in assignment of a grade of “F”. Absences are accumulated beginning with the first day of class.

Student Academic Appeals Process
Authority and responsibility for assigning grades to students rests with the faculty. However, in those instances where students believe that miscommunication, errors, or unfairness of any kind may have adversely affected the instructor’s assessment of their academic performance, the student has a right to appeal by the procedure listed in the Undergraduate Catalog and by doing so within thirty days of receiving the grade or experiencing any other problematic academic event that prompted the complaint.

Technical Considerations for Online and Web-Assist Courses

Minimum Hardware and Software Requirements:
- Pentium with Windows XP or PowerMac with OS 9
- 56K modem or network access
- Internet provider with SLIP or PPP
- 8X or greater CD-ROM
- 64MB RAM
- Hard drive with 40MB available space
- 15” monitor, 800x600, color or 16 bit
- Sound card w/speakers
- Microphone and recording software
- Keyboard & mouse
- Netscape Communicator ver. 4.61 or Microsoft Internet Explorer ver. 5.0 /plug-ins
- Participants should have a basic proficiency of the following computer skills:
  - Sending and receiving email
  - A working knowledge of the Internet
  - Proficiency in Microsoft Word
  - Proficiency in the Acrobat PDF Reader
  - Basic knowledge of Windows or Mac O.S.
Netiquette (online etiquette)
Students are expected to participate in all discussions and virtual classroom chats when directed to do so. Students are to be respectful and courteous to others in the discussions. Foul or abusive language will not be tolerated. When referring to information from books, websites or articles, please use APA standards to reference sources.

Technical Support
Students should call the Prairie View A&M University Helpdesk at 936-261-2525 for technical issues with accessing your online course. The helpdesk is available 24 hours a day/7 days a week. For other technical questions regarding your online course, call the Office of Distance Learning at 936-261-3290 or 936-261-3282.

Communication Expectations and Standards
All emails or discussion postings will receive a response from the instructor within 48 hours. You can send email anytime that is convenient to you. Email messages are continuously checked during the day throughout the work-week (Monday through Friday) and responded to during the work-week by the close of business (5:00 pm) within 48 hours following the instructor's receipt of them. Emails received on Friday will be responded to by the close of business on the following Monday.

Discussion Requirement
This is an online course, therefore, there will be no face-to-face meetings on campus. However, we will participate in online conversations about the readings, materials, and other aspects of the course. We will use the discussion board to accomplish this.

Students are required to log-on to the course website often to participate in discussions. It is strongly advised that you check the discussion area daily to keep abreast of discussions. When a topic is posted, everyone is required to participate. The exact use of discussions will be determined by the instructor.

It is strongly recommended that students type their formal discussion postings in Word and save to their PCs or flash drives before posting to the discussion board. This is important for two reasons. First, if your discussion comments are lost in the online course, you will have a backup copy. Second, grammatical errors can be minimized by the use of Word's spell-check feature. The grammatical correctness of your posts is just as important as the posts themselves. Once the posts have been typed and corrected in Word, it can be pasted to the discussion board.
HAVE AN INSPIRED SEMESTER

1) The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of strength, not a lack of knowledge, but rather a lack in will.
   -Vince Lombardi

2) Winning isn't everything, but wanting to win is.
   -Vince Lombardi

3) A wise person will make more opportunities than they find.
   -Francis Bacon

4) Who aims at excellence will be above mediocrity; who aims at mediocrity will be far short of it.
   -Burmese Saying

5) One important key to success is self-confidence. An important key to self-confidence is preparation.
   -Author Ashe

6) A dream doesn’t become a reality through magic; it takes sweat, determination, and hard work.
   -Colin Powell

7) It’s easy to make a buck. It’s a lot tougher to make a difference.
   -Tom Brokaw

8) Most of the things worth doing in the world had been declared impossible before they were done.
   -Louis Brandeis

9) Be as smart as you can, but remember that it is always better to be wise than smart.
   -Alan Alda

10) Quality is not an act, it is a habit.
    -Aristotle

11) We can’t become what we need to be by remaining what we are.
    -Oprah Winfrey
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week #</th>
<th>Week of</th>
<th>Required Reading/Chapters</th>
<th>Homeworks/Discussions</th>
<th>Exams</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>29-Aug</td>
<td>Chapter 1: Limits, Alternatives, and Choices</td>
<td>HW1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>5-Sep</td>
<td>Chapter 2: The Market System and the Circular Flow</td>
<td>Discussion #1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>12-Sep</td>
<td>Chapter 3: Demand, Supply, and the Market Equilibrium</td>
<td>HW2</td>
<td>Exam 1: Chapters 1-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>19-Sep</td>
<td>Chapter 4: Public Goods and Externalities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>26-Sep</td>
<td>Chapter 5: GDP and Economic Growth</td>
<td>HW3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>3-Oct</td>
<td>Chapter 5: GDP and Economic Growth</td>
<td>Discussion #3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>10-Oct</td>
<td>Chapter 6: Business Cycle, Unemployment, and Inflation</td>
<td>HW4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>17-Oct</td>
<td>Chapter 6: Business Cycle, Unemployment, and Inflation</td>
<td>Exam 2: Chapters 4-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>24-Oct</td>
<td>Chapter 7: Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply</td>
<td>HW5</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>31-Oct</td>
<td>Chapter 8: Fiscal Policy, Deficits, and Debt</td>
<td>Discussion #4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>7-Nov</td>
<td>Chapter 8: Fiscal Policy, Deficits, and Debt</td>
<td>HW6</td>
<td>Exam 3: Chapters 7–8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>14-Nov</td>
<td>Chapter 9: Money and Banking</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>21-Nov</td>
<td>Chapter 10: Interest Rates and Monetary Policy</td>
<td>HW7</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>Thanksgiving Holiday (No Classes) - November 24 – 25</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>28-Nov</td>
<td>Chapter 10: Interest Rates and Monetary Policy</td>
<td>HW8</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>5-Dec</td>
<td>Last Class (Monday, December 5)</td>
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**FINAL EXAMINATION PERIOD - DECEMBER 9 – 14**

*Subject to change.