

**Contemporary Economics ECON 123 - FALL 2007 – WEDNESDAYS 6:05 – 8:45 p.m.**

**Blue Ridge CTC**

*Course Syllabus*

Instructor: John Nunes

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Text: Heyne, P., Boettke, P.J., & Prychitko, D.L. (2006). *The Economic Way of Thinking*. (11<sup>th</sup> ed.). Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall.

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**Course Description:** This course introduces students to economic concepts including theory of the firm, consumer behavior, macroeconomic theory, economic systems, and managerial economic principles that impact decisions in every venue of our lives.

**Course Objectives:** The major objective of this course is to gain a comprehension and appreciation for economic thinking; learning to apply economic concepts to aid in making informed decisions related to the home, the marketplace, at work, and as a member of society.

**Course Evaluation:** The course evaluation will consist of a *mid-term*, *final*, *class project* (1000-1400 words or 5-8 pages), *oral presentation*, and *class participation*. Evaluation criteria include the following:

	<u>Points</u>	<u>Percent</u>
<i>Mid-term</i>	<b>150</b>	<b>30%</b>
<i>Final</i>	<b>150</b>	<b>30%</b>
<i>Class Project - 5-8 pages focusing on Economic Topic of Choice</i>	<b>100</b>	<b>20%</b>
<i>Oral Presentation of Class Project (5 minutes)</i>	<b>50</b>	<b>10%</b>
<i>Class Participation - Based on participation and attendance</i>	<b>50</b>	<b>10%</b>
	<b>500</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Grading Policy:** This class is designed on a point system; final grade is calculated by dividing total points available by total points earned. A = 90% - 100%, B = 89% - 80%, C = 79% - 70%, D = 69% - 60%, F = Below 60%

**Program Assessment:** The faculty members of Blue Ridge CTC are dedicated to assuring that each student meets the educational objectives of the program. The educational objectives are developed and planned to assure that the program is producing graduates who will be successful in obtaining and maintaining positions in the entry-level business field and who will be quality employees. To achieve this goal, the faculty is committed to a systematic and comprehensive process of assessment of student learning. As part of this program assessment, students will from time to time asked to participate in non-graded assessment activities which may include, but are not be limited to, participation in role-playing simulations and completion of standardized written or practical examinations or pre and post graduation surveys.

**Academic Integrity:** - Cheating in all its forms, including plagiarism and cheating on visual work, is considered an academic matter to be controlled and acted upon by the instructor of this course. Students guilty of academic dishonesty on any graded assignments in this course will be penalized with a grade of F in the course. Such action shall be taken by the instructor, with written notification to the Dean of Academic Instruction at Blue Ridge CTC. Students involved in facilitating academic dishonesty among others, such as the unauthorized dissemination of examination materials, will be subject to disciplinary action as well.

**Withdrawal from this course:** - The last day to withdraw from this course is Friday November 9, 2007. The withdraw process requires signatures from both the professor and the student's academic advisor.

**Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to attend all classes. The course lectures and presentations are designed to strengthen and support the concepts introduced in each chapter and, ultimately the objectives of the course. Failure to regularly attend class will adversely affect final grade results based upon course evaluation guidelines.

**Prerequisites and co-requisites:** This course has no pre or co-requisites.

**Policy regarding late work and make up exams:** Scheduled presentations, papers, and may not be postponed and are due when scheduled. Exceptions will be granted only in rare extreme emergencies, e.g., excused documented severe illness.

Date	Chapter	Topic
8/22	Introduction	Survey/Course Overview
8/29	Chapter 1&2	Microeconomic fundamentals & Human Action
9/5	Chapters 3&4	Consumer/Market Behavior& Supply and Demand
9/12	Chapter 5&6	Pricing Theory / <i>Paper Topic Due</i>
9/19	Chapter 7&8	Theory of the Firm
9/26	Chapter 9	Industrial Organization & Game Theory
10/3	Chapter 10	Managerial Economics & Review
10/10	MID-TERM - Microeconomics	
10/17	Chapter 11&12	Overview of Macroeconomic Theory/ <i>Outline of Paper and Annotated Bibliography Due</i>
10/24	Chapter 13&14	Economic Systems
10/31	Chapter 15&16	Money & Employment
11/7	Chapter 17&18	Monetary & Fiscal Policy
11/14	Chapter 19&20	International Economics, Globalization & Growth
11/21	FALL BREAK	Happy Thanksgiving!!
11/28	<i>FINAL PAPER DUE</i> & PRESENTATIONS Chapter 21	Final Thoughts, Presentations & Review for Final
12/5	FINAL EXAM - 2/3 Macroeconomics/ 1/3 Microeconomics	

