

Econ 105 - Elements of Economics

Instructor: Dr. Cole R. Gustafson

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Homepage Location: <http://blackboard.ndsu.nodak.edu/>

Are you ready for an online course? Go here to find out <http://www.ag.ndsu.nodak.edu/colag/distance-qa.htm>

Self-Paced (Online) Section

This is a DCE distance education course. Be sure to check the note on Blackboard regarding fees and operation of this class.

Students enrolled in the Self-Paced, Online section of this course will cover the same material and take the same examinations as students enrolled in other sections. The only difference is that they will be able to progress through this course at their own speed. All of the class notes and examinations are online and ready for you to use in Blackboard.

All of the questions on pretest, chapter, and final exams will come directly from the book. By thoroughly reviewing the book, study guide, and class notes prior to each examination, you should be adequately prepared to successfully complete each test.

You are encouraged to pace yourself through the semester. The assignments section contains a schedule that will keep you on track.

There will obviously be times during the semester when you will need additional assistance in comprehending the material. I am available to assist you when you need help. Please feel free to email, phone, or contact me in person with questions. If the answer is short, I will try to reply by email or phone. Longer responses are easier for me to deliver in person. If several students have the same questions, I will schedule a help session.

Please read your Blackboard announcements as I will provide important updates and helpful hints there on a regular basis throughout the semester.

If you need more help, ACE Tutor is available (see tab in the Control Box to the left).

Textbook: *Survey of Economics*, by Robert L. Sexton ISBN-9781133164180

Textbook Options

Several options available at [NDSU bookstore](#). Download the eBook to your primary computer <http://textbooks.vitalsource.com>

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Course Description

Course provides an introduction to microeconomic and macroeconomic principles. In microeconomics, we will examine personal and business decision making. Alternative market structures, cost structures, and decision criteria will be explored. Macroeconomic topics will focus on appropriate fiscal and monetary policy actions for dealing with unemployment and inflation in our economy. International implications will be addressed.

This course has been approved for the Social and Behavioral Sciences Category 5 and Global Perspectives Category 8 in general education because it explains human behavior in the context of economic marketplace. You will meet General Education outcome 3 (“Comprehend the Concepts and Perspectives Needed to Function in National and International Societies”) and outcome 6 (“Integrate Knowledge and Ideas in a Coherent and Meaningful Manner”) when you successfully complete the economic problems presented in this course.

How to earn your grade: You must be enrolled in Blackboard. Points are earned through completion of homework in Aplia, exams at the end of each chapter, a possible midterm, and a possible final. All of the exams will be electronic.

Homework: The homework for the class will be in Aplia. There will be one assignment for each chapter. Homework in the class will count for 40% of the final grade.

Pre-tests: Ten-point practice pretests are available prior to each chapter exam but are not counted for credit.

Chapter Exams: There are seventeen (17) 15-point chapter exams; one after each chapter. Each exam will consist of 15 questions, multiple choice, true or false, and problem questions. There is a time limit of 30 minutes on each of the exams. Chapter Exams will count for 60% of your final grade. You can also take each exam as often as you like. The last score you leave is the one I pick up at the end of the semester. All work must be done by May 8 at 5pm.

Scores and Passwords: Test results will be available instantly for the exams. If it is a problem with the exams or pretests, please see either me or the ITS Help Desk in IACC 150, or 231-8685.

Term Grading Scale:

90% or above	A	These ranges are approximate. I do guarantee that at least 20% of class will get A's, etc. I reserve the right to raise or lower these values at my discretion, depending on class performance. Chapter exams and Pre-tests are not curved individually. If applicable, a curve is applied to course total points at the end of the semester.
80-89%	B	
70-79%	C	
60-69%	D	
59% or lower	F	

Testing and Grading Procedure: Since I do not know how far we will get in the textbook, I do not know how many Pre-tests and Chapter Exam points are available in total. I expect that we will cover about 17 chapters in total, but the exact number depends on student interests and preferences.

Special Considerations:

1. Students with **special needs** are encouraged to contact the [Counseling and Personal Growth Center](#) for assistance and so that your instructor may be aware of the situation.
2. You are encouraged to visit directly with the instructor about any suggestions you may have about this course.
3. You are expected to maintain the highest standards of **academic integrity** at all times. All students taking any course in the College of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Natural Resources are under the [Honor System](#), which is governed by students and operates on the premise that most students are honest and work best when their honesty and the honesty of others is not in question. It functions to prevent cheating as well as penalize those who are dishonest. It is the student's responsibility to report honor pledge violations to the instructor, the honor commission, or the Dean of the College. All work must be your own. To learn more about the CAFSNR Honor Commission view the video located on the side panel tab.
4. Veterans and student soldiers with special circumstances or who are activated are encouraged to notify the instructor in advance.