Course Title:
Public Finance-Issue/Taxation

Course Number:
ECON 4353-101

Course Description:
This course examines the economic rationales and effects of government spending and taxing programs. At the macroeconomic level, fiscal and monetary stabilization policies are analyzed. At the microeconomic level, the effects of specific tax and expenditure programs are analyzed.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:
Dates: March 16-18 & 23-25, 2012
Location: McCarter Hall of Advanced Studies, 1st floor executive classroom, Norman, Oklahoma.
Hours: Fri 5:30-9:00 p.m., Sat 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Sun 12:00-4:00 p.m.
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: February 16, 2012

Site Director:
Cathy Yeaman. Assistant: Jan Plavchak. Phone: 405-325-3333; Fax: 405-325-9148; email: apnorman@ou.edu

Professor Contact Information:
Course Professor: William Clark, Ph.D.
Mailing Address: Department of Economics
The University of Oklahoma
HEST #303
Norman, OK 73019
Telephone Number: (405) 325-6310
Fax Number: (405) 325-5842
E-mail Address: wclark@ou.edu
Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each class session, by appointment.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:
Student materials are available at the Follett/AP Bookstore located in the Oklahoma Memorial Union, 900 Asp Ave., Norman, OK. Orders can be placed online at www.oklahomaunion.bkstr.com or by telephone at 866-369-9713 (toll free in the U.S.) or 405-325-5960 (outside the U.S.). E-mail orders may be sent to oklahomaunion@bkstr.com. Representatives are available from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. CST Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. CST on Friday. Summer hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. CST. Faxed orders may be placed 24 hours a day to 866-223-5607 (toll free in the U.S.) or 405-325-1557 (outside the U.S.).

Note: The Follett/AP Bookstore is the Advanced Programs contractual textbook provider. Should text changes become necessary after publication of the course syllabus, Advanced Programs will facilitate text returns/refunds only for texts purchased through the Follett/AP Bookstore.

Course Objectives:
Students should gain a greater understanding of both micro and macro economic principles. More importantly, students should develop their abilities to apply these principles to “real world” economic policies.

Course Outline:

   a. Readings:
      i. Clark, Units I, II, III
      ii. Hazlitt, Ch. I, II, III, IV, VIII, X, XV, XVI, XVII, XIX

   a. Readings:
      i. Clark, Units IV, V, VI
      ii. Hazlitt, Ch. XXIII, XXIV, XXV, XXVI

III. The theory of public goods. Regulation of public utilities. The growth of the government sector.


V. The economic effects of taxation. Tax burdens and tax incidence. Personal income tax.
   a. Readings:
      i. Hazlitt, Ch. V.

VI. EXAM

Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:

Students in this course should complete the above readings before the course begins.

Post Seminar Assignment: A research paper based on Krugman’s Age of Diminished Expectations is assigned. The post seminar assignment will count for 25% of the course grade. Due date: April 15, 2012

Grading: This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F.

NOTICE: Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.
POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution’s policy regarding “I” (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy.

Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any “I” (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on “financial aid probation.” If the “I” grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student’s Financial Aid may be suspended make the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Honesty

Honesty is a fundamental precept in all academic activities and … [you] have a special obligation to observe the highest standards of honesty. Academic misconduct in any form is inimical to the purposes and functions of the University and is therefore unacceptable and is rigorously proscribed. Academic misconduct includes:

- cheating (using unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise),
- plagiarism,
- falsification of records, unauthorized possession of examinations, intimidation, and any and all other actions that may improperly affect the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement;
- assisting others in any such act; or attempting to engage in such acts.

All acts of academic misconduct will be reported and adjudicated as prescribed by the student code of the University of Oklahoma. All students should review the “Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity” found at http://www.ou.edu/provost/integrity

Accommodation Statement

The College of Continuing Education [Advanced Programs] is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your OU Site Director.

Course Policies

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course.

Copyright

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: http://www.goou.ou.edu/
INSTRUCTOR VITA

William M. Clark, Ph.D.

Education

1981 Ph.D. in Economics, University of Virginia

Current Positions

• Advanced Programs Professor since 1997
• Associate Professor of Economics, University of Oklahoma

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses

PSC/ECON 4353 Public Finance

Representative Publications and Presentations


Representative Honors and Awards Received

• University of Oklahoma Student Association Award for Outstanding Instruction and Service in the College of Business
• Finalist - Jonathan Hughes Memorial Prize for Excellence in Teaching Economic History
• Merrick Foundation Teaching Award in American Free Enterprise
• Hurley Roberson Teaching Fellowship
• Mortar Board Award and Sigma Delta Pi Award for Teaching Excellence
• Associates’ Distinguished Lectureship
• Fantus Corporation Outstanding Instructor Award and Distinguished Lecturer Award
• Associates Award for Exceptional Teaching