

WELCOME TO

FCS 3450: FAMILY ECONOMIC ISSUES

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisite: FCS 3210 or MATH 1040.
Fulfills QI & Soc/Beh Science Exploration.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

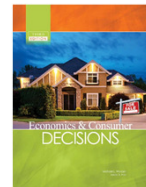
- In this course we will first examine economic principles related to family economic decision-making.
 - Examples of the concepts are: inflation, interest rate, present value and future value.
- These concepts are then applied to common consumer and family decisions.
 - Examples of applications include: housing decisions, financial investment and human capital investment.

INSTRUCTOR

- My contact information:
Dr. Jessie Fan
Office: 242 Alfred Emery Building (AEB)
Phone: 801-581-4170
- Please send all course-related emails through Canvas course website.
- My office hour:
Wednesdays and Fridays
10:00am- 11:30am or by appointment
- My webpage:
<http://content.csbs.utah.edu/~fan>

TEXTBOOK

- Economics and Consumer Decisions, 3rd Edition (2013), by Michael L. Walden and Jessie X. Fan. Kendall/Hunt Publishing Company. ISBN 978-1-4652-2538-2.



HOW YOU WILL BE GRADED ...

- Two proctored paper-based exams (74%)
- Weekly homework assignments (15%)
- Weekly quizzes (11%)

Grading Scale (Not Curved):

87.4%-85.0%	B+	90.0% or higher	A	87.5%-89.9%	A-
72.5%-74.9%	C+	77.5%-84.9%	B	75.0%-77.4%	B-
60.0%-62.4%	D+	65.0%-72.4%	C	62.5%-64.9%	C-
Lower than 50.0 %	F	52.5%-59.9%	D	50.0%-52.4%	D-

PROCTORED PAPER-BASED EXAMS

- There will be two paper-based exams, exam 1 and exam 2.
 - Exam 1 will cover the material from Units 1-6
 - Exam 2 is **not comprehensive** and will cover the material from Units 7-12.
 - These two exams will be scheduled through UOnline. For information about UOnline, please visit <https://uonline.utah.edu>. Please make sure to register for these two exams as early as possible to ensure that you get your choice of testing site.
 - If you are out of state, please contact UOnline as soon as possible to make arrangements.

WEEKLY TASKS AT A GLANCE

1. Each week, defined as from a Sunday to a Saturday, I ask you to do the following:
 1. Take the PowerPoint lesson designated for that week.
 2. Read the relevant chapters in the textbook and other reading material for that week.
 3. Watch posted videos, if any.
 4. Take the practice homework assignment
 5. Do the online assignment
 - Not timed but can only be submitted once. Grade counts
 6. Take the online practice quizzes
 - Not timed. Grade does not count.
 7. Take the timed actual online quiz for that week
 - Timed. Grade counts.

POWERPOINT LESSONS

- The PowerPoint lessons are my lecture notes.
- They provide outlines and emphases for the materials to be learned.
- There are Internet links embedded in these PowerPoint lessons so you can get useful and up-to-date information on the Web that can aid your further understanding of the topics.

READINGS

- After reading the PowerPoint lessons, you need to read the textbook in order to get more information and more examples.
- You should use the PowerPoint lessons as guidelines when reading the textbook chapters as the lessons provide structure for your reading.
- For this class, there are additional readings that are not in the textbook. There are links posted for those additional readings.

VIDEOS

- I have selected some videos related to this class to help you learn the concepts better. In most cases these videos repeat the concepts taught in the PowerPoint lectures, but in a different way.
- Sometimes the videos may also contain more in-depth information for you to explore. You will NOT be tested for the additional information.

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS

- For the assignments, you can access them multiple times, but you can submit the answers only once by the weekly deadline, which is **11:59pm on Saturdays of each week.**
- You get immediate feedback after you submit your homework assignment.

PRACTICE QUIZZES

- Doing the practice quizzes will help your understanding of the material and increase your scores on real quizzes and exams.
- The real quizzes will contain questions similar to those in the practice quizzes.
- You can take these practice quizzes as many times as you want.
- You get immediate feedback after you submit your quizzes.
- Please note that although you get a score, these scores are not recorded and will not be counted towards your grade.

REAL QUIZZES

- The real weekly quizzes are timed.
- You have 60 minutes for each quiz. Once the time is up, you cannot answer any more questions.
- You can only take these actual quizzes once any time before **11:59pm on Saturday of each week**. You must finish the quiz by that time.
- Although the quizzes are open-book and open-notes, the time limit will not allow you to read your notes or book extensively during the quizzes. Therefore, you need to have a good understanding of the material before you start the quizzes.
- Although the quizzes themselves don't count for a large percentage of your final grade, you need to know that many of the quiz questions will be on the exams so taking the quizzes and understanding the material in the quizzes should help you do better on your exams.

MAKEUP POLICY: QUIZZES AND HOMEWORK

- There will be **NO makeups** or reassigning of any quizzes, homework, or discussion. **Due to the large class size, I will not have time to respond to makeup requests so please do not send such requests.**
- Three methods to deal with missed assignments/quizzes:
 - **Plan ahead:** All quizzes, assignments, and discussions can be submitted ahead of schedule so please plan ahead.
 - **Lowest quiz score dropped:** I will drop your lowest quiz score at the end of the semester to account for an occasional circumstance beyond your control.
 - **Extra credit opportunity:** If you do miss more quizzes and assignments than you would like, or if you would like to simply earn some extra credit, you are encouraged to attend any of the relevant events offered by the University of Utah Personal Money Management Center (PMMC). A maximum of two extra credit opportunities is allowed for each student.
 - To earn the extra credit, you need to write a one-page, single-spaced reflection paper about the event topic, and submit it to me via Canvas email within one week of the event.
 - If you cannot attend any PMMC events, you can write a reflection paper on a published research article on a relevant topic. You need to send a PDF file of the research article to me to obtain approval before you proceed.

MAKEUP POLICY: EXAMS

- You really do NOT want to miss a proctored exam. However, if you must, contact me as soon as possible BEFORE the exam.
- All makeup exams will be given at the end of the semester, and they will likely be more difficult than the original.

LET ME KNOW IF YOU NEED HELP!

- The key to a successful experience with an online course is to stay on schedule.
- I encourage you to communicate with me as soon as possible if you have any questions or comments.
- With an online class, technical glitches are likely to show up. I would appreciate if you could let me know as soon as possible if you see a problem on the Web page.
- And again, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions, suggestions, or comments!

HAVE A GREAT SEMESTER!