

ECONOMICS 132 – FALL 2001
ENERGY ECONOMICS

Instructor: Genevieve Peters
Office: Economics 307
Office Hours: TuTh 1:45 - 3:15 p.m. and by appointment.
Phone: (858) 534-5986
E-mail: gpeters@weber.ucsd.edu

Classroom: Peterson 110
Class Time: TuTh 11:10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Class Web Page: <http://weber.ucsd.edu/~gpeters/ec132/>

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Each and every day, you are an energy consumer. Maybe your morning shower is heated by natural gas. The milk for your cereal is kept cold in your electric refrigerator. The car or bus you use to get to school probably requires gasoline.

In this class you will be introduced to the way that economists view energy choices. We will discuss short-run models used to explain how best to choose between different types of energy, and long-run models used to explain how quickly we should use up nonrenewable resources. We will look at the way that different energy industries have developed, and why government intervention occurs so frequently in these industries. Finally, we will look at how energy affects the macroeconomy, including economic growth, inflation and unemployment rates.

PREREQUISITES

The prerequisites for this class are Economics 1A-B or 2A-B.

TEXTS AND COURSE READINGS

There is no required text for this class. A reader of academic journal articles will be sold during the first week of class. We will be covering the articles in the reader in order, usually two or three per week. Since the pace will be very rapid, you are strongly encouraged to read the required materials ahead of each lecture.

ATTENDANCE

Class attendance is an individual student responsibility. Although daily attendance is not recorded, the lectures will cover more material than the readings, and I will frequently provide examples during lectures that don't appear in the readings but are fair game for examination. Thus, frequent absences may adversely impact performance.

EXAMINATIONS

Three exams will be given in this section. The first two exams will be given in class on October 11th and November 6th. The third exam will be given on Tuesday, December 4th from 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

In-class exams will be administered at the beginning of the class and will last exactly eighty (80) minutes. The final exam will begin at exactly 11:30 a.m. Students who arrive late will not receive extra time to complete their exam. Once the first student to complete the exam leaves the test room no other student will be permitted to start the exam. All three exams must be given at the scheduled time and place.

Students caught cheating on any exam will receive a grade of zero on that exam and will be brought to the attention of the Dean.

MAKE-UP EXAMINATIONS

No make-up exams will be given in this class. Students who miss a midterm exam without a university accepted excuse will receive a grade of **zero (0)** for the exam. Students who miss a midterm with a university accepted excuse will have the weight of the other two exams increased proportionately. You must take the final (third) exam to receive a grade in this course.

Excuses for missed exams must be pre-approved by the instructor (except when this is not possible in an emergency situation). Students who make initial contact after the exam will have to document why they could not make contact prior to the exam. In addition, any student who misses an exam due to physical illness will be required to provide documentation from a health care professional indicating why the student was physically unable to take the exam. All documentation and an additional signed written statement explaining the relevant circumstances of the absence must be provided to the instructor within two working days of the student's return to campus. Failure to comply with any of the above in the specified manner will result in a grade of **zero (0)** for the exam.

GRADING

Each exam will receive a weight of one-third of the total class score assigned.

Letter grades will be allocated using the following breakdown:

Letter	A	A-	B+	B	B-
Numerical Range	87%-100%	82%-86%	77%-81%	74%-76%	70%-73%
Letter	C+	C	C-	D	F
Numerical Range	67%-69%	64%-66%	60%-63%	50%-59%	0%-49%

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday, Oct 11	Exam I
Tuesday, Nov 6	Exam II
Thursday, Nov 22	Thanksgiving Holiday – Class cancelled
Tuesday, Dec 4	Exam III