



Course Syllabus
FINR 5302 Introduction of Economics and Finance
Spring 2026

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Class: FINR 5302

Class Time: Asynchronous

Instructor: Gautam Biswas

Office: Amy St Building, office 109. Eagle Pass

Office Hours: Online (Teams), please email me to make an appointment

Credits: 3

Location: Online Asynchronous

E-mail: gautam.biswas@sulross.edu

Phone: 830.279.3022

Required Materials:

Textbook:

We are going to use two e-books and the **Connect** platform from McGraw-Hill. The textbooks are:

1. Frank, R., Bernanke, B., Antonovics, Kate., & Heffetz, O. (2025). *Principles of Economics* (PE). McGraw Hill
2. Brealey, R., Myers, S., Allen, F., & Edmans, A. (2025). *Principles of Corporate Finance* (F). McGraw Hill

Supporting Material: (Provided through SR Blackboard)

Course Description: This course introduces students to key concepts in microeconomics, macroeconomics, and finance. The course is designed for students who need foundational preparation for graduate-level business study. It covers the economic principles of market behavior, national economic performance, and the basics of financial valuation. Students will gain analytical skills to understand market dynamics, evaluate macroeconomic trends, and perform essential financial calculations, such as present value, bond, and stock valuation.

Course Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of the course students will:

1. Understanding how the demand and supply model forms the foundation for price and quantity determination in highly competitive markets, including elasticity concepts and their interpretation. Students will also learn how firms make production and profit-maximizing decisions. Assessment: Written assignments, exams, and class discussion.
2. Distinguishing between different types of market. Students will learn how price and output decisions are made by firms in different market. Assessment: Written assignments, exams, and class discussion.
3. Explaining the concept of GDP, unemployment rates, and inflation and how they are used to evaluate a country's economic performance. Assessment: Written assignments, exams, and class discussion.
4. Analyzing the concept of present and future value of money, and using these for valuation of bond.

MBA Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of the MBA students will:

1. Ability to use economic principles such as opportunity cost, supply and demand and market equilibrium—to evaluate and make informed business decisions.
2. Ability to understand and apply core financial concepts in professional settings—including time value of money, selecting project among alternatives, and financial statement analysis—to support strategic and operational decisions.
3. Ability to understand how fiscal policy and monetary policy decisions influence business performance and economy.
4. Ability to apply quantitative methods—such as NPV and bond valuation—to solve business problems and interpret data.

MBA Marketable Skills: Upon successful completion of the MBA students will have the following markable skills:

1. Ability to interpret economic data and financial information.
2. Ability to economic reasoning to real-world business decisions.
3. Ability to understand how markets work and how prices are determined.
4. Ability to interpret present value calculations and bond value.

Academic Integrity: Students in this class are expected to demonstrate scholarly behavior and academic honesty in the use of intellectual property. A scholar is expected to be punctual, prepared, and focused; meaningful and pertinent participation is appreciated. Examples of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to: Turning in work as original that was used in whole or part for another course and/or professor; turning in another person's work as one's own; copying from professional works or internet sites without citation; collaborating on a course assignment, examination, or quiz when collaboration is forbidden. Students should also avoid using open AI sources ***unless permission is expressly given*** for an assignment or course. Violations of academic integrity can result in failing assignments, failing a class, and/or more serious university consequences. These behaviors also erode the value of college degrees and higher education overall.

Classroom Climate of Respect: This class will foster free expression, critical investigation, and the open discussion of ideas. This means that all of us must help create and sustain an atmosphere of tolerance, civility, and respect for the viewpoints of others. Similarly, we must all learn how to probe, oppose and disagree without resorting to tactics of intimidation, harassment, or personal attack. No one is entitled to harass, belittle, or discriminate against other students.

Counseling: Sul Ross has partnered with TimelyCare where all SR students will have access to nine free counseling sessions. You can learn more about this 24/7/356 support by visiting [Timelycare/SRSU](https://www.timelycare.com/srsu). The SR Counseling and Accessibility Services office will continue to offer in-person counseling in Ferguson Hall room 112 (Alpine campus), and telehealth Zoom sessions for remote students and SRSU International students.

Libraries: The Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library in Alpine offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, library.sulross.edu/. Off-campus access requires logging in with your LobolD and password.

Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email (srsulibrary@sulross.edu), or by phone (432-837-8123). No matter where you are based, public libraries and many academic and special libraries welcome the general public into their spaces for study. SRSU TexShare Cardholders can access additional services and resources at various libraries across Texas. Learn more about the TexShare program by visiting library.sulross.edu/find-and-borrow/texshare/ or ask a librarian by emailing srsulibrary@sulross.edu. Mike Fernandez, SRSU Librarian, is based in Eagle Pass (Building D-129) to offer specialized library services to students, faculty, and staff. Utilize free services such as InterLibrary Loan (ILL) and ScanIt to get materials delivered to you at home or via email.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Mary Schwartze, LPC-S, SRSU's Accessibility Services Coordinator at 432-837-8203 (please leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as we can during working hours), or email mary.schwartze@sulross.edu. Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall (Suite 112), and our mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas, 79832.

Official Communication: All official communication by the University or me will be sent to your Sul Ross email account. As a result, you are required to activate your email account and check it from time to time for personal communication. I encourage you to email me if you have questions or comments, BUT PLEASE include your full name and the course for which you have questions. Even if you submit your email through the Blackboard site, I cannot tell which course you are in nor what your real name is (i.e., egar123) unless you put it in the body of your email.

Technical Support: The Support Desk is where you can direct your more technical questions. For example, the Support Desk can help you if you are having issues submitting a document, getting videos to play, or using BlackBoard. The support desk is open 24 hours a day/7 days a week for your convenience. You can reach the support desk by calling 888.837.8888 or by email blackboardsupport@sulross.edu. You may also reach the Support desk from the Technology Support tab within Blackboard by clicking the Support Desk graphic on the course homepage or calling 936.294.2780.

SRSU Distance Education Statement: Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires secure login. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website. Directions for filing a student complaint are located in the student handbook

Assignments

Late Work: There will be a 10% penalty for assignments submitted late.

Course Requirements and Grading

Requirement	Points Possible	Grading Scale
Weekly Discussion Posts – Due Weekly	350 points	A = 900 to 1000 points
Assignment 1 – Due Mar.30, 2026.	150 points	B = 800 to 899 points
Assignment 2 – Due Apr.13, 2026.	150 points	C = 700 to 799 points
Assignment 3 – Due Apr. 27, 2026.	150 points	D = 600 to 699 points
Final Exam – Due May. 4, 2026.	200 points	F = less than 599 points
Possible Points		1000 points

Course Assignments

Weekly Discussion Board:

1. Faculty will post a weekly discussion board that will be available at 12:01 AM Tuesday and have a due date of the following Monday at 11:59 PM.
2. Students will be required to respond to the question itself by Friday and reply to two other students by Sunday night.
3. The question will be designed to facilitate discussion by requiring students to offer their analysis, evaluation or design based on the courses weekly topic. (Blooms Levels 5-6).
4. The Instructor will be active in the Discussion Board by responding to at least half of the student posts each week.

Discussion Board Rubric: (50 points)

Rubric 1: The student's main post responded completely and substantially to all of parts of discussion question. (30 points).

Rubric 2: The Student's initial post was no later than Friday (5 points)

Rubric 3: The response was well-organized, clear and free of grammatical and mechanical errors. (5 points).

Rubric 4: The student post substantially to two other students. 5 points each (10 points)

Assignment 1: In this assignment, students will apply the concepts of demand, supply, and elasticity to a real-world market or industry. The goal of the assignment is to assess students' understanding of how they can use economic principles outside the classroom and how firms and business use them to make informed decisions. Instructor will develop the full assignment with detailed instructions, format requirements, and grading criteria. The final instructions will be uploaded on Blackboard.

Course Assignment Rubric:

Instructors will develop appropriate rubrics for the assignments equal to 150 points. 15 points will be reserved for timely submission and another 15 points for organization, grammar or mechanical errors.

Assignment 2: In this assignment, students will apply the concepts of market categorization to a real-world market or industry. This assignment will assess students' ability to apply these economic principles into real world. Instructor will develop the full assignment with detailed instructions, format requirements, and grading criteria. The final instructions will be uploaded on Blackboard.

Course Assignment Rubric:

Instructors will develop appropriate rubrics for the assignments equal to 150 points. 15 points will be reserved for timely submission and another 15 points for organization, grammar or mechanical errors.

Assignment 3: In this assignment, students will apply the concepts of measuring key economic variables—such as GDP, unemployment, and inflation. Students will select a country and evaluate its overall economic performance using data and concepts. Instructor will develop the full assignment with detailed instructions, format requirements, and grading criteria. The final instructions will be uploaded on Blackboard.

Course Assignment Rubric:

Instructors will develop appropriate rubrics for the assignments equal to 150 points. 15 points will be reserved for timely submission and another 15 points for organization, grammar or mechanical errors.

Final Essay Exam: A final essay exam consisting of both multiple-choice questions and essay questions covering the material covered in the course. It will be available to students for at least one week before the end of class.

Final Essay Exam Rubric:

Instructors will develop appropriate rubrics for the comprehensive course final equal to 200 points. 15 points will be reserved for timely submission and another 15 points for organization, grammar or mechanical errors.

Schedule for FINR 5302 – 2nd Session, Spring 2026

March 16 – March 23	Demand and Supply	PE Chp 3
March 23- March 30	Elasticity Assignment 1 due Monday, March 30, 2026	PE Chp 4
March 31 – April 6	Perfectly Competitive Supply	PE Chp 6
April 7 – April 13	Monopoly, Oligopoly, and Monopolistic Competition Assignment 2 due Monday, April 13, 2026	PE Chp 8
April 14 – April 20	Macroeconomics: The bird's eye view of the Economy and Measuring Economic Activity, Measuring the price level and inflation	PE Chps 16, 17, & 18
April 21 – April 27	How to calculate present values Assignment 3 due Monday, April 27, 2026	F Chp 2
April 28 – May 4	Valuing bonds and common stocks	F Chps 3 & 4
May 5	Final Exam Monday, Due May 4, 2026	

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