

Group Projects (3 to 4 persons per group).

All participants in the group will get the same grade. If there is an issue where a student is not working then the group needs to talk to me no later than 5/26. The written portion of the project will be due Wednesday, June 2nd and the Presentations will begin Thursday, June 3rd. All Presentation material by all groups has to be in by 6/3. You will need to choose your group and topic by Thursday 5/20

Group project = 1 Test Grade 4th Quarter

Written project- 3 to 5 pages in memorandum form plus relevant graphs and tables--60% grade

Presentation- 15 to 25 minutes (1 to 2 presentations per day)---40% grade. Presentations must use graphs and tables to help illuminate the subject matter

Topics

One to a group unless

1. Start up Business- (up to 3 groups can select this project) create a **realistic** business plan (all information provided will have to be cited and justified)-and provide an economic analysis of your plan- including
 - a. Select a product
 - b. Market- create a focus group (videotape), to help determine product and potential consumer base
 - c. Financing—Fixed and Variable costs- size of operation, how much will it cost and where will you get the money from? Seed money, partnership? Corporation?
 - d. Location of Production- Why? Where? How?
 - e. Stream of Commerce—getting the product from Production site to retail market
 - f. Pricing the product and covering costs –variable and fixed, econ profit?
 - g. Promoting the product.- Where? Costs?
 - h. Expansion?
2. Balazs and McKinsey Consulting (up to 3 groups can select this project)- choose a business in the lower Fairfield County area and help it develop a business plan based on its current market, costs, competition, and other issues. You will need to work with a real company/business to help develop this-(you will need to advise me by Friday 5/21 through email- or have chosen another topic). Your memorandum should incorporate recommendations that will improve their bottom line (economic profit), as well as an analysis of its costs (fixed and variable), it's customer base, their demand curve, price and income elasticity (Ability to price discriminate), advertising/promoting campaign and other relevant issues.
3. Regulating Wall Street- Background, current theory, positives, negatives and conclusion. You must address externalities (positive and negative) and moral hazard
4. Hayek v. Keynes— Who's right? Summarize and examine the two major economic thinkers of the 20th century and their different views on the role of government. Be prepared to critically

evaluate each and explain who's idea should win out. (at least two of the members of this group must have studied Macroeconomics)

5. Current issues in Game Theory—Summarize and present contemporary issues in Game theory, be ready to devise and test the class using a game theory application.
6. Homo Economicus- Current studies in behavioral psychology and the ordinary rational person. You should be ready to discuss before the class and give an example/test using a recent theory in behavioral psychology and economics.
7. Development Economics- Helping the 3rd World. Current issues in development theory, including a critical examination of micro-lending. What works best?
8. You are the Fed.- Study the current economy and recreate a Federal Open Market committee meeting, using current data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, including leading, coincident, and lagging indicators, amongst others. (at least two of the members of this group must have studied Macroeconomics)
9. Analyzing the Stimulus Package- Provide an economic analysis of the Stimulus Package, include background, a description of the legislation and stimulus program, professional critiques of the stimulus package in operation and lastly its' effectiveness in helping the country get out of the "great recession". (at least two of the members of this group must have studied Macroeconomics)