INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC .3 (L) 6.3 (I) -21.7 (C) Phone:

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Office: 155 McGannon

Office Hours: Tuesdays 2:00-4:00 or by appointment

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Course Description and Objectives:

This course serves as a broad introduction to both the theory and practice of public finance at the federal, state, and local levels of government in the United States.

Public economics (also public finance) is the study of the role of government in the economy. It is defined around four questions: When should governments intervene? How should governments intervene? What is the impact of government intervention on the economy? And why do governments intervene in the way that they do?

Government activities account for nearly a third of all economic activity in the United States. While this proportion seems large, it is actually smaller than the government's share of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in other economically developed countries. Nonetheless, our government (really governments since there are three levels that take an active part) affects nearly everything that ordinary citizens do, in ways both good and

is not to say that government's other avenue of economic intervention, namely monetary policy, is unimportant. It is just because there is not enough time in the semester to cover everything in detail. In order to analyze government's economic activities we will use the concepts of economics. You will not need an advanced economics or math background to take the course (it doesn't hurt to have some basic

Midterm (20%) and Final Exam (25%)

Class Discussion (25%)

Attendance (5%)

For PhD students: Literature Review Paper (40%. Exams will account for 20% of grade and attendance will not count.)

Lit. Review Outline

Due Sep. 14

any student whose academic conduct at any time is, in its judgment, detrimental to the University. Such conduct shall include cases of plagiarism, collusion, cheating, giving or receiving or o_ering or soliciting information in examinations, or the use of previously prepared material in examinations or quizzes. Violations should be reported to me and will be investigated and adjudicated according to the Policy on Academic Honesty of the College of Arts and Sciences. If the charges are found to be true, the student may be liable for academic or disciplinary probation, suspension, or expulsion from the University. Please refer to the university policy at http://www.slu.edu/x12657.xml.

Expectations and Procedures

Technology

Put everything on mute. You do not need to use your laptop for this course. Please take notes the old fashionway. This will dissuade the trend of college students to browse the web, check e-mail, and frequent social networking sites during lecture. I will email all lecture powerpoints after the daily lecture.

Communication

I will post grades, send class e-mails, etc. through the SLU Banner system. Be sure that you can access the

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Α	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
В	83-86
В-	80-82
C+	77-79
С	73-76
C-	70-72
D	60-69
F	<60

Academic Integrity Syllabus Statement

Academic integrity is honest, truthful and responsible conduct in all academic endeavors.

http://www.slu.edu/Documents/provost/academic_affairs/Universitywide%20Academic%20Integrity%20Policy%20FINAL%20%206-26-15.pdf. http://www.slu.edu/x12657.xml

Title IX Syllabus Statement

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