

FCS 3450 – Family Economic Issues Across the Life Course

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TEXT: Walden, Michael. 2001. Economics and Consumer Decisions. Kendall/Hunt.

Course Description

In this course you will gain an understanding of how an economic perspective can be used to learn more about how families make resource allocation decisions. For example, we will discuss how economic considerations influence decisions about (1) the amount of schooling a person gets, (2) living arrangements, (3) whether or not to buy a home, (4) financial investment options, and (5) retirement savings. The course will begin with discussion of basic economic principles as they apply to family resource allocations. This will be followed by discussion of specific allocation domains and the role that market and government forces play in shaping the choices families make. In the course of these discussions, we will also examine how economic decisions that are made at the household level affect the larger society. In addition, my personal goal is to give you the tools to be able to realize your financial dreams and be at least a millionaire by retirement.

Assignments and Grading

Assignment

Grading

Midterm	20%
Final	30%
5 Unit Quizzes	20% (4 at 5% each – dropping the lowest score)
Assignments	30% (choose 3 out of the 5 offered @ 10% each)

WebCT will be used extensively in this class for modified class notes, to report grades, and give further instructions on class assignments. Check it out at webct.utah.edu .

