

Learning Goal #4: Application of Economic Models to Evaluate Government Policies

Learning Goal: An extremely important dimension of economic analysis is the study of normative issues dealing with the appropriateness of economic policies. In order to evaluate economic policies students should be able to use economic models based on fundamental economic principles to understand the implications of various government policies on decision making. Thus, one of the learning goals for the Economics Department is for students to understand how to apply economic models to evaluate government policies.

Measurement of Goal: Embedded assignments from ECON 322 (Economics Seminar) are used to collect data for assessment. Typically, a term paper is assigned as one of the course requirements. Thus, the understanding of policy issues by students is analyzed in detail.

Frequency and Collection: Approximately 30 students are selected from ECON 322 each year.

The topics used in the assessment may be chosen from specific topics covered in ECON 322 such as (but not limited to):

- A. Fiscal policy, evolution, and effectiveness
- B. Monetary policy, evolution, and effectiveness
- C. Policy to promote economic growth
- D. International trade policy
- E. Protectionism and globalization
- F. Antitrust regulations

The selection of the specific topic to be assessed is done at the beginning of the Academic Year by the Economics Faculty. The targeted topic may change each year, depending upon the faculty's objectives.