SPRINGFIELD TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Course Number:	ECON 100	Department:	Economics			
Course Title:	Principles of Economics 1	Semester:	Spring	Year:	1997	

Objectives/Competencies

Course Objective 1. Students are introduced to the economic processes in the economy as a whole. They are introduced to the most important economic issues facing all citizens with the emphasis on the vital problems of our economy. The technical tools of economic analysis are introduced in this context only. Throughout the course the special emphasis is placed on the analytical and descriptive approach. This approach encourages understanding of economic principles instead of mere rote memorization. Orientation is directed toward basic economic theory, with conscious effort to avoid endless details and qualifications. This simplification, however, does not mean oversimplification to the point of distortion; rather it represents a focus on a majority of principles and their relations to our nation's economic system.

Competencies

- 1. To understand the continuing problem of unemployment, including much factual material of the economy called "business cycles."
- 2. To understand and define inflation, the causes of recession and the measure and policies that can be utilized to stabilize the level of economic growth.
- 3. To understand the relationship of the public sector of the economy to the private sector and how taxes, deficits, and surpluses are used to promote a healthy rate of economic growth as well as to provide government services.
- 4. To understand and define these concepts:
 - a. the multiplier
 - b. the accelerator
 - c. nagging unemployment
 - d. the cost of living
 - e. expansion of bank credit
 - f. excess reserves
 - g. monetary policy

Course Objective	Competencies			
	h. fiscal stimulus i. fiscal drag j. foreign trade, balance of trade, barriers of trade k. international exchange rates			