

Place your name on the back of this sheet of paper and nowhere else. Staple your answers face up on the front of this sheet of paper. Failure to follow these directions will cost you 10 points. Your assignment will be typed, except graphs can be drawn by hand and mathematical equations can be done by hand. Failure to type it will cost you 10 points. If you use double-sided printing or print on the back of scrap paper, I will give you one additional point.

1) (25 points) Which part of my web page, <http://www.WCsaplarJr.info> do you think will be most helpful? Why? Is anything missing that you would like to see? What is the URL for the first exam from this class during the last semester it was taught? Suppose you were a sophomore Managerial Economics major, then what courses does the program suggest you be taking this semester? According to the boxes in yellow on my main page, which of the 25 most requested skills on LinkedIn are taught to our Economics majors?

2) (20 points) Economics is described by some books as the “study of incentives.” Given that, explain why democracies normally have more successful economies than countries with totalitarian governments.

3) (20 points) We say that a higher GDP per capita means the country is better off. However, studies of “happiness” often conclude that a poor country like Nepal is happier than a rich country like the USA. What is GDP per capita not considering? Why is that important?

4) (20 points) Economics is described by some books as the “study of incentives.” Given that, why do you think egalitarian communes (where everybody earns the same income) rarely survive for more than one generation after they are formed? Explain your logic.

5) (15 points) What is meant by “fixed country effects”? Explain why they make conclusions in this course difficult to reach?

Either fill in this list on your first homework assignment, or e-mail your preferences to me at WCsaplarJr@bethanywv.edu by 1:30 on Friday, August 30th. **Note that no student will be assigned to discuss a country they lived in for more than one year.** Rank them from 1 (first choice) to 5 (last choice).

Exam #2

_____ Germany 10/8 (before we finish discussing USA)
 _____ Japan 10/17

Exam #3

_____ Russia 11/12
 _____ China 11/14 (before we finish discussing Russia)
 _____ Czech Republic 11/21 (before we finish China)