I. **TITLE:**

Rural Economic Development

II. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

An examination of the basic principles underlying the economic development of rural areas. The impact and role of agricultural and community organizations and their influence on the rural economy will be studied. Each student will make a special socioeconomic study of his community including a special inventory and a plan for economic development.

III. **PURPOSE:**

To develop, within the student, an appreciation and understanding of the cultural, social and economic institutions intimate with American agriculture (and rural life) sufficient for competence in recognizing, understanding, and dealing with associated economic problems.

IV. **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

N/A

V. **CONTENT OUTLINE:**

A. Basic Socioeconomic concepts.
B. Major rural, social and economic institutions.
C. Structure of Rural America.
D. Rural community development and related social and economic problems.

VI. **INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

A. Assignments- Oral and extemporaneous.
B. Classroom activity- lecture, discussion and participatory projects.
C. Each student will write a term paper directed to a case study of his/her home community.
D. Other information:
   1. Obtaining assignments and the pursuant work is the responsibility of each individual student.
2. Conditions of this syllabus may be exchanged and announced at any regular scheduled class period.
3. Every effort will be made to inform the student of course expectations.
4. Final exam as scheduled in bulletin of classes.

VII. **FIELD AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCES:**

N/A

VIII. **RESOURCES:**

B. Other Readings: As assigned, most material on reserve in library.
   *p 27, 33, 9*

IX. **GRADING PROCEDURES:**

A. Tests and Scoring:
   - Announced Exams (comprehensive) (3-4) 25 percent
   - Unannounced Quizzes and lab Assignments 25 percent
   - Final Exam (comprehensive) 25 percent
   - Term Paper 25 percent
   - Total 100 percent

B. Letter Grades- derived from the weighted average of the points as explained above.

   90 - 100 = A
   80 - 89 = B
   70 - 79 = C
   60 - 69 = D
   Below 60 = E

C. Extra work at end of semester to raise grade is not allowed.
D. Make-up is allowed for all exams and Final but not for unannounced exams or lab assignments.
E. All rescheduled or make-up exams and Final will be lowered by 10 points.

X. **ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Please refer to the most current copy of the *Murray State University’s Undergraduate Bulletin and Graduate Bulletin.*
XI. **ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:**

(Adopted by the MSU Board of Regents)

Cheating, plagiarism (submitting another person’s material as one’s own), or doing work for another person which will receive academic credit are all impermissible. This includes the use of unauthorized books, notebooks, or other sources in order to secure or give help during an examination, the unauthorized copying of examinations, assignments, reports, term papers, or the presentation on unacknowledged material as if it were the student’s own work. Disciplinary action may be taken beyond the academic discipline administered by the faculty member who teaches the course in which the cheating took place.

NOTE: The School of Agriculture Faculty have adopted and implemented an Academic Honesty Policy in addition to the University Honesty Policy, which can be found in the current Undergraduate Bulletin and Graduate Bulletin. The policy sets guidelines regarding acts of dishonesty and the procedure to follow should an event occur. It is each Agriculture student’s responsibility to obtain and read a copy of this document. The School’s Academic Honesty Policy can be obtained by asking for a copy from any Agriculture Faculty member or the Secretary.

XII. **TEXT AND REFERENCES:**

Text:
*The Rural Component of American Society*, By Edward W. Hassinger.

XIII. **PREREQUISITES:**

None

XIV. **STATEMENT OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY:**

Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. For more information, contact Sabrina Y. Dial, Director of Equal Opportunity, Murray State University, 103 Wells Hall, Murray, KY 42071-3318. Telephone: 270-809-3155 (voice), 270-809-3361 (TDD).
XV. MSU SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE CELL PHONE POLICY

The School of Agriculture recognizes that in today’s world cell phones are a familiar and often necessary form of communication for students.

It shall be the policy of the School that no cell phone usage shall be allowed in class and/or labs without the prior consent of the course instructor. This shall include verbal calling, incoming calls, email, text messaging, and use of cell phone calculators on tests and quizzes.

Cell phones must be kept off and out of sight (i.e. secured to a person’s belt or kept in a bag or purse away from desks and lab counters).

Should a student’s cell phone be visible, ring, or other form of unauthorized usage that is interruptive to the class or lab, the student may be asked to leave class and not return for that class/lab period.

Upon prior consent of the instructor, a student may obtain permission to have their phone on in case of an emergency or in critical family situations.

This policy also includes pagers and other electronic equipment such as blackberries and/or computers/laptops.