

Economics 3334: Intermediate Macroeconomics

Spring 2008

Short Article Discussions

Throughout the semester I will post articles, or links to articles, online at <http://uhec3334.blogspot.com/>. You are responsible for writing five (5) short article discussions on these. I do not care exactly which articles you select, but you must finish five of them.

Each summary should be approximately 400-500 words (that's not quite a full page of writing). You have two alternatives for submitting the summaries:

- Use the "Comments" option on the website to submit your summary. Make sure you clearly identify yourself as the author so that we can give you credit for the summary. These on-line submissions must conform to the following formats:
 - Correct use of capital and lower-case letters.
 - No emoticons or abbreviations
- Submit a written copy. If you choose to submit a written version, it should conform to the following formats:
 - Type your paper on a computer and print it out on standard, white 8.5 x 11-inch paper.
 - Double-space the text of your paper, and use a legible 12 pt. font like Times New Roman or Courier.
 - Set the margins of your document to 1 inch on all sides. Indent the first line of a paragraph one half-inch (five spaces or press tab once) from the left margin.
 - In the upper left-hand corner of the first page, list your name, your instructor's name (Vollrath), the course (ECON 3334), the section number (03 or 04) and the date.
 - Center a title. Don't underline your title or put it in quotation marks; it should read "Article Summary Assignment".

For each summary you should:

1. Summarize the author's main points in your own words. Please be aware that using exact sentences (without quotation marks) from the article in your paper is plagiarism. It is ok to use quotes SPARINGLY, but you should concentrate on describing the main points of the article in your words. A helpful hint: you may want to assume you are explaining the article to a friend who has never taken any economics courses.
2. Identify and explain one or two relevant economic concepts from our text and/or lecture that you find in the article.
3. Present your personal evaluation/reaction to the article. If you submit on-line, feel free to respond to previous comments in a constructive or meaningful manner. Any personal attacks or inappropriate comments on other students will result in an immediate F for the class.