

ASSIGNMENT #1

The first assignment is due in class on Thursday, March 5th:

Assignment #1: Based on the lecture on February 12th and what you have learned in class, please write a short essay (no more than one page) on the price of oil over the past six or seven years. Please try to explain (in words!) using the concepts of supply and/or demand, and price elasticity, why the price of oil rose from about \$25 a barrel in 2002 to almost \$150 a barrel in early 2008, and then dropped to about \$35 a barrel.

Assignment and Grading:

1. Be sure to put your name, the course, a title on your paper.
2. Be sure to type your assignment, double-spaced, in 12 point font. The assignment must be no more than one page in length, and cannot include any graphs or diagrams (this is a writing assignment!). Do not describe economic concepts (i.e. define elasticity) or use graphical concepts (i.e. the demand curve moved to the right).
3. To focus your paper, you should focus on either changes in demand or changes in supply, but not both. You also should focus on either the general rise in the price of oil (above the long-run average), or the recent (2007-2008) gyrations from \$55 to \$150 and back to \$35, but not both.
4. You are not expected to research this article. If you do use information from a reading, be sure to quote and cite the reading with a footnote.
5. Assignments that are copies of another student's will result in penalties for all students turning in the same assignment.
6. Students may turn in their assignment to my office (room 2301) by Friday, March 6th at 11 am and be considered on time. Assignments turned after that will be penalized 15 points for each day late up to Friday, March 13th. Assignments will not be accepted after that date.

Students in the Tuesday/Thursday 9:35 am class CAN NOT turn in their assignments by email. You MUST turn your assignment in during class or to my office (room 2301).

Assignment #2 will be to go to a workshop on online data bases and then find an article on immigration, and report on your search.

Assignment #3 will be to answer three questions on the article you found in assignment #2.

PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU MUST TURN IN ALL THREE ASSIGNMENTS. I DO NOT DROP THE LOWEST ASSIGNMENT GRADE OR OFFER MAKE-UPS.