

Economics 435/535 Public Spending and Debt Policy

Fall 2009

Prof. John Walker, CH241-O

Hours: 10:10-11:10 MWF

Texts: Neil Bruce, Public Finance and the American Economy, 2nd Ed.

John F. Walker and Harold G. Vatter, The Rise of Big Government in the United States

Your grade is determined by your performance on an essay form Midterm and Final and a paper described below.

Reading:

The first 5 weeks

Bruce Ch. 1-6

Walker-Vatter Ch. 1-4

Essay Exam about Nov. 2

The second 5 weeks

Bruce Ch. 7-9

Vatter-Walker Ch. 5-6

Final exam Thursday Dec. 10, 12:30-2:20

The Paper

Pick one on the large financial businesses that the government has bailed out in the last two years. Find out how much Federal aid it has received. Using the companies annual reports estimate the number of years of taxes paid that would cover the aid received. Report your data and write a short essay on the question can finance be considered private.