



Department of Economics Course Outline

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|----------------------|--|-------------------|--|
| | | Term: | Summer 2009 |
| Course: | Economics 201 [Principles of Microeconomics] | Section: | 61 |
| Time: | Lecture TR 9:00 – 11:50 Tutorial TR 12:00 – 12:50 | Place: | SA 129(subject to change) |
| Instructor: | J Winter | | |
| Office: | SS 409 | Telephone: | 403 220 4631 |
| Office Hours: | By appointment | E-mail: | jlwinter@ucalgary.ca |

Textbook(s):

Required:

N. Gregory Mankiw, Ronald D. Kneebone, Kenneth J. McKenzie and Nicholas Rowe. *Principles of Microeconomics*, 4th Canadian edition. Thomson Nelson. + Aplia Access Kit

OR

Aplia Access Kit for Mankiw, Kneebone, McKenzie and Rowe (has an online version of textbook)

Optional:

Study Guide for Mankiw, Kneebone, McKenzie and Rowe.

Book(s) on Reserve:

None.

Blackboard:

Students who are registered in the course can log on at
<http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/webapps/login>

Blackboard features a class email list that will be used. It is your responsibility to ensure that Blackboard uses the email address of your choice. The default is your University of Calgary email address.

Description:

This course is the first of two courses (ECON 203 is the second) designed to cover the basics of economics. This course is intended to provide an overview of microeconomics. We will study the behaviour of consumers and firms, and analyze the equilibria that occur when the two groups interact.

Calculus is not required for this course and will not be used, but high school level algebra will be used. In particular, you must be able to find the intersection of two lines, as well as the area of a triangle.

Microeconomic theory is very important to the study of all economics. The basic understanding of economics you will acquire in this course will be used throughout your career in economics. I have a responsibility to you, and to the Department of Economics, to ensure that you understand the basics thoroughly. As a result, it is my expectation that by the end of the course, all students will have a thorough understanding of supply, demand and efficiency. You will be required to determine market equilibria and evaluate the efficiency of the equilibria. Those who cannot demonstrate these abilities by the end of the course should not expect to pass.

Course Outline:

The course will follow the textbook. However, some material may be added or removed based on time constraints.

1. Introduction (Ch. 1 – 3)
2. Supply & Demand (Ch. 4 – 7)
3. Consumer Theory (Ch. 21)
4. Producer Theory (Ch. 13)
5. Perfect Competition (Ch. 14)
6. Monopoly, Oligopoly & Monopolistic Competition (Ch. 15 – 17)
7. Externalities & Public Goods (Ch. 10, 11)

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---|----------|-----------|
| Midterm: | Date TBD | 30% | 1.5 hours |
| Final Examination: | Scheduled by Registrar (August 17 – 19) | 50% | 2 hours |
| Assignments (using Aplia): | | 4 x 5% = | 20% |

The aim of the course is to develop a general understanding of economics. As such, the midterm and final will consist of multiple choice questions as well as problems. You will need to demonstrate an understanding of the definitions covered in lecture.

You will have at least one week to complete each of the four assignments. In order to complete assignments in this course, you will be required to access the Aplia website at <http://econ.aplia.com>. Please register on the website within the first week of classes.

The assignments must be submitted by 11:59 pm on the due date. Late assignments cannot be accepted by Aplia. Failure to submit an assignment will result in a mark of zero (0). Technical problems can be expected to sometimes occur with computer systems and internet availability so it is a good idea not to wait until the last minute to submit your assignment. Emails regarding technical concerns or the wording of questions within Aplia should be directed toward the providers of Aplia.

Using Aplia, you will be able to complete practice problem sets prior to each assignment. In the practice problem sets, you will get immediate feedback as to whether you have answered a question correctly and in many cases an explanation if you have not. Your results in the practice problem sets are not counted or reported to the instructor. It is strongly recommended that you do the practice problems related to a particular assignment prior to completing the assignments. Practice problems can be done at any time during the semester and can be repeated if desired.

Tests and final exams are marked on a numerical (percentage) basis, then converted to letter grades. The course grade is then calculated using the weights indicated above. As a guide to determining standing, these letter grade equivalences will generally apply:

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|----|--------|----|-------|----|-------|
| A+ | 98-100 | B | 75-79 | C- | 60-62 |
| A | 90-97 | B- | 70-74 | D+ | 55-59 |
| A- | 85-89 | C+ | 67-69 | D | 50-54 |
| B+ | 80-84 | C | 63-66 | F | 0-49 |

If, for some reason, the distribution of grades determined using the aforementioned conversion chart appears to be abnormal, the instructor reserves the right to change the grade conversion chart if the instructor, *at the instructor's discretion*, feels it is necessary to more fairly represent student achievement.

A passing grade on any particular component of the course is not required for a student to pass the course as a whole.

Non-programmable calculators **WILL** be allowed during the writing of tests or final examinations.

There will be a Registrar scheduled final examination, lasting **2** hours.

Tests and exams **WILL** involve multiple choice questions.

Students' Union Vice-President, Academic

Meg Martin

Phone: 220-3911

E-mail: suvpaca@ucalgary.ca

Students' Union Faculty Representative (Social Sciences)

Chris Kalantzis

Phone: 220-3913 Office MSC 251

E-mail socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Society of Undergraduates in Economics (S.U.E.)

www.ucalgary.ca/sue/

Notes:

- Students seeking reappraisal of a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, etc.) should discuss their work with the Instructor *within seven days* of the work being returned to the class.
- Reappraisal of Aplia marks will occur at the Instructor's discretion.
- Students who are unable to write the midterm because of a **documented** illness, family emergency or religious observance will have the midterm weight shifted to the final. A make-up midterm will not be given.
- It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than seven (7) days after the start of this course.

Safewalk / Campus Security: 403-220-5333
