

Economics 201(L01) (Principles of Microeconomics)

Instructor:	L. Vojtassak	Lecture Location:	ICT 102
Phone:	403 220 6550	Lecture Days/Time:	TR 9:30 – 10:45
Email:	lvojtass@ucalgary.ca		
Office:	SS 336		
Office Hours:	M 9:00 – 9:50 R 11:00 – 11:50 or by appointment		(Winter 2018)

Course Description:

This course focuses on the principle that “markets are usually a good way to organize economic activity”.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes:

This course will enable students to understand microeconomic issues, which arise in everyday life. We attempt to answer questions: how markets work, when they work well, when they do not work well and the role of the government in resource allocation. As well, this course will prepare students for more advanced courses in microeconomics.

Course Outline:

		Chapters
Jan 9 – Jan 18, 2018	The Economist’s View of the World, the Economic Way of Thinking and the Ten Principles of Economics	1 - 3
Jan 23 – Feb 6, 2018	Supply and Demand: How Markets Work	4 - 6
Feb 8 – Feb 29, 2018	Supply and Demand: Markets and Welfare	7 - 9
March 8 – March 13, 2018	Competitive Markets	14
March 15 – March 29, 2018	Market Imperfections: Market Power, Externalities, Public Goods, Common Resources and Asymmetric Information	15-17, 10 – 11 22 (pages 460 – 465)
April 3 – April 5, 2018	Income Distribution and Factor Market	18 - 19
April 10 – April 12, 2018	Social Choices, and Public Choices	22 (pages 465 – 470)

No classes on

February 20 and 22, 2018: Reading Week

Prerequisites/corequisites:

None.

Required Textbook(s):

Greg Mankiw, Ron Kneebone and Ken McKenzie, *Principles of Microeconomics*, 7th Canadian edition, Thomson Nelson + MindtapKit.

OR Digital only Alternative:

Mankiw et al MindTap Access Code (includes e-book, chapter roadmap videos, problem walk through tutorials, flashcards, practice quizzes, Aplia homework (graded assignments)).

For more details on MindTap registration information, please refer to the Mankiw MindTap PowerPoint slides posted under Course Outline in D2L.

Limited access to just the Aplia homework quizzes can be made available only in the campus labs if you are not purchasing MindTap.

Books on Reserve:

Friedman, D. 1996. *Hidden Order: The Economics of Everyday Life*. New York: Harper Business.
 Harford, T. 2006. *The Undercover Economist*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
 Landsburg, S. 2012. *The Armchair Economist*. Toronto: Maxwell MacMillan.
 Mankiw, G. et al. 2017. *Principles of Microeconomics*. 7th ed. Toronto: Thomson Nelson.
 Miller, R. L., D. K. Benjamin, and D. C. North. 2016. *The Economics of Public Issues*. 19th ed. New York: Addison Wesley.
 Roberts, R. 2001. *The Invisible Heart*. Cambridge: MIT Press.

Additional recommended readings will be posted on D2L.

Tutorials:

Students are expected to attend the weekly tutorial section to which they have been assigned. During the tutorials the TA will discuss pre-assigned questions and additional material relevant to the course that is not covered in lectures.

Desire2Learn:

This course will make use of the Desire2Learn (D2L) platform. Students who are registered in the course can log on at <http://d2l.ucalgary.ca> through their student centre. Please note that D2L features a class e-mail list that may be used to distribute course-related information. These e-mails go to your University of Calgary e-mail addresses only.

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:

(i)	Essay	20%	February 15, 2018
(ii)	Midterm Exam	20%	March 6, 2018
(iii)	5 Assignments (best 4 counted), 5% each	20%	Due dates: Jan 23, Feb 6, Feb 27, March 27, and April 10, 2018, at 20:00
	Final Examination	40%	
		100%	

Grading Scale

A+	95 – 100	B	73 – 76	C-	60 – 62
A	85 – 94	B-	70 – 72	D+	56 – 59
A-	80 – 84	C+	67 – 69	D	50 – 55
B+	77 – 79	C	63 – 66	F	0 – 49

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

As per the Writing Across the Curriculum Statement in the Calendar, writing and grading thereof will be a factor in the evaluation of student work.

Any student work which remains undistributed after the last day of classes will be available to students through the instructor's office during his office hours.

Assignments

1. Assignments will be done in Mindtap/Aplia.
2. All assignments will be due at 20:00 on the due date. It is your responsibility to remember the due dates. Late assignments will not be accepted. Furthermore, technical problems can be expected to sometimes occur with computer systems and internet availability so it may be a good idea to not wait until the last minute to submit your assignment. Technical problems will not justify shifting the assignment weight to the final exam.
3. Course material covered in a particular assignment will typically be covered in class one week before the assignment is due and assignments can be done at any time prior to the due date. Given these factors, only situations where someone can document illness or domestic affliction for an extended period (i.e. the entire 14 or more days prior to the assignment due date) would possibly warrant shifting the assignment weight to the final exam.
4. Students are free to complete material in Mindtap that pertains to topics covered in lectures. Emails regarding Mindtap should be directed towards the providers of Mindtap. I am unable to help with computer issues.

Examinations

1. Midterm and final exam WILL consist of the multiple-choice questions.
2. The midterm examinations will be held in class, lasting 75 minutes and will cover chapters 1 – 9.
3. There will be a Registrar scheduled final examination, lasting 2 hours. It will be a comprehensive examination of all-material covered in the course.
4. The exams must be completed during the specified time. Extra time will not be given for any reason.
5. All examinations will be closed-book.
6. Deferred examinations will not be given except in the case of the Final Examination, where this possibility is provided for in the university's Academic Regulations. Note that deferred final

examination may contain short/long answer questions. Also, deferred final examination does not have to cover the same material or have the same format as the regular final examination.

7. Students should be aware that no "make-up" midterms will be given. Any student who finds it necessary to miss the midterm must notify the instructor in advance and produce a valid medical certificate or other required documentation in order to have the weighting adjusted. This adjustment will result in the final exam counting for 60% of the final grade and the assignments and essay counting for 40% of the final grade.
8. Examinations will not be given before the indicated examination date. For further information see the 2017-2018 Calendar.
9. The use of a non-programmable calculator during test and examination is permitted. The use of graphing calculators, cell phones, and computers is not permitted.

Take-home Essay

1. Essays are to be submitted by 20:00 on February 15, 2018 via D2L Dropbox, before the folder becomes unavailable.
2. Essay questions will be posted on February 1, 2018. Every student will choose 1 question to answer in an argumentative essay, no more than 1 pages in length.
3. Students are encouraged to discuss their essays with their classmates, but each must write up their own answers. Copying or misrepresenting someone else's work as your own is a serious offence, which will not be tolerated. Your attention is directed to the "Statement of Intellectual Honesty" in the 2017-2018 Calendar. Taking credit for someone else's work is something for which I show zero tolerance.

Reappraisal of Grades and Intellectual Honesty:

For reappraisal of graded term work, see Calendar I.2

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

For reappraisal of final grade, see Calendar I.3

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

Statement of Intellectual Dishonesty, see Calendar K.4

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-4.html>

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct, , see Calendar K.5

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>

Academic Accommodations:

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than disability should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

Important Dates:

Please check: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>

Student Organizations:

Faculty of Arts Students' Association (F.A.S.A.):

Economics Department Representative

Office: SS 803, E-mail: econrep@fasaucalgary.ca and Web: www.fasaucalgary.ca.

Society of Undergraduates in Economics:

<https://www.ucalgarysue.com/>.

Society of Undergraduates in Economics is a student run organization whose main purpose is to assist undergraduate economics students to succeed both academically and socially at the University of Calgary. Services include access to the exam bank, career events such as Industry Night and information sessions, mentorship programs, and social events for members. They invite you to join by contacting SUE at societyofundergradsineconomics@gmail.com.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call them at 403-220-3580 or email them at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns, including program planning and advice.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them in the MacKimmie Library Block.
- Online writing resources are available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/resources/writing-support>.

Evacuation Assembly Point:

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The assembly point for this classroom is the Social Science Food Court

Safewalk:

The Safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus. This service is free and available 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year. **Call 403-220-5333.**

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act:

Personal information is collected in accordance with FOIP. For more information, see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip/foip-hia>.

Internet and Electronic Communication Device information:

The use of cell phones for any purpose in class is prohibited. Computers and tablets may be used for note-taking only.

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