

## Economics 201(L01) (Principles of Microeconomics)

Instructor:	Omid Atabati	Lecture Location:	ST 135
Email:	<a href="mailto:oatabati@ucalgary.ca">oatabati@ucalgary.ca</a>	Lecture Days/Time:	MW 08:00 - 10:45
Office:	SS405		
Office Hours:	By appointments via email	Spring 2017	

**Course Description:** The primary purpose of this course is to provide a basic understanding of microeconomic theory. Economics at its core is the study of decisions that have to be made in order to manage scarce resources available to us. Microeconomics is the branch of economics, where these decisions made at the individual level (i.e., by individual consumers or individual firms) after cost and benefit analysis of different alternative use of resources.

When we talk about the economy, we are referring to the marketplace or system in which these decisions interact with one another. In this course, you will learn how and why these decisions are made and how they affect one another in the economy. To do so, we start with the basic ideas of tradeoffs, opportunity cost, and the gains from trade, we will study how the market forces of supply and demand cause prices to be what they are. We will see the sense in which market economies are efficient, and the way governments can make our economy less or more efficient. Time permitting; we will have an introductory study on the frontier of microeconomics: Behavioral Economics, where factors affecting human behavior and decision-making are studied with more scrutiny.

Some of the topics listed below maybe deleted depending on time constraints.

	Textbook Chapters
The Economist's View of the World, the Economic Way of Thinking and the Ten Principles of Economics	1 – 3
Supply and Demand: How Markets Work	4 – 6
Supply and Demand: Markets and Welfare	7 – 9
Market Structures: Firm Behavior and Organization	13 – 16
Market Structures and Labor Markets	17 – 20
Market Imperfections: Market Power, Externalities, Public Goods	10 – 11
Frontiers of Microeconomics: Behavioral Economics	22

### Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes:

This course will enable students to understand microeconomic issues which arise in everyday life. As well, it will prepare students for more advanced courses in microeconomics.

**Prerequisites/corequisites:** None

**Required Textbook(s):**

Mankiw et al. Principles of Microeconomics, 7th Canadian edition. Thomson Nelson. + Mindtap Access Kit

*OR Digital only Alternative:*

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

**Reserved Readings:** None

**Tutorials:**

Students are expected to attend the weekly tutorial section to which they have been assigned. During the tutorial section the TA will discuss pre-assigned questions/material relevant to the course.

**Course Requirements/Assessments:**

Requirements	Date	Grade
Assignments:		20%
Assignment 1	<b>May 24</b>	
Assignment 2	<b>June 7</b>	
Assignment 3	<b>June 21</b>	
Midterm	<b>June 12</b>	30%
Final exam	<b>TBA</b>	50%

**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**

Department of Economics Criteria for Letter Grades. Economics professors use the following criteria when assigning letter grades:

Grade	Grade Point Value	Description	Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	4.00	Outstanding	C+	2.30	
A	4.00	Excellent-superior performance, showing-comprehensive understanding of subject matter	C	2.00	Satisfactory – basic understanding of the subject matter
A-	3.70		C-	1.70	Receipt of a grade point average of 1.70 may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation. (See individual undergraduate faculty regulations.)
B+	3.30		D+	1.00	

B	3.00	Good – clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.	D	1.00	Minimal pass – marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
B-	2.70		F	0	Fail – unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements
			I	0	Incomplete – unsatisfactory (effective January 2007)

### 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.

### Notes on Assignments:

1. PDF files with the assignments will appear in Course Documents in D2L at least 2 weeks before the assignment is due. All assignment questions are multiple choice. Students can collect an IBM bubble sheet in the lecture 2 weeks before the assignment is due or in a tutorial at some point prior to the assignment being due. Instructors will not have the IBM sheets for the assignments in lectures other than in the one 2 weeks before the assignment is due. Please ensure that you fill in the bubbles for your UCID# and your name. If an assignment does not have both a UCID# and name filled in the bubble sheets, the score on that assignment will be zero.
2. Three assignments will be due at the beginning of the lectures in their corresponded due dates: **May 24, June 7, June 21**. Students will also be allowed to turn in their assignment any time before the deadline to instructor's office hour by appointment. It is your responsibility to remember the due dates. Late assignments will not be accepted under any circumstances.
3. Emails regarding the assignments should be directed to the teaching assistant (TA), who will be assigned to this course.

### Mindtap and Practice Problems:

1. Mindtap/aplia problem sets are entirely optional.
2. Please register on the Mindtap website within the first week of classes.
3. Emails regarding Mindtap should be directed towards the providers of Mindtap or to the teaching assistants (TAs) that will be assigned to this course.

**Notes on Examinations:**

1. Assignments and exams WILL consist of the multiple-choice questions.
2. The midterm examination will be held in class.
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 exam must be completed during the specified time. Extra time will not be given for any reason.
5. All examinations will be closed-book.
6. 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.
7. Examinations will not be given before the indicated examination date. For further information see the 2017-2018 Calendar.
8. 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.

**General Notes:**

1. Students should be aware of the academic regulations outlined in The University of Calgary Calendar.
2. The classroom is a No-cell-phone-zone. The use of cell phones for any purpose in class is prohibited. Computers may only be used for note-taking purposes.
3. Please note that the following types of emails will receive no response: emails not addressed to anyone in particular; anonymous emails; emails which do not specify the course and section in which you are registered.

**Reappraisal of Grades**

**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>

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (e.g., term paper, essay, test) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within 15 days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class; no reappraisal of term work is permitted after the 15 days. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next 15 days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same. If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within 15 days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written

documentation as possible.

### **Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct**

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct, <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>

### **Academic Accommodation**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities Visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/).

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>

### **Absence from a Quiz/Test/Exam**

THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUP OR DEFERRED QUIZZES/TESTS/EXAMS under any circumstances, nor may the quizzes/tests/exams be written early. Students unable to write the quizzes/tests/exams because of documented illness, family emergency, religious observance, or university-sanctioned event will have the weight shifted to the final examination; otherwise a grade of zero will be assigned. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam [www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred\\_final](http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred_final) Under no circumstance will this be accommodated by the department.

### **Important Dates**

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

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

Economics Department Representative

Office: SS 803, E-mail: [econrep@fasaucalgary.ca](mailto:econrep@fasaucalgary.ca) Web: [www.fasaucalgary.ca](http://www.fasaucalgary.ca)

Society of Undergraduates in Economics

[www.ucalgarysue.com](http://www.ucalgarysue.com)

Society of Undergraduates in Economics is a student run organization whose main purpose is to assist undergraduate economics students succeed both academically and socially at the University of Calgary. Services include access to the exam bank, career partnerships with the Career Centre through hosting industry nights and information sessions, recognizing achievements in teaching, and organizing social events for members.

*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](mailto: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 list of assembly points is found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/home/evacuation-assembly-points>

Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course

**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**