Economics 201(03) Principles of Microeconomics

Instructor: Peter Tracey  
Lecture Location: ICT 102  
Lecture Days/Time: MWF 1200 - 1250

Email: tracey@ucalgary.ca

Office: SS 346  
Office Hours: F 1300-1340  
Fall 2017

Course Description: This course focuses on the principle that markets are often the best way to organize economic activity.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes: This course will enable students to understand microeconomic issues that arise in daily life. Students will learn about the following topics, some of which may be deleted depending on time constraints:

1. Economic Foundations and Models  
2. Trade-offs and Comparative Advantage  
3. Supply and Demand  
4. Elasticity  
5. Economic Efficiency  
6. The Gains from International Trade  
7. Externalities and Public Goods  
8. Competition and Monopoly  
9. Game Theory and Oligopoly  
10. Labour Markets  
11. Public Choice and the Distribution of Income


Book(s) on Reserve: None

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 using or 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.
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.

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:

Midterm Examination 1: Wednesday, October 4, 2017  15%
Assignment 1:     Wednesday, October 18, 2017  10%
Assignment 2:     Wednesday, November 1, 2017  10%
Midterm Examination 2: Wednesday, November 8, 2017 15%
Final Examination  Scheduled by Registrar  50%

Assignments: Each assignment will be posted on D2L at least one week before its due date. Your answer for each assignment must not exceed two pages. Assignments must be submitted electronically by 11:00 am on each due date via the D2L Dropbox, before it becomes unavailable. Accordingly, late assignments will never be accepted and will assigned a grade of zero. The purpose of the assignments is to encourage you to analyze economic issues in a logical and coherent manner, using good grammar. The TAs and I will not provide answers to you prior to the due dates. We, accordingly, will not respond to emails concerning answers to the assignments before they are due. If, for some reason, you are unhappy with the mark you receive, you must contact the TA who marked the assignment.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Grade Point Value</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Grade Point Value</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>Outstanding</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>Excellent-superior performance, showing-comprehensive understanding of subject matter</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>Satisfactory – basic understanding of the subject matter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td></td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.70</td>
<td>Receipt of a grade point average of 1.70 may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation. (See individual undergraduate faculty regulations.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.30</td>
<td></td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>Minimal pass – marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>Good – clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.70</td>
<td></td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Fail – unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>I</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Incomplete – unsatisfactory (effective January 2007)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>96 – 100</th>
<th>75 - 79</th>
<th>60 – 62</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90 – 95</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>85 – 89</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>55 – 59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>80 - 84</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>50 – 54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>75 – 79</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>45 – 49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tests, assignments, and the final exam are marked on a numerical (percentage) basis, then converted to letter grades. The course grade is then calculated using the weights indicated above. A passing grade on any particular component of the course is not required for a student to pass the course as a whole.

There will be a Registrar scheduled final examination, held in a classroom. It will last for 2 hours. Non-programmable calculators WILL be allowed during the writing of the tests and the final examination. Graphing calculators, cell phones, and computer devices are not permitted. Tests and exams WILL contain multiple choice questions.

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 7 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 7 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 7 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 7 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-2.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](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf).

Absence from an Assignment/ Test/Exam

THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUP OR DEFERRED ASSIGNMENTS/TESTS/EXAMS under any circumstances, nor may the tests/exams be written early. Students unable to write the assignments/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.

Notes:

1. Students should be aware of the academic regulations outlined in The University of Calgary Calendar.
2. Examinations will not be given prior to the scheduled date.
3. **Students will not be given extra time to complete the midterm exams and the final exam.**
4. 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.
5. Students will be responsible for all material covered in class and in the textbook, unless the instructor states otherwise.
6. Please note that the following types of emails will receive no response: emails not addressed to anyone in particular; emails where the recipient’s name is not spelled correctly; anonymous emails; emails which do not specify the course and section in which you are registered; and, emails involving questions that are specifically addressed on the course outline.
7. Deferred Final Exams may be of a different format than the Final Exam. They may contain either multiple-choice questions or problem-type questions.
8. **If you wish to contact me, please do so by e-mail rather than by phone.**
Important Dates
Please check: [http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html)

Students’ Union Vice-President Academic:
Phone: 403-220-3911
E-mail suvpaca@ucalgary.ca

Students’ Union Faculty Representative (Arts)
Phone: 403-220-3913 Office: MSC 251
E-mail arts1@su.ucalgary.ca arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca

Society of Undergraduates in Economics (S.U.E.):
[www.ucalgary.ca/sue](http://www.ucalgary.ca/sue)

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. They invite you to join by contacting sue@ucalgary.ca.

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](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](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 [www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints](http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints)

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

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