

Economics 201(L06) (Principles of Microeconomics)

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Office: SS348 (Social Science Building)

Office Hours: Mon. /Wed./Fri: 12:30 to 1:30 (or by appointment)

Lecture Location: ST 148

Lecture Days/Time: MWF – 2:00 to 2:50 p.m.

(Fall 2019)

Course Description

Economics is the study of how we respond to scarcity, in particular the alternatives and implications of how different institutions manage scarcity. Scarcity means that individuals and societies must make choices. The choice of institutions determines the allocation of scarce resources—what and how much gets produced, how is it produced, and who gets what is produced—and our standard of living. Econ 201 develops principles on how individuals make choices and how those choices are influenced by institutions. There is a particular focus on understanding the use of markets to allocate resources. The objective is to understand how markets work, when they work well, when they do not work well, and the role for governments and non-market allocation. Fundamentally the key questions for any student in economics are: 1) Why was life for most traditionally, and many currently, brutal, nasty, and (fortunately) short, but for others (in increasing numbers) it is not, and 2) Why are some societies wealthy and others are so unproductive that their members barely subsist?

Course Objectives

Students who complete Econ 201 successfully will be able to understand introductory microeconomic theory, solve basic microeconomic problems, and use these techniques to think about policy questions affecting the economy. This will include being able to answer questions regarding how markets work, when markets work and do not work well, and the role of government policy in allocating resources. This will provide students with a solid foundation in economic thinking that will last into their professional careers.

Prerequisites/corequisites: None

Required Textbook(s)

Microeconomics, R. Glenn Hubbard, Anthony Patrick O'Brien, Apostolos Serletis, and Jason Childs, Pearson, Second Canadian Edition, 2018.

Supplements: **MyEconLab:** Access code purchased with the text provides link to online homework, student resources, and the electronic version of the text.

Reserved Readings: None

MyEconLab: MyEconLab is a complementary learning tool that allows the student to complete practice and assignment questions that correspond with each chapter of the book. The main benefit of MyEconLab is that the questions are “tailor made” for the course and that feedback is given after each question. Graded assignment questions will be completed using MyEconLab. More information concerning student registration will be provided in the first 2 week of 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.

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. The commencement of the tutorials will be announced the first week of lectures.

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:

4 assignments (Using MyEconLab) (5% each - due dates will announced throughout the term)	20%
Midterm Examination (Monday October 28 th)	30%
Final Examination (date to be announced later by the Registrar’s Office.)	50%
Total	100%

Note: Due dates for the MyEconLab assignments will be announced at least 7 days prior to the due date.

The official grading system will be used. See <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.html>.

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

If a student’s letter grade on the final exam exceeds their midterm(s) letter grade, the weight of the midterm(s) is (are) transferred to the final exam. The student must have written the midterm(s) or provided supporting documentation for the absence(s) such as a medical note or statutory declaration.

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. See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>.

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

The final examination will be comprehensive, scheduled by the Registrar, held in a classroom, and last 2 hours. 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. Under no circumstance will this be accommodated by the Department.

Tests and exams WILL involve multiple choice questions.

Assignments/MyEconLab:

1. In order to complete assignments in this course, you will be required to access MyEconLab. Log in information and the course key will be discussed during the first two weeks of lectures.
2. Due dates for the graded assignments will be announced throughout the term. I will give at least one week's notice before the graded assignment is due.
3. Course material dealing with a particular assignment will typically be covered in class at least three days before the assignment is due; thus, assignments can be completed at any time up to and including the due date. Given these factors, only situations where someone can document illness or domestic affliction for an extended period (i.e., the entire 3 days prior to the due date) would possibly warrant shifting the assignment weight to the final exam. Furthermore, technical problems can be expected to 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 typically not justify shifting the assignment weight to the final exam.
4. Using MyEconLab, you will be given practice and graded problem sets. For the practice sets, you will obtain immediate feedback as to whether you have answered a question correctly. In many cases you will be provided with an explanation if you have not answered correctly. Your results in the practice problem sets are neither counted nor reported to the instructor. For the graded problem sets, you are allowed two (2) attempts for each graded assignment. The highest mark of your attempts will be counted towards your final assignment grade.
5. Emails regarding MyEconLab should be directed towards the providers of MyEconLab, (<http://247pearsoned.custhelp.com>) or to the teaching assistants (TAs), who will be assigned to this course.

Notes:

1. The midterm examination will be held during the lecture time. **The exam must be completed during the specified time. Extra time will not be given for any reason.**
2. For the midterm exam, we may be using multiple class rooms. If so, I will announce the allocation of these class rooms approximately 2 to 3 weeks prior to the midterm exam.
3. The use of a programmable calculator (e.g. graphing calculator) is NOT permitted during quizzes, midterm test and the final examination. **The use of tablets, computers, cell phones, blackberry's and other electronic devices (unless approved by your instructor) is not permitted.**
4. Students are reminded that simply being able to access their cellphone during an exam is academic misconduct.

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.

Reappraisal of Grades**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 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. 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>.

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

Personal information is collected in accordance with FOIP. Assignments can only be returned to the student and will be accessible only to authorized faculty and staff. For more information, see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/files/legalservices/faq-students.pdf> and http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/files/legalservices/faq-faculty_0.pdf.

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 unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

Copyright Legislation:

See the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright at www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf. Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

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.

Student Support and Resources:

- See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for information on campus mental health resources, the Student Ombuds' Office, Student Success Centre, Safewalk, and Emergency Evacuation and Assembly.
- Online writing resources are available at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/writing-support>.

Additional Notes:

1. Students should be aware of the academic regulations outlined in The University of Calgary Calendar.
2. 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.
3. I check my emails twice per day, once in the morning and once in the afternoon. (Excluding weekends) Since I teach hundreds of students, please send me an email only if it is absolutely necessary and/or in the case of an emergency.
4. Students are responsible for all assignment material, e.g. supplementary material posted on D2L, regardless of whether or not the material was covered in class.

jw/dm

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