**PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS**

**ECONOMICS 1021A-650**

Department of Economics
University of Western Ontario

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**Office:** SSC 4035*  
**Office Hours:** by appointment or by skype*  
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**Email:** dwalke44@uwo.ca  
**Undergraduate Inquiries:** 519-661-3507, or SSC 4075, or mconne4@uwo.ca  
**Course Websites:** MyEconLab and https://owltoo.uwo.ca  

*Please be aware that I do not have regular office space on campus. Arrangements to meet by phone, skype, or in person are best initiated by email.

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**Registration:** You are responsible for ensuring you are registered in the correct courses. If you are not registered in this course, the Department will not release your marks until your registration is corrected. You may check your timetable by using the Login on the Student Services website at https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm. If you notice a problem, please contact your faculty academic counsellor right away.

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**Prerequisites:** there are no prerequisites.

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**Course Objective:** To introduce you to the principles of microeconomics and enable you to understand and interpret economic events in the world around you using the economist’s toolkit. Microeconomics is the study of what, how, and for whom goods and services are produced and how markets allocate resources.

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**Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to

- identify and explain economic concepts and theories related to the behaviour of economic agents, markets, firm structures, social norms and government policies.

- integrate theoretical knowledge with quantitative and qualitative evidence in order to explain past economic events and to formulate predictions on future ones.

- articulate critical features and shortcomings of market structures and government policies and evaluate their effects on individual and social welfare.

- use economic reasoning to formulate and evaluate economic advice and policy.


Course Evaluation:

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online Quizzes**</td>
<td>See below for dates and times</td>
<td>40%**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>Saturday October 18, 9-11am TBC</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>[Date and time announced by Registrar]</td>
<td>40%</td>
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**Online Quizzes are optional. They will be on MyEconLab. (Instructions on how to access MyEconLab are found by clicking the syllabus tab). You may elect to opt out of these quizzes and have 40% weight on your midterm and 60% weight on your final exam. I will calculate your final grade including the online quizzes, and not including the online quizzes, and will use the higher grade. I recommend doing the online quizzes. They are good practice and can help keep you on schedule throughout the course.

All exams run for TWO HOURS.

What to bring to each exam
Valid UWO ID card – other forms of ID are *not* acceptable
Pencil, eraser, ruler, and a pocket calculator if you wish
Cell phones, iPods, iPads and dictionaries are *not* allowed

Missed Exams and Quizzes
You are responsible for access to relevant software and a reliable computer and internet connection. If compassionate or medical reasons prevent you from writing an online quiz (for those who elect to use MyEconLab) or an exam, you must inform the instructor and submit documentation to an academic counsellor to request relief. This should be done immediately, preferably within 24 hours. Submitting a request does not guarantee that accommodation will be offered. If approved for a make-up, the midterm exam will be rescheduled within a week of the originally scheduled date.
# Course Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>MyEconLab quiz due 11:59pm (EST/EDT) on</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sep. 4-5</td>
<td>Course Orientation</td>
<td>Sep. 17</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Sep. 8-12</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sep. 24</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Sep. 15-19</td>
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<td>Oct. 1</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Sep. 22-26</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Oct. 8</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Sep. 29-Oct. 3</td>
<td>4,5</td>
<td>Oct. 15</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Oct. 6-10</td>
<td>6,7</td>
<td>Oct. 22</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Oct. 14-17</td>
<td>8,9</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Oct. 20-24</td>
<td>10,11</td>
<td>Oct. 29</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Oct. 27-29</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Nov. 5</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Nov. 3-7</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Nov. 10-14</td>
<td>14,15</td>
<td>Nov. 19</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Nov. 17-21</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Nov. 26</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Nov. 24-28</td>
<td>18 (pp.416-419),19</td>
<td>Dec. 3</td>
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<td>Dec. 1-3</td>
<td>Review</td>
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**Midterm Exam on Saturday October 18 covers chapters 1-7**

**Final Exam date determined by Registrar, covers all chapters**

Note we are skipping chapter 17. You are responsible for the material in Chapter 18 on pp. 416-419 only. All other chapters listed here will be studied in their entirety, including the end of chapter mathematical notes where applicable.

**How to do well in this course:**

1. Begin by reading the Welcome announcement on OWL, which contains important information and instructions for the course. Be sure to follow the announcement’s directions to find the other documents on OWL which you must read before you get started with the course.

2. Start each week by reading the assigned textbook chapter. Then read the course notes provided for you. The course notes are a synopsis of the chapter. They do not contain all of the material that you need to know! You must read the textbook.

3. Work as many problems as you need to do to feel comfortable with the material. There are problems on MyEconLab and at the end of the chapter in the textbook. I also recommend using the Study Guide as a workbook (listed above). There is no lack of
problems to work on! Economics requires active learning. Passively reading the textbook rarely results in a passing grade.

4. When you feel that you have mastered the material, attempt the MyEconLab quiz. If you have any questions, post them on the Forum. Your classmates will be happy to discuss your question with you, and I will check the forum to make sure that no one will lead you astray.

5. Remember you can always email me at the address listed above as well.
Please Note
Department Policies for 2014 – 2015

Remember that the University expects all students to take responsibility for their own academic Programs. Also remember to check your registration to make sure you are enrolled in the correct courses.

1. Guidelines and policies for the Faculty of Social Science and the Department of Economics are posted online in the current Western Academic Calendar at http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca.


3. **Cheating as an academic offence:** Students are responsible for understanding what it means to “cheat”. The Department of Economics treats cheating incidents very seriously and will investigate any suspect behavior. Students found guilty will incur penalties that could include a failing grade or being barred from future registration in other economics courses or programs. The University may impose further penalties such as a notation on your official academic transcript, suspension or expulsion.

4. **Plagiarism:** Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge it by using quotation marks where appropriate and referencing with footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the current UWO Academic Calendar at http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2014/pg113.html.

The University of Western Ontario uses software to check for plagiarism and students may be required to submit their written work in electronic form. Those found guilty will have penalties imposed as noted in point 3.

5. It is Department of Economics policy that **NO** assignments be dated, stamped or accepted by staff. Students are responsible for submitting assignments in class or to the instructor during office hours.

6. When appealing a mark, students should refer to the University's Procedures in the current UWO Academic Calendar (http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2014/pg112.html). Please note the relevant deadlines.

The Department will not consider any appeal unless an attempt has been made to settle the matter first with your instructor. If after this discussion you remain dissatisfied with a grade or other decision, you may proceed with a written appeal (e-mails are not acceptable) to the Undergraduate Director in Economics, stating the reasons for your appeal. A useful form and checklist is provided at (http://economics.uwo.ca/undergraduate/program_counselling/responsibilities_policies.html#appeals).
7. Systematic adjustments of a class grade distribution (either up or down) can occur in Economics courses. The fact that grades have been adjusted is not grounds for an appeal.

8. Note the following add and drop deadlines:

   Last day to add a full course or First term half course:  
   **Friday, September 12th, 2014**

   Last day to drop second term half course without academic penalty:  
   **Wednesday, November 5th, 2014**

9. Faculty of Social Science policy states that oversleeping or misreading an exam schedule is not an excuse for a make-up. This rule applies to all mid-term tests and final exams in the Department of Economics.

   **Policy Regarding Makeup Tests and Final Examinations**

   *Academic Accommodation will not be granted automatically on request. You must demonstrate by documentation that there are compelling medical or compassionate grounds before academic accommodation will be considered.*

   If you decide to write a test or an examination, you must be prepared to accept the mark you earn. Rewriting tests or examinations, or having the value of the test or examination reweighted on a retroactive basis, is not permitted. Book airline flights after you know the dates of your final examinations. Airline flights must not conflict with test or final exams.

   If you are requesting a makeup test for a midterm or a final examination, unless medically incapable, notify your instructor by email or phone, preferably prior to the scheduled date of the test, but definitely within 24 hours of the date of the test or exam. Failure to follow this procedure may result in denial of a request for academic accommodation or result in a grade of zero. Set up an appointment as soon as possible to meet personally with your instructor. If the instructor is not available, you may send an email message, copying the Undergraduate Coordinator at econugrd@uwo.ca (Social Science Room 4075). **Notifying your instructor of a missed test or exam does not automatically entitle you to a makeup test.**

   Students who seek a makeup test or examination must provide medical or other relevant verification that their absence from a regularly scheduled test or examination is beyond their control. Documentation must support your reasons. Medical documentation should be given to the Academic Counselling Office of your **home Faculty as soon as possible (preferably within 24 hours of the test)** if you know you may not be able to write your final examination on the scheduled day and time. Failure to follow this procedure, or to provide supporting documentation, may result in denial of a request for academic accommodation or result in a grade of zero. If your documentation is not acceptable, you will be given a zero for the missed test.

   For personal illness, if you consult Student Health Services regarding your illness or personal problem, you should request a Student Medical Certificate from the physician. If
you were seen by an off-campus doctor, obtain a certificate from his/her office at the time of your visit. The off-campus medical certificate form must be used and can be found at: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf. Notes stating "For Medical Reasons" are not considered sufficient.

For any other circumstances, if you are not sure what documentation to provide, ask your Academic Counselor. If your documentation is judged sufficient, the academic counselor will issue a Recommendation for a Special Examination (a single form for midterms or a triple color form for final examinations). Once you have this form, contact your instructor as soon as possible to make arrangements. Even if approved from your home faculty Academic Counsellor, there is no guarantee that you will be allowed to write the makeup test and exam.

For final examinations, you need permission from your home Faculty Counsellor, your instructor, and the Department Undergraduate Director. Failure to follow this procedure may result in an examination grade of zero. You must ensure that the Special Examination form has been signed by the instructor and Department Undergraduate Director and that the form is returned to the Academic Counseling Office for approval without delay. Make-up final examinations, if permitted, will be written within one month of the end of the exam period.

Policies Regarding Academic Accommodation

Information about the Faculty of Social Science’s policies regarding academic accommodation is found on its website at http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/havingproblems.asp or in Social Science Room 2105. Your “Academic Rights and Responsibilities” are also outlined in the current UWO Calendar at http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2014/pg111.html. Claiming that “you didn’t know what to do” is not an acceptable excuse for not following the stated procedures.

Policy Regarding Class Attendance

If your instructor views your class attendance as unsatisfactory, you can be prohibited from writing the final examination. If there is intent to make use of this University policy, you will be notified in writing.

Statement on Mental Health and Support Services

If you or someone you know is experiencing emotional/mental distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/ for more information and a complete list of resources, as well as how to obtain help.