

PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS ECONOMICS 1021A-650

Department of Economics
Western University

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Required Course Materials

Textbook: *MICROECONOMICS Canada in the Global Environment*, Ninth Edition, by Michael Parkin and Robin Bade

MyEconLab: www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com (required for online quizzes)

Access code comes with new textbook, or can be purchased separately.

Course ID: rivers07049

Course Website: <http://owl.uwo.ca>

Course Objective

The goal of this course is to introduce you to the microeconomic principles that will enable you to understand and interpret events in the world around you. We will analyze the choices of consumers and producers, and how these choices influence market outcomes. We will explore how these decisions are affected by market conditions and government policies and interventions.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to understand, explain, and analyze:

- the economic way of thinking using the concepts of scarcity, choosing at the margin, tradeoffs, and incentives.
- how prices and quantities are determined under perfect competition, imperfect competition and monopoly.
- how consumers and producers react to changes in prices.
- how consumers choose what to buy given budget limitations.
- a producer's costs and its profit maximization decision under perfect competition, imperfect competition, and monopoly.
- the impact of government intervention in markets.

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.

Prerequisite Note

There is no prerequisite for this course.

Assessment

Online Quizzes*	See below for dates and times	40%
Midterm	Saturday, June 18, 2:00PM	20%
Final Exam	To be scheduled by the registrar	40%

*Online Quizzes are found on MyEconLab. (Instructions on how to access MyEconLab are found on the course website under Resources > MyEconLab Instructions.) You may opt out of these quizzes and have 40% weight on your midterm and 60% weight on your final exam. I will calculate each student's course mark including the online quizzes, and not including the online quizzes, and will use the higher mark. I highly recommend doing the online quizzes. They are excellent practice and will help to keep you on schedule throughout the course.

Note: Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that checks for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

What to Bring to Exams

- Current UWO student ID
- Pencils, erasers
- Non-graphing, non-programmable calculator out of its case

Dictionaries, graphing calculators, programmable calculators, cell phone calculators, laptops, or other electronic devices are not allowed during exams.

Policy Regarding Missed Exams and Quizzes

If you miss an online quiz or an exam, you must inform the instructor within 48 hours. You will be provided with further instruction regarding procedures to follow at that time. Only valid reasons, with proper approved documentation, will be granted accommodation. In the case of a missed online quiz, the due date will be extended by a maximum of one week. In the case of a missed exam, the exam will be rescheduled within a week of the originally scheduled exam date.

Course Schedule

Week	Dates	Chapters	MyEconLab quiz is due at 11:59PM on
1	May 9-13	1, 2	May 17
2	May 16-20	3	May 24
3	May 24-27	4, 5	May 31
4	May 30-June 3	6	June 7
5	June 6-10	8, 9	June 14
6	June 13-17	10, 11	June 21
Midterm Exam on Saturday, June 18 at 2:00PM covers Ch. 1-6 and 8-9			
7	June 20-24	12	June 28
8	June 27-30	13	July 5
9	July 4-8	14	July 12
10	July 11-15	15	July 19
11	July 18-22	16	July 26
12	July 25-29	18, 19	N/A (See below)
Final Exam date Determined by Registrar covers all chapters			

*We are skipping Chapters 7 and 17. You are responsible for the material in Chapter 18 on pp. 414-417 only. All other chapters will be studied in their entirety, including end of chapter mathematical notes where applicable.

*Note that there is no graded quiz associated with Ch. 18-19. I will still post a quiz on these chapters for you to try on your own as you prepare for the final exam.

How to do well in this course

1. 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.
2. 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. There is no lack of problems to work on! Economics requires active learning. Passively reading the textbook rarely results in a passing grade.
3. When you feel that you have mastered the material, attempt the MyEconLab quiz.
4. If you have any questions, post them on the Forum. Your classmates will be happy to discuss your question with you, and I check the Forum daily to make sure that no one will lead you astray.
5. Remember you can always email me. I monitor my email account closely every day, and I always reply within 24 hours.

Please Note

Department Policies – Summer 2016

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>.
2. Students must familiarize themselves with the “Rules of Conduct for Examinations” <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg136.html>.
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 behaviour. 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/2016/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/2016/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:

Dates for **adding** courses in the summer:

Last day to <u>add</u> a Distance Studies Course	Monday, May 13, 2016
Last day to <u>add</u> an Intersession Course:	Tuesday, May 17, 2016
Last day to <u>add</u> a first term half course Summer Evening:	Friday, May 8, 2016
Last day to <u>add</u> a second term half course Summer Evening:	Friday, June 24, 2016

Dates for **dropping** Courses in the summer:

Last day to <u>drop</u> a Distance Studies Course	Monday, June 13, 2016
Last day to <u>drop</u> an Intersession Course	Monday, June 6, 2016
Last day to <u>drop</u> a first term half course Summer Evening:	Monday, June 6, 2016
Last day to <u>drop</u> a second term half course Summer Evening:	Friday, July 18, 2016

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 Counsellor. 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 ASAP 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 Chair. 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 Chair 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/2016/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 debarred 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.