# PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS ECONOMICS 1021A-650

Department of Economics Western University

**Instructor:** Emilie Rivers May 2018

Office: 4086 SSC

**Phone**: (519) 661-2111 ext. 85276

E-mail: <u>erivers5@uwo.ca</u>
Office Hours: by appointment

Course website: https://owl.uwo.ca/

Undergraduate inquiries: 519-661-3507 SSC Room 4075 or econugrd@uwo.ca

## 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 any of your marks until your registration is corrected. You may check your timetable by using the Login on the Student Services website at <a href="https://student.uwo.ca">https://student.uwo.ca</a>. If you notice a problem, please contact your home Faculty Academic Counsellor immediately.

# **Prerequisite Note**

There are no prerequisites for this course. The former Economics 1020 is an anti-requisite.

You are responsible for ensuring that you have not taken the anti-requisite course. If you are found to be ineligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. This decision cannot be appealed.

If you find that you have taken the anti-requisite course, it is in your best interest to drop the course well before the end of the add/drop period. Your prompt attention to this matter will not only help protect your academic record, but will ensure that spaces become available for students who require the course in question for graduation.

## **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.

### **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: rivers66393

#### **Course Schedule**

| Week  | Dates         | Chapters* | MyEconLab quiz**<br>due at 11:59PM on |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| 1   | May 7-11      | 1, 2      | May 16                                |
| 2   | May 14-18     | 3         | May 23                                |
| 3   | May 22-25     | 4, 5      | May 30                                |
| 4   | May 28-June 1 | 6         | June 6                                |
| 5   | June 4-8      | 8, 9      | June 13                               |
| 6   | June 11-15    | 10, 11    | June 20                               |
| Midterm Exam on Saturday, June 16 at 2:00PM covers Ch. 1-6 and 8-9.                   |               |           |                                       |
| 7   | June 18-22    | 12        | June 27                               |
| 8   | June 25-28    | 13        | July 4                                |
| 9   | July 3-6      | 14        | July 11                               |
| 10  | July 9-13     | 15        | July 18                               |
| 11  | July 16-20    | 16        | July 25                               |
| 12  | July 23-27    | 18, 19    | N/A                                   |
| Final Exam date determined by Registrar. Final Exam is cumulative (1-6, 8-16, 18-19). |               |           |                                       |

<sup>\*</sup> 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.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Online Quizzes are found on MyEconLab. (Instructions on how to access MyEconLab are found on the course website under Resources > MyEconLab Instructions.)

#### **Calculation of Course Mark**

Your course mark will be the better of:

Online Quiz Average\* 20%, Midterm 30%, Final Exam 50%

OR

Midterm 40%, Final Exam 60%

\* Your Online Quiz Average is computed based on your best 10 of 11 Online Quiz scores. 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 phones, laptops, or other electronic and/or Internet-capable devices are <u>not</u> 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.

#### 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 you should typically expect a reply within 24 hours, excluding weekends and holidays.

# Please Note Department Policies for Summer 2018

Remember that the University expects all students to take responsibility for their own Academic Programs. Students should also check their registration to ensure they are enrolled in the correct courses.

- Guidelines and policies for the Faculty of Social Science and the Department of Economics are posted online in the current Western Academic Calendar at: <a href="http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca">http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca</a>.
- 2. Students must familiarize themselves with the "Rules of Conduct for Examinations" <a href="http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\_policies/exam/administration.pdf">http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\_policies/exam/administration.pdf</a>.
- 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 an official academic transcript, suspension or expulsion.
- 4. **Plagiarism:** Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. When taking an idea/passage from another author, it must be acknowledged with quotation marks where appropriate and referenced with footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is an academic offence (see Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students in the Western Calendar at <a href="http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page\_20">http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page\_20</a>).

Western University uses software to check for plagiarism and students may be required to electronically submit their work. Those found guilty will be penalized as noted in point 3.

- 5. It is a Department of Economics policy that **NO** assignments be dated, stamped or accepted by staff. Students must submit assignments in class or to the instructor during office hours.
- 6. When appealing a mark, students should refer to the Student Academic Appeals section in the current Western Academic Calendar at:

  <a href="http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page">http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page</a> 14.

Please note the relevant deadlines.

The Department will not consider an appeal unless an attempt has been made to settle the matter with the instructor first. Students who remain dissatisfied with the outcome may proceed with a written appeal (e-mails are not acceptable) to the Undergraduate Director in Economics, stating the reasons for their appeal. A checklist is provided at: <a href="http://economics.uwo.ca/undergraduate/program\_counselling/responsibilities\_policies.htm">http://economics.uwo.ca/undergraduate/program\_counselling/responsibilities\_policies.htm</a> <a href="http://economics.uwo.ca/undergraduate/program\_counselling/responsibilities\_policies.htm">http://economics.uwo.ca/undergraduate/program\_counselling/responsibilities\_policies.htm</a> <a href="http://economics.uwo.ca/undergraduate/program\_counselling/responsibilities\_policies.htm">http://economics.uwo.ca/undergraduate/program\_counselling/responsibilities\_policies.htm</a>

- 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:

Deadlines to add courses in the summer:

Distance Studies: Friday May 11, 2018
Intersession: Tuesday May 15, 2018
Summer Evening (first term): Friday May 11, 2018
Summer Evening (second term): Friday June 22, 2018

Deadlines to drop courses in the summer:

Distance Studies: Monday June 11, 2018
Intersession: Monday June 4, 2018
Summer Evening (first term): Monday June 4, 2018
Summer Evening (second term): Monday July 16, 2018

9. Faculty of Social Science policy states that oversleeping or misreading an exam schedule is NOT grounds for a makeup. This rule applies to midterm and final exams in the Department of Economics.

## **Policy Regarding Makeup Tests and Final Examinations**

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

Students who proceed to write a test or examination must be prepared to accept the mark. Rewriting tests or examinations, or having their value reweighted on a retroactive basis, is **not** permitted. Students must also book travel arrangements AFTER final exam dates have been posted as they must not conflict with test or final exams.

Unless medically incapable of doing so, students must notify their instructor prior to the test date or at least within **24 hours** when requesting a makeup exam. Failure to follow this procedure may result in denial of academic accommodation and a grade of zero. Students should also set up an appointment as soon as possible to meet with their instructor. If the instructor is not available, send an email message, copying the Undergraduate Coordinator at <a href="mailto:econugrd@uwo.ca">econugrd@uwo.ca</a>. Notifying instructors of a missed exam does not automatically entitle students to a makeup.

Students who seek a makeup exam must also provide supporting medical or other relevant documentation that their absence from a scheduled test or exam is beyond their control. Documentation should be submitted to the Academic Counselling Office of the student's *home* Faculty **as soon as possible (preferably within 24 hours of the scheduled test)**. Failure to follow this procedure may result in denial of academic accommodation and a grade of zero. If the documentation submitted is not acceptable, students will receive a zero for the missed test.

For personal illness, students may consult Student Health Services and request a Student Medical Certificate from the physician. If assessed by an off-campus doctor, students must obtain a certificate from his/her office at the time of the visit. The off-campus medical certificate form must also 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 religious or compassionate circumstances, students should ask their Academic Counsellor what documentation to provide. If documentation is judged sufficient, the Academic Counsellor will issue a Recommendation for a Special Examination (a single form for midterms or a triple-color form for final exams). Once students have this form, they must contact their instructor as soon as possible to make arrangements. Even if approved by their Academic Counsellor, there is no guarantee that students will be allowed to write the makeup test/exam.

For final examinations, students need to seek permission from their *home* Faculty Counsellor, Instructor, and the Department Undergraduate Director. Failure to follow this procedure may result in a grade of zero. Students 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 Counselling Office for approval without delay. If approved, makeup examinations will be written within one month of the end of the exam period.

## **Policies Regarding Academic Accommodation**

The Faculty of Social Science's policies regarding academic accommodation is found at <a href="http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/having\_problems/index.html">http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/having\_problems/index.html</a>.

"Academic Rights and Responsibilities" are also outlined in the Western Calendar at <a href="http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=1&command=showCategory&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=">http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=1&command=showCategory&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=</a>. 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 the instructor deems a student's class attendance as unsatisfactory, that student may be prohibited from writing the final examination. If there is intent to make use of this University policy, the student will be notified in writing.

#### **Statement on Mental Health and Support Services**

Students under emotional/mental distress should visit <a href="http://uwo.ca/health/mental\_wellbeing/">http://uwo.ca/health/mental\_wellbeing/</a> for more information and a complete list of resources on how to obtain help.