

PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS
ECONOMICS 1021A-001
Department of Economics
Western University

May 2020

General Information:

Instructor: Curtis Aquino
E-mail: caquino@uwo.ca
Office hours: by appointment¹
Course website: <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal>
Undergraduate inquiries: 519-661-3507 or 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 <https://student.uwo.ca>. 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 any anti-requisite courses. 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 Objectives:

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.

¹ Details are available on the course website. I will typically respond to emails within 24 hours, but I will also designate a block of time each week where I will reply much more quickly to facilitate “virtual” office hours

Course 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 (also available as an eText): *MICROECONOMICS Canada in the Global Environment*, Tenth Edition, by Michael Parkin and Robin Bade

MyEconLab: www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com (required for assessments)

Course ID: **aquino79074**

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

Tentative Course Schedule:

Important: This course schedule is **tentative** and **may change**. The dates with which we cover each chapter **may change**, and the quiz dates **may change**. Refer to the course website for up-to-date scheduling changes.

Week	Dates	Chapters*
1	May 4-8	1, 2, 3
2	May 11-15	4, 5, 6
3	May 19-22	8, 9, 10
4	May 25-29	11, 12
Reading Week May 30 – June 5: No New Material		
5	June 8-12	13, 14, 15
6	June 15-19	17, 18

* We are skipping Chapters 7 and 16. You are responsible for the material in Chapter 17 on pp. 398-401 only. All other chapters will be studied in their entirety, including end of chapter mathematical notes where applicable.

Assessments and Grading:

All regularly scheduled assessments in this course will be held online on **MyEconLab**. Instructions on how to access MyEconLab are found on the course website under Resources. The tentative data, coverage and weight of the assessments in the calculation of your course mark are as follows:

Assessment	Date	Chapters	Weight
Test 1	May 15	Ch. 1-4	20%
Test 2	May 22	Ch. 3-6, 8-9	20%
Test 3	May 29	Ch. 5-6, 8-11	20%
Test 4	June 12	Ch. 10-13	20%
Test 5	June 19	Ch. 12-15, 17-18	20%

Tests will be mixed format. Tests may vary in length and the specific time limit for each test will be announced no later than the Monday preceding each test date. No individual test will have a time limit exceeding 2 hours.

Students should keep this schedule and workload in mind given their other courses and commitments. Students should plan ahead to ensure that they have the capacity to complete the tests on these dates. Students should notify the instructor of conflicts with **any** of these test dates **no later than May 18**.

Policy Regarding Missed Assessments:

Students with an approved absence from **one** assessment during the term will have the weight of the missed assessment reallocated to the assessment(s) that cover the same chapters as the missed assessment, except if the missed assessment is Test 5. If the approved absence from an assessment is for Test 5, and if this compromises the student's completion of the course learning outcomes, then the student will be required to write an additional assessment during the final exam period. This additional assessment may differ from Test 5 in format and may or may not be held on MyEconLab. Students who miss **two or more** assessments during the term are likely not to have met the course learning outcomes and may not be permitted to pass the course. They should contact the instructor for additional steps.

Students who miss any assessments **must** follow Western University's procedures for approval of their absence in order to receive an accommodation. Please see pp. 6-7 of this syllabus for details on these procedures. If Western University announces any procedures for the approval of absences during Summer 2020 that supplement or supplant the information provided on this syllabus, please follow those procedures.

How to do well in this course:

1. Start each week by reading the assigned textbook chapter(s). 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, at the end of the chapter in the textbook, and on the course website under Resources > Additional Sample Questions. There is no lack of problems to work on! Economics requires active learning. Passively reading the textbook rarely results in a passing grade.
3. 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.
4. 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.

Copyright:

Lectures and course materials, including power point presentations, outlines, and similar materials, are protected by copyright. Students may take notes and make copies of course materials for their own educational purposes. Students may not record lectures, reproduce (or allow others to reproduce), post or distribute lecture notes, wiki material, and other course materials publicly and/or for commercial purposes without written consent.

Please Note
Department Policies for Summer 2020

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.

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://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/administration.pdf.
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 http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_20).

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:
http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_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:
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:

Session	Deadline to Add a Course
Distance Studies	Friday May 8, 2020
Intersession	Tuesday May 12, 2020
Summer Evening (first term)	Friday May 8, 2020
Summer Evening (second term)	Friday June 26, 2020

Session	Deadline to Drop a Course
Distance Studies	Monday June 15, 2020
Intersession	Monday June 8, 2020
Summer Evening (first term)	Monday June 8, 2020
Summer Evening (second term)	Monday July 20, 2020

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 on Tests, Final Exams and on Missed Academic Responsibilities

Students who proceed to write a test or examination must be prepared to accept the mark. Rewriting tests or examinations, or retroactive reweighting of marks, is **not** permitted. Students must book travel arrangements AFTER final exam dates have been posted; travel is not an acceptable excuse for absence from a final exam.

Students who are temporarily unable to meet academic requirements due to extenuating circumstances can follow Western University procedures to request academic consideration through the following routes:

- a) Submit a Self-Reported Absence form if the conditions for submission are met (e.g., only for exams or assessments worth 30% or less of the course mark; not applicable to final exams; maximum one self-reported absence per summer term; see [link](#) for full list of conditions and info).

If the conditions for submission of a Self-Reported Absence form are not met, then:

- b) For medical absences, submit a Student Medical Certificate (SMC) signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner along with a request for academic consideration to Academic Counselling in the student's home Faculty (see [link](#) for full info) ; or
- c) For non-medical absences (e.g., religious or compassionate), submit appropriate documentation to Academic Counselling in the student's home Faculty (see [link](#) for full info).

It is strongly recommended that students notify their instructors as soon as possible. University policy is that students **must** communicate with their instructors no later than **24 hours** after the end of the period covered by either the self-reported absence or SMC, or immediately upon their return following a documented absence. Failure to follow University policy and procedures may result in denial of academic accommodation and a grade of zero. Students should also set up an appointment to meet (virtually) with their instructor as soon as possible. If the instructor is not available, send an email message, copying the Undergraduate Coordinator at econugrd@uwo.ca.

Note: Academic consideration is not normally intended for long-term, recurring absences, an existing disability, or high levels of stress related to academic performance. In such cases, students should consult their academic counsellor. See [link](#) for full information. In all cases, if the documentation submitted to request academic consideration is not acceptable, students will receive a grade of zero for the missed test, exam, or assignment.

For full information about Western University’s policies and procedures for student absences and requests for academic consideration, please visit this [link](#).

Policies Regarding Academic Accommodation

The Faculty of Social Science’s policies regarding academic accommodation is found at http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/having_problems/index.html. “Academic Rights and Responsibilities” are also outlined in the Western Calendar at <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=1&command=showCategory&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=>. 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 http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/ for more information and a complete list of resources on how to obtain help.