

Syllabus

Principles of Microeconomics

Fall 2017

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Phone:	(936) 294-4304		and by appointment

Course Number: Economics 2302 – Principles of Microeconomics
Prerequisites: None
Lectures: Online

Course Description: This course covers basic economic principles including individual decision-making, price theory, analysis of the firm, competition and monopoly, and the distribution of income.

Student Learning Outcomes: As a result of this course you will be able to

- understand and articulate the core economic principles and concepts that form the foundation for microeconomic theory and analysis;
- understand, articulate, and illustrate the features of competitive markets;
- analyze economic problems using the basic principles of price theory, and you will understand how a price system allocates scarce resources;
- analyze profit maximizing firms' decisions to supply goods to the market, and how market characteristics impact pricing and output decisions;
- evaluate the efficiency of markets, as well as identify common causes of market failures.

Required Materials: The text for this class is Bade & Parkin. *Economics*, 8th edition. The book is available in e-book format free of charge through blackboard. You do not need to purchase this book if you are content using the e-book. If you prefer a printed version of the text, it is possible to purchase a ring-bound version of the book for \$80 by following the provided links on blackboard.

We will also use MyEconLab for practice problems and quizzes. Access to MyEconLab is also provided free of charge through blackboard.

I provide instruction on how to access the free e-book and MyEconLab in blackboard, including the required access code. For your reference, the access code is **HSCTEE-CRISS-RETECH-HOGUE-STAIR-BOARD**

Resources:

- **Tutoring:** Tutoring is available free of charge Monday-Friday, 11:00am-4:30pm in SHB 108.
- **Department Website:** shsu.edu/academics/economics-and-international-business/
- **Department Facebook Group:** facebook.com/groups/208741956458/

Examinations: You will be evaluated based on your performance on several quizzes that will be completed in MyEconLab, four in-class examinations throughout the semester, as well as a comprehensive final exam at the end of the semester.

- Each exam carries equal weight of 100 points each. Your lowest scoring partial exam will be dropped from grade calculations. The final exam cannot be dropped. Therefore, you can earn 400 total possible points from exams.
- There will be a total of 10 quizzes, but only your 8 best-scoring quizzes with a possible point value of 25 points each will be used in calculating your grade. Therefore, you can earn 200 total possible points from quizzes.

- Exams are specifically for YOU to take on your own without assistance from other individuals. Moreover, you should not use your textbook, exam prep notes, mobile phone, or any other outside material when completing the exam.
- We use a program called ProctorFree to ensure the academic integrity of exams. ProctorFree monitors biometric and electronic indicators while you take the exam to assess your behavior and also records your actions during the exam. ProctorFree is required for all exams, but not for the quizzes.

Your final course grade is based on the points you earned in the class out of 600 possible points. The standard grading scale applies as follows:

Course Letter Grade		
Points	%	Grade
≥ 540	(≥ 90%)	"A"
480 – 539	(≥ 80%)	"B"
420 – 479	(≥ 70%)	"C"
360 – 419	(≥ 60%)	"D"
< 360	(< 60%)	"F"

Course Organization: I organize the structure of this class with a very consistent time schedule.

- All topics, assignments, and exams will always become available on Mondays at 00:01am.
- All assignments and exams are always due on Sundays by 11:59pm. In fact, there will be something due by 11:59pm on every single Sunday during this semester.
- You can always turn in work before the deadline. For example, you can certainly turn in a quiz on Wednesday already. You don't have to wait until Sunday.

I am organizing the class with such straightforward structure because I think that it will help you schedule your own time. I strongly suggest that you set aside a few hours every week at regular times to work on this class. This is an online class, and so you don't attend a physical classroom. However, keep in mind that a face-to-face class meets for about 3 hours each week, plus you would spend additional time studying and working on assignments. This means that you need to schedule an equal amount of time each week to work on this online class in order to be successful; the only difference is that you can schedule this time around your life at your convenience.

Make-up Policy: Given that you have one full week (Monday-Sunday) to complete your assignments and exams, no late work will be accepted. Remember, you can always get things done early.

Cell phone Policy: Smart phones –or any other electronic devices not explicitly approved by me—are not allowed during exams. Please put away your phones while taking exams. SHSU Academic Policy Statement 100728 states:

"Any use of a telephone or text messenger or any device that performs these functions during a test period is prohibited, [...] Even the visible presence of such a device during the test period will result in a zero for that test. Use of these devices during a test is considered de facto evidence of cheating and could result in a charge of academic dishonesty."

Other Policy Matters: This is an online class, and therefore some university policies may not apply to this course. Still, please visit shsu.edu/syllabus to review university policies regarding:

- student absences on religious holy days,
- students with disabilities,
- visitors in the class room,
- and academic dishonesty. (NB: cheating will result in an automatic F in the course.)

Tentative Lecture Schedule: Please see the blackboard page for all details.

Date	Topic
Week 0	Introduction
Week 1	Economics, Economists, and Economic Models
Week 2	Consumers, Producers, Demand, Supply
Week 3	Exam 1
Week 4	Elasticities
Week 5	Market Intervention, Government Policy
Week 6	Exam 2
Week 7	Efficiency
Week 8	Externalities, Market Failures
Week 9	Exam 3
Week 10	Production and Cost
Week 11	Competitive Firms and Profit Maximization
Week 12	Exam 4
Week 13	Less-than-perfectly competitive markets
Week 14	Review
Week 15	Final Exam