

University of Texas at El Paso

Syllabus

Principles of Microeconomics 2304

Fall 2019 MW 12:00 pm – 01:20pm

Instructor: Dr. Boris D. Higgins

Office Hours: Tue. 1:00pm-2:00pm; Wed. 3:00pm – 4pm and by Appointment

Location: Busn. Rm. 239

Telephone: Office:915-747-7718; Cell: 915-217-6113

E-mail: bhiggins@utep.edu

Text: Economics- Twenty First Edition

By McConnell, Brue & Flynn; Publisher: McGraw-Hill

Course Description and Objective: This course is the second part of the Principles of Economics set. This segment will cover the Microeconomics foundations of Economics which will comprise areas such as elasticity, economic decision making, consumer theory, production theory, market structures, externalities, among others. The student will be learning the rudimentary aspects of these areas and will be able to comprehend their applications in everyday economic life. At the completion of the course the student should come away with a fundamental grasp of the Microeconomics organic components and their practical utilization.

Methodology: Lecture and Class Discussion

Class Policy: It is recommended that students read the assigned chapters before coming to class and be otherwise prepared for class. Please be on time class is held MW for the semester. If you are going to be excessively late please don't take this course. If you are going to leave early excessively please don't take this course. Prior consent is needed from the instructor if you are going to leave class early. Students should not engage in any unnecessary side conversation because it is disrespectful to the professor and disturbs other students. If this behavior occurs students will be warned and if it continues students will be asked to leave the class and/or eventually dropped from the course. You are permitted to bring a small snack or drink in the classroom but please clean up after yourselves.

Please turn off your cell phones when you come into class and re-activate them when you leave class. Please no texting in class. If you need help please make an appointment to meet with me. Students can also ask questions in class as the lecture is occurring. If you need to contact me do so by the above means but please don't contact me before six in the morning or after ten at night. The best way to contact me is by telephone(call or text). If you message me

please do so through blackboard(preferably). **Please complete your homework by the due date. There will be no make-up homework if you miss the due date. Homework will usually be completed on-line via Blackboard/Connect. PLEASE GO TO BLACKBOARD FIRST BEFORE YOU GO TO CONNECT TO START YOUR HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT OTHERWISE YOUR GRADE FOR YOUR HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT WON'T SHOW IN BLACKBOARD.** Tests will be administered on Wednesday's in class. You will use a scantron(form 882 E) and a pencil(no pen) to take your exam. You have to provide your own scantron and pencil. You can purchase both from the university bookstore. You can also bring a standard non-programable, non-graphing calculator to take your exam. **There will be only one make up test given if you miss a test. Only one test can be missed. You will have the regular first two class days to contact me from the date of the missed test so arrangements can be made for a make-up test. If you haven't contacted me within those two days you will not be permitted to take a make-up test.** There will also be no extra credit assignments given except at the professor's discretion. Attendance is required for this course according to the university policy set forth in the catalog but not mandatory. If you miss class it is up to you to get all pertinent information that was covered in class and **please be aware that lecture notes will also be used to make up the tests. Please don't contact me for the notes if you miss class. So, it is beneficial for everyone to attend class on a regular basis. Cheating or plagiarism will not be tolerated in this course and anyone caught cheating and/or plagiarizing will be punished according to the policy set forth in the university catalog. For more information on plagiarism please refer to the Student Code of Conduct.** The final day to withdraw from the course without penalty and receive a "W" is **Friday November 1st, 2019.**

Exam Procedure: There will be a highly regimented protocol when it comes to administering exams. Prior to the exam students should take care of personal business that may be a distraction to them during the exam. However, once the exam has begun it is expected that students remain in the room until the exam is completed. There should be no corresponding among students while the exam is in progress. If the student needs to leave the room for whatever reason, he or she will be required to turn in the exam and the opportunity to continue the exam will be forfeited. Students should have all the necessary materials(scantron, pencil and calculator) that are required to take the exam. Only a standard hand held non-programable, non-graphing calculator will be allowed. Nothing with wifi capabilities such as cell phones, tablets or laptops will be permitted. The exam will begin promptly at 12pm. No student will be permitted to take the exam who arrives after 10 minutes once it has started. If one student has turned in the exam and left the room no student entering the room after that time will be permitted to take the exam. Once an exam is submitted in class it will not be returned to the student during the exam period. Once an exam is completed it cannot be re-taken.

Students with Disabilities: The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) aspires to provide students with disabilities, accommodations and support services to help them pursue their academic, graduation, and career goals. If you have a disability and believe you may need services, you are encouraged to contact the center to discuss your needs with a counselor. All discussions and documentation are kept confidential. Contact: Monday thru Friday 8:00a.m.-5:00p.m. Phone:(915) 747-5148. Location: Union Building East Room 106. E-mail: cass@utep.edu

Assessment and Grading: There will be four tests including the final given throughout the course and the final will be comprehensive in nature. It is recommended that students take all tests since if you miss a test only one make up will be given. So, if you miss more than one of the three tests before the final you will not pass the class. No one will be exempt from the final it is mandatory. **Everyone has to take the final on the day mandated by the university please schedule your activity around that date.** The tests will be a combination of true/false, fill in the blanks and multiple choice questions for each of the four tests including the final. There will be 50 questions for each of the tests. There will be pedagogical homework assignments employed that will comprise your grade. Grades will be assigned according to the official university scale:

90-100 = A
80-89 = B
70-79 = C
60-69 = D
Below 60 = F
Incomplete = I
Withdrawn = W

Grading for this course will be done in the following way:

Test 1- 20%

Test 2- 20%

Test 3- 20%

Test 4- 25%

HW- 15%

100%

A Note on Grading: I will not address any e-mail, text, telephone call or office visit begging for grade improvement or change of grade. Your earned grade stands. Nothing short of a legitimate grade change will be considered.

Incomplete: An incomplete will not be granted because of poor performance in the course or to repeat the course. An incomplete is granted only in exceptional circumstances such as medical illness, military leave or reassignment, job re-location, certain personal hardship among other things. If such an exceptional circumstance arises please inform me before the final exam in order to consider this possibility. An incomplete will not be granted after the final exam no matter what's the reason.

Chapter Coverage

08/26/19- 09/16/19

Chapters:1-5(Segment I)

Limits and Choices, The Market System,

Market Failure & Government Failure

09/23/19-10/14/19

Chapters:6 &7, 9-11(Segment II)

Elasticity, Utility, Production Costs, Pure Competition S.R.&

Pure Competition L.R.

10/21/19-11/11/19

Chapters:12-14, 16 & 17(Segment III)

Monopoly, Monopolistic Competition,

Oligopoly, Resource Demand & Wage Determination

11/18/19-12/04/19

Chapters:18, 20, 21, 23 & 24(Segment IV)

Rent, etc., Public Finance, Antitrust and Regulation,

Poverty, etc. & Health Care

Test Dates

09/18/19	Test I
10/16/19	Test II
11/13/19	Test III
12/13/19	Test IV: Final(Comprehensive); Friday:01pm-03:45pm.

OTHER:

09/02/19-Labor Day: Institutional Holiday-No classes; university closed

11/28-29/19-Thanksgiving: Institutional Holiday -No classes; university closed

LECTURE NOTES

My lecture notes are provided to everyone for their benefit at no extra cost. Please don't provide my lecture notes to any on-line services for sale to any student at this university or anywhere else. Anyone who violates this policy will be subject to full disciplinary actions by the university.

PROFESSOR/STUDENT INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION ETIQUETTE

General Guidelines

- Treat professor with respect:
 - Always use your professors' proper title: Dr. or Prof.
- Use clear and concise language
- Use correct spelling and grammar
- Avoid slang terms such as "wassup?"
- Avoid texting abbreviations such as "u" instead of "you"
- Use standard fonts
 - Such as Times New Roman and use a size 12 or 14 pt. font
- Avoid using the caps lock feature
 - IT CAN BE INTERPRETTED AS YELLING
- Limit and possibly avoid the use of emoticons like :) or ☺

- Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm
 - Tone is sometimes lost in an email or discussion post
 - Your message might be taken seriously or offensive
- Be careful with personal information (both yours and other's)
- Do not send confidential personal/patient information via e-mail

Email Netiquette

- When you send an email to your professor, teaching assistant, or classmates, you should:
 - Use a descriptive subject line
 - Be brief
 - Avoid attachments unless you are sure your recipients can open them
 - Avoid HTML in favor of plain text
 - Sign your message with your name and return e-mail address
- . Be sure you REALLY want everyone to receive your response when you click, "reply all"

All Appropriate Contents are Subject to Change.