

ECON 2510: Principles of Microeconomics

(Spring 2009)

Instructor: Dr. Houk
Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 10:00-11:00 AM, Tuesday & Thursday 1:30-2:15 PM.
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Textbook: Campbell R. McConnell and Stanley L. Brue, Economics: Principles, Problems, and Policies, 17th ed., McGraw Hill, 2008. You can also use 18th edition.

Course Description

This course covers basic principles of microeconomics including: price system and market structures, public policy and income distribution. Fundamentals of international economics, international trade, principles and problems of economic growth and development, analysis of economic systems. Special problem areas in the American economy discussed include: urban economics, environmental economics, agricultural economics, poverty, and health economics.

Course Objective

Introduce students to the basics of microeconomic analysis; develop students' ability to understand economic relationships; learn to use models to analyze current economic problems, particularly as they relate to the behavior of firms and individuals within a market economy.

Goals for General Education Courses (Course Fulfills General Education Area D2)

- *Subject Knowledge.* Enhance students' understanding of the disciplines' basic principles, methodologies, and perspectives.
- *Communication.* Enhance the ability to communicate.
- *Inquiry and Critical Thinking.* Enhance critical thinking skills and contribute to continuous inquiry and life-long learning.
- *Information Retrieval and Evaluation.* Enhance the ability to find, understand, examine critically, and use information from various sources.
- *Interdisciplinary Relationships.* Enhance students' understanding of a disciplines' interrelationships with other disciplines.
- *Global or Multicultural Perspectives.* Enhance the ability to look at issues from multiple perspectives and/or that will describe the disciplines' impact on or connection to global issues, AND/OR
- *Social Responsibility.* Help students understand the complexity of ethical judgment and social responsibility and/or that will describe the disciplines' impact on or connection to social and ethical issues.

Course Policies

- *Behavior: Respect your classmates.* Questions and comments are encouraged; your questions will not only help yourself, but others as well. Do not distract others by talking, reading newspapers, coming into class late or leaving early. In addition, you should follow all university guidelines established in your student handbook. Turn off your cell phone before entering class.
- *Diversity:* I want everyone to feel welcome in class; therefore no disparaging remarks will be tolerated in regards to ethnic background, sex, sexual preference, age, religion, disability, socioeconomic background, educational background, etc.

- *Read the syllabus and course outline to be aware of all requirements and deadlines.* I expect that you will make the effort to learn microeconomics, attend class, and read the textbook.
- *Please ask for help if you need it.* I am available outside of class.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty will be dealt with at the instructor’s discretion, with the likely penalty being an “F” for the course. The incident will also be reported to the student affairs disciplinary office for additional actions as outlined in your student handbook.

Grades

Grades are based on quizzes, homework’s, short paper, attendance, exams, and the final.

1.	3 quizzes (25 points each)	75
2.	Homework (Approx. 3)	50
3.	Attendance (Checked 10 times)	50
4.	2 Midterm Exams (100 points each)	200
5.	<u>Final Exam</u>	<u>100</u>
	Total Points:	475

*Grading options: Letter Grade or Credit/No Credit (CR/NC). To change to CR/NC you must use an add/drop form and submit it before census date. To receive credit (CR) you must earn a C- or higher.

Letter Grade Scale (pluses and minuses will be used)

93% - 100% = A	87% - 89.9% = B+	77% - 79.9% = C+	67% - 69.9% = D+	Less than 60% = F
90% - 92.9% = A-	83% - 86.9% = B	73% - 76.9% = C	63% - 66.9% = D	
	80% - 82.9% = B-	70% - 72.9% = C-	60% - 62.9% = D-	

- *Quizzes:* Quizzes will be taken at the beginning of class and should take less than 15 minutes.
- *Homework:* Homework assignments will often resemble the questions at the end of each chapter. These assignments are intended to help you learn, feel free to refer to your text or ask questions as needed.
- *Attendance:* Attendance will be taken 10 times throughout the semester. Each day will be worth 5 points, if you are not present you will receive 0 out of 5 points. Arriving late (after attendance has been taken) or leaving early after attendance has been taken, will also result in 0 out of 5 points. * If your cell phone rings during class you will lose the attendance points that day.
- *Exams/Final Exam:* You will have the entire class period for each exam. Exams may involve short problems, multiple choice questions, True/False, and short essays. You may use a simple calculator during exams, but no programmable calculators, laptops, cell phones, or PDA’s. The final exam will resemble the other exams, but will be longer and will include cumulative material.

Late Policy

Homework will be accepted late for partial credit up to the date of the next exam. Late assignments will receive ½ credit (grade reduced by 50%). Quizzes will only be given on the dates specified, no make-up quizzes will be offered. Make-up exams will only be allowed with written verification of an unavoidable circumstance and must be approved. Make-up exams are strongly discouraged.

* Last day to drop the course without special permission is March 13, 2009 (Census Date).