PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS – Fall 2014
ECON 2102
Section 091

Instructor: Eric Taylor
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COURSE DESCRIPTION
Prerequisite: Sophomore standing. Pricing mechanism of a market economy, the industrial organization of the U.S. economy, problems of economic concentration, the theory of income distribution, and comparative economic systems.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
The objectives of this course are to present the basic concepts and tools of microeconomic analysis and to illustrate their use with simplified examples. Upon completion of the course, the student should have a basic understanding of how individual decisions by households and firms are made and the impact of these decisions on the allocation of scarce resources. Such an understanding will also prepare the student to evaluate the impact of many government policies.

TEXTBOOKS

While the lectures are based around the 13th edition of the book, older editions should be sufficient.

GRADES & EXAM POLICIES
Grades consist of five exams and a comprehensive final exam. Letter grades are assigned using a standard 10 point grading scale. 90% and above for an A, 80% and above for a B, 70% and above for a C, 60% and above for a D. Anything less is failing. At the end of the semester, I will round final averages to the nearest whole number, otherwise grades are recorded as accurate as mathematics allows. To that end, a final average of 69.49 is a D.

All exams are weighted equally (20% for each exam). I will drop the single lowest exam score. If any exams are not taken, they will be scored a zero and will be used as the dropped exam (this may include the final exam, but only one exam is dropped).

ATTENDANCE
Attendance is taken regularly each week by a sign-in sheet. Regular class attendance is often required to remain entitled to financial aid, veterans’ benefits and/or scholarships. Please note, students that stop attending mid-semester are not automatically removed from the class. That must be done by the student.

WITHDRAWALS
When a student determines that he/she will be unable to complete courses in which he/she is currently enrolled, it is the student’s responsibility to initiate procedures leading to a formal withdrawal (“W”) in order to avoid a failing (“F”) grades.
https://provost.uncc.edu/policies/academic/withdrawals
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
Students have the responsibility to know and observe the requirements of the UNCC Code of Student Academic Integrity. The Code forbids cheating, fabrication, falsification, multiple submission of academic work, plagiarism, abuse of academic materials, and complicity in academic dishonesty. Academic evaluation in this course includes a judgment that the student's work is free from academic dishonesty of any type; grades should be and will be adversely affected by academic dishonesty. Students violating the Code can be expelled from UNCC. The normal penalty for a first offense is zero credit on the work involving dishonesty and further substantial reduction of the course grade. In almost all cases the course grade is reduced to F. Students are expected to report cases of academic dishonesty to the course instructor.

COURSE SCHEDULE
Please note, in the event of bad weather on an exam date, the exam will take place on the next regularly scheduled class.

Aug 19th Ch1 (Economics: The Core Issues) & Ch2 (A Global View)
Aug 26th Ch2 (cont.) & Ch3 (Supply & Demand)
Sept 2nd Exam 1
Sept 9th Ch4 (The Role of Government) & Consumer Surplus
Sept 16th Consumer Surplus (cont.) & Ch5 (Consumer Choice)
Sept 23rd Exam 2
Sept 30th Ch5 (cont.) & Ch6 (Elasticity)
Oct 7th No Class
Oct 14th Ch7 (The Costs of Production)
Oct 21st Exam 3
Oct 28th Ch8 (The Competitive Firm) & Ch9 (Competitive Markets)
Nov 4th Ch9 (cont.) & Ch10 (Monopoly)
Nov 11th Exam 4
Nov 18th Ch11 (Oligopoly) & Ch12 (Monopolistic Competition)
Nov 25th Ch12 (cont.) & Ch13 (Natural Monopolies)
Dec 2nd Exam 5
Dec 9th Final Exam (Covers anything anyone ever said from the beginning of time)

The Belk College of Business strives to create an inclusive academic climate in which the dignity of all individuals is respected and maintained. Therefore, we celebrate diversity that includes, but is not limited to ability/disability, age, culture, ethnicity, gender, language, race, religion, sexual orientation, and socio-economic status.