

**ECON 2102-002**  
**Principles of Economics - Micro**  
**Spring 2021**  
**TR 10:00 – 11:15 am**

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Hui-Kuan Tseng  
OFFICE: 227A, Friday Building  
OFFICE HOURS: schedule Zoom meetings and invite me to join ahead of time  
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### **COURSE INFORMATION**

**Course Description:** 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.

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Prerequisite(s):** There are no prerequisites for this course, however, basic mathematical skills and ability to read graphs will be essential.

**Instructional Method:** This is an online course with no specific meeting times (aka asynchronous). This method, on one hand, allows you to engage with content when it is convenient for you, but on the other hand, you will need to manage the workload on your own. Basically, your workload should be consistent with the course schedule outlined at the end of this syllabus. Instructional content will come from many pre-recorded lecture videos posted under “Media Gallery”. Quizzes and exams are online via Canvas and will be given during your class time period.

**Course Objectives:** The objective of this course is to introduce you to the basic concepts of microeconomics. Microeconomics is the study of how individuals, business firms, and governments make their choices based on scarcity, and how the interactions of individuals and firms affect the allocation of resources. Along with other course objectives, this course will help the student to develop problem-solving skills; skills associated with independent thinking; and will address legal, regulatory and environmental issues using economic analysis.

Additionally, ECON2102 is one of the courses that can be used to meet Goal VI (understanding the Individual, Society and Culture) of the University’s General Education Requirements. According to this Goal UNC-Charlotte Graduate should be able to:

- Understand how institutions operate with societies in both contemporary and historical perspectives.
- Understand internal and external influences that promote and inhibit human action.
- Understand the patterns of change that individuals experience at various points in life.
- Recognize the complex, integrated and dynamic nature of human behavior and experience.
- Understand the commonalities, differences, and interdependence among and within societies of the world.

## **TEXTBOOKS AND SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS**

**Required Text:** Bradley R. Schiller with Karen Gebhardt, Micro Economy Today, 15<sup>th</sup> edition, McGraw Hill.

**Course Website:** All course materials including syllabus, lecture outlines, lecture videos and other materials are available on Canvas. All the reminders and announcements will be posted under “Announcements”. The pace of my lectures will be based on the assumptions that you have read the outlines before you watch the lecture videos.

## **UNIVERSITY POLICIES RELATED TO COVID-19 PROTECTION:**

- Students are expected to participate and engage in materials provided for this asynchronous course. Failure to do so may impact your ability to achieve course objectives which could affect your course grade and does not relieve a student of any course requirement.
- For challenges related to COVID-19, please adhere to the following:
  - **If you are sick:** If you test positive or are evaluated by a healthcare provider for [symptoms of COVID-19](#), [complete this form](#) to alert the University. Representatives from Emergency Management and/or the Student Health Center will follow up with you as necessary, and your instructors will be notified.
  - **If you have been exposed** to COVID-19 positive individuals and/or have been notified to self-quarantine due to exposure, [complete this form](#) to alert the University. Representatives from Emergency Management and/or the Student Health Center will follow up with you as necessary, and your instructors will be notified.

## **COURSE POLICIES**

**Academic Integrity:** Students have the responsibility to know and observe the requirements of The UNC Charlotte Code of Student Academic Integrity. This code forbids cheating, fabrication or falsification of information, multiple submissions of academic work, plagiarism, abuse of academic materials, and complicity in academic dishonesty. Any special requirements or permission regarding

academic integrity in this course will be stated by the instructor and are binding on the students. Academic evaluations in this course include a judgment that the student's work is free from academic dishonesty of any type; and grades in this course therefore should be and will be adversely affected by academic dishonesty. Students who violate the code can be expelled from UNC Charlotte. 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. Copies of the code can be obtained from the Dean of Students Office. Standards of academic integrity will be enforced in this course. Students are expected to report cases of academic dishonesty to the course instructor.

### **Grades:**

#### Grade Distribution:

Midterm Exam 1	100 points
Midterm Exam 2	100 points
Midterm Exam 3	100 points
Midterm Exam 4	100 points
Optional, cumulative Final Exam	100 points Replaces the lowest midterm exam score

**Exams:** There will be four online midterm exams given during the semester and an **optional** cumulative online final exam. If you are happy with your grade after the fourth midterm exam you do not have to take the final exam. However, if you feel you could do better you can take the cumulative final exam and use it to replace a lower midterm score or missed exam. All exams will be online and given during the class times. You may use the resources posted on Canvas. However, you may **not** contact another person using email, texting, etc.

Students who choose to take the optional final exam are required to submit the form. The form will be available on Canvas and the submission deadline is Tuesday, May 4. The exam will be online and given according to the university's final exam schedule. There will be no consideration given to students who wish to take the final exam early.

Exams will typically be comprised of multiple choice and/or true false questions. A student who begins an exam late will not be given extra time at the end of the examination period.

**Make-up Exams:** Students who miss an exam may be allowed to take a make-up exam, if all the following requirements are satisfied:

- 1.) You missed the exam due to illness or university-excused absence. Notes: Missing an exam due to "I forgot, I did not know, I thought the exam started at....., I set an alarm but I did not hear it, I had a doctor appointment, I had a court date, I had job conflicts, I had family responsibilities, or other reasons" do not constitute excuses.
- 2.) You must have a written excuse that I can keep in my files explaining the reason for missing the exam. For example, if you were ill, you must have a written excuse from your physician or from the University Health Center stating that you were too ill to take an exam. In the event of a

death in the family, you must provide written verification. (Note: I verify any written excuses to confirm they satisfy the first requirement above.)

3.) You must notify me by **the end of the first working day** after the missed exam. The easiest way to notify me is via e-mail at [htseng@uncc.edu](mailto:htseng@uncc.edu).

Students who miss an exam and do not meet each of the requirements above will receive a score of **zero** for the exam. Students who miss two exams will get an “F” for the course grade.

**Bonus Opportunities:** There are extra credit opportunities. You may earn extra credits from online quizzes which will be given during class times. **No** make-up for these opportunities for whatever reason.

The course grade is determined by the following formula and scale:

$$\text{Average}(\%) = \frac{\text{Exam1} + \text{Exam2} + \text{Exam3} + \text{Exam4} + \text{Bonus}}{400}$$

A = 90% or above

B = 80% - 89.9%

C = 70% - 79.9%

D = 60% - 69.9%

F = below 60%

**Diversity:** 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 socioeconomic status.

*UNC Charlotte is committed to access to education. If you have a disability and need academic accommodations, please provide a letter of accommodation from Disability Services early in the semester. For more information on accommodations, contact the Office of Disability Services at 704-687-0040 or visit their office in Fretwell 230.*

**Tentative Course Schedule:** Please note that the course schedule may be adjusted due to time constraints or the university’s change of plan.

Day	Topic	Chapter/s
Thursday, January 21	Course Introduction The Core Issues	Chapter 1
Tuesday, January 26	The Core Issues	Chapter 1
Thursday, January 28	Supply and Demand	Chapter 3
Tuesday, February 2	Supply and Demand	Chapter 3
Thursday, February 4	Supply and Demand	Chapter 3

<b>Tuesday, February 9</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>	
<b>Thursday, February 11</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>	
Tuesday, February 16	The Role of Government	Chapter 4 (pp. 70-77)
Thursday, February 18	Review for Midterm Exam 1	
<b>Tuesday, February 23</b>	<b>Midterm Exam 1</b>	
Thursday, February 25	Consumer Choice	Chapter 5
Tuesday, March 2	Elasticity	Chapter 6
Thursday, March 4	Elasticity	Chapter 6
Tuesday, March 9	The Costs of Production	Chapter 7 (pp. 136-141)
Thursday, March 11	Review for Midterm Exam 2	
<b>Tuesday, March 16</b>	<b>Midterm Exam 2</b>	
Thursday, March 18	Cost of Production (continued)	Chapter 7 (pp. 142-157)
Tuesday, March 23	Cost of Production (continued)	Chapter 7 (pp. 142-157)
Thursday, March 25	Competitive Markets	Chapter 8
Tuesday, March 30	Competitive Markets	Chapter 8
Thursday, April 1	Competitive Markets	Chapter 9
Tuesday, April 6	Review for Midterm Exam 3	
<b>Thursday, April 8</b>	<b>Midterm Exam 3</b>	
Tuesday, April 13	Monopoly	Chapter 10
Thursday, April 15	Oligopoly and Monopolistic Competition	Chapters 11, 12 (my power point slides)
Tuesday, April 20	The Labor Market	Chapter 16
Thursday, April 22	The Labor Market	Chapter 16
Tuesday, April 27	Review for Midterm 4	
<b>Thursday, April 29</b>	<b>Midterm Exam 4</b>	
Tuesday, May 4	Decision on Optional Final Exam Turn in Optional Final Exam Form	
<b>To be determined by the university</b>	<b>Optional Cumulative Final Exam</b>	