

ECON 2102-001,002  
Principles of Microeconomics  
Spring 2020

Instructor: Dr. Ellen Sewell  
Office: 244C Friday Building  
Phone: (704) 687-7611  
Office Hours: T, 5:30-6:30; W 1:00-4:00  
or by appointment

**Email:** [esewell@uncc.edu](mailto:esewell@uncc.edu) (please include "student question" as the subject). Students are responsible for monitoring their university email for correspondence concerning the course.

**Book:** *The Micro Economy Today*, 15th edition, by Bradley Schiller. (A 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> edition will also work). Available supplements are optional.

**Class Materials:** Class slides will be posted on Canvas. Any additions made during the lecture will not be included. Additional study material will also be posted on Canvas.

**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.

**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. This course will help the student to develop problem-solving skills and skills associated with independent thinking. This course will address legal and regulatory issues as well as environmental issues, using tools of economic analysis.

**Grades:** There will be three tests. The first test will determine 15% of the course grade with each of the others determining 20%. The test format will be multiple choice. A cumulative final exam will determine 25% of the course grade. Quizzes and homework assignments will determine 20%. Quizzes may be unannounced. The lowest homework or quiz grade will be dropped. Homework assignments will be announced in class and posted on Canvas. Homework must be submitted in person and in hard copy (no emails). No late homework will be accepted. Missed quizzes cannot be made up. There are no make-up tests. A student who misses a test with a valid excuse will have the weight of that test added to the final exam. The instructor must be informed, in writing (email acceptable), within 72 hours of the missed test. Grades will be posted on Canvas.

**Attendance:** Students are expected to be present at all class meetings, and are responsible for all material covered in class or in the assigned reading. Students who will be unable to attend class regularly due to job conflicts, family responsibilities, or for other reasons are advised to drop the course. Students who encounter unexpected problems that prevent attendance for a prolonged period of time should contact the Dean of Students who will work with the instructor to provide appropriate accommodation.

**Calculators:** Students may use calculators on exams as long as they do **not** have an alphabetic keypad. No phones can be used for any purpose during exams. They must be turned off and stored out of sight. Students may **not** leave the classroom and return during an exam.

**Help Sessions:** Extra help sessions will be scheduled as needed and on the evening prior to tests. Attendance is strictly voluntary. These sessions are designed to provide students with the

opportunity to ask questions or discuss problems in a smaller setting. They will be conducted by the instructor or one of our graduate assistants. The times will be announced in class. Students are always welcome in the instructor's office during office hours or at another mutually convenient time. Students are also encouraged to form study groups to discuss the course material.

### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

January 9	Introduction and Use of Graphs	appendix to Chapter 1
January 14	Economics: The Core Issues	Chapter 1
January 16	The U.S. Economy: A Global View	Chapter 2
January 21-28	Supply and Demand	Chapter 3
January 30- February 4	The Role of Government	Chapter 4
February 6	Consumer Choice	Chapter 5
February 11	<b>TEST ONE</b>	
February 13	Review of Test One	
February 18- 20	Elasticity	Chapter 6
February 25	Production	Chapter 7
February 27- March 12	The Costs of Production	Chapter 7
(March 2-6)	Spring Break	
March 17	<b>TEST TWO</b>	
March 19	Review of Test 2	
March 24	The Competitive Firm	Chapter 8
March 26-31	Competitive Markets	Chapter 9
April 2-7	Monopoly, Price Discrimination, Natural Monopoly	Chapter 10 Chapter 13
April 9	<b>TEST THREE</b>	
April 14	Review of Test 3	
April 16-21	Oligopoly	Chapter 11
April 23	Monopolistic Competition	Chapter 12
April 28	Review	

**Final Exam:** Section 001 Tuesday, May 5, 2:00-4:30.  
Section 002 Thursday, May 7, 2:00-4:30

Students have the responsibility to know and observe the *UNC Charlotte Code of Academic Integrity*. This *Code* forbids cheating, fabrication or falsification of information, multiple submission of academic work, plagiarism, abuse of academic materials, and complicity in academic dishonesty. Any special requirements or permissions regarding academic integrity in this course will be stated by the instructor and 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.

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.

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.