“Try not to have a good time. This is supposed to be educational.”
Lucy, “Peanuts”

Office: 219D, Friday Building
E-mail: costiven@unc.edu (Indicate your name and class section in your e-mail)
Office Hours: Tue: 1:00pm - 1:45pm, 3:30pm – 5:00pm
Thu: 1:00pm - 1:45pm
and by appointment as needed.
Grad Assistant: Callie Lane, 218A Friday Building, e-mail: econtutor@uncc.edu
Course Website: All course materials are available on Moodle

Textbook: The Microeconomy Today
Author: Brad Schiller
Publisher: McGraw-Hill
ISBN: 978-0073287126
Text Web Page: http://highered.mcgraw-hill.com/sites/0073287113/student_view0/

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.

UNC Charlotte graduates 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 human experience.
• Understand the commonalities, differences, and interdependence among and within societies of the world.

For students admitted to the university under the guidelines of the 2003-2005 catalog, this course can be used to meet the social science goal under section II, Inquiry in the Sciences. This requirement is designed to introduce students to the methods of the social sciences and to the application of these methods for gaining a scientific understanding of the social world.

Course Policies

Academic Integrity: All students are required to read and abide by the Code of Student Academic Integrity. Violations of the Code of Student Academic Integrity, including plagiarism, will result in disciplinary action as provided in the Code. Definitions and examples of plagiarism are set forth in the Code. The Code is available from the Dean of Students Office or online at: http://www.legal.uncc.edu/policies/ps-105.html
**Attendance:** Research shows us that there is an unambiguous positive relationship between class attendance and class outcomes (grades). One can assume, then, that there is a negative relationship between skipping class and grades (students that cut class more will likely make lower test grades). I have long struggled with the question of whether I, as a college professor, should require my students to attend my class. I usually do not make the ultimate decision about my attendance policy until I sit down to update my syllabus for the upcoming semester. As of this moment, I have decided NOT to require attendance for this semester. I prefer to leave the decision to you whether to attend class. In my experience, there is no attendance-taking method that cannot be cracked by students that are intent upon cutting classes. Therefore, I will not be expending scarce resources in a futile attempt to gather accurate attendance records.

So here’s my policy - Students are expected to attend, to arrive on time and to stay the entire class period. If you do not plan to stay the entire class period, please be kind enough to let me (or the TA) know that you will need to leave early, and choose a seat near the exit. Otherwise, please do not disrupt your classmates by leaving the classroom before class is over. No points are explicitly added for attendance nor subtracted for absences; however, there are **no make-ups for tests except for students with written statements from university officials stating that they are participating in university business.** When missing class, students will be responsible for all information and materials presented in class, and are expected to obtain class notes or assignments from other students in the class. In other words, your primary source of information is the classroom – if something is announced in class I am under no obligation to also post that information online or notify the class via e-mail. You will find options for e-mailing classmates under the 49er Express link for this course. Please do NOT e-mail me to say, “I cut your class today - what did I miss?” Since I will not be keeping attendance records, you do not need to notify me when you will be missing class for doctor appointments, court dates, or any other reason. Any extra credit opportunities offered in class cannot be made up.

**Make-up work and late work:** There are NO makeup tests, except for students away representing the university (documentation must be provided well in advance of the scheduled exam date, and the exam must be taken prior to the scheduled date). If you miss a test, the missed test will count as your lowest test score and can be replaced by the cumulative final exam. Missed homework deadlines cannot be made up for any reason. There are NO exceptions to this policy.

**Tests:** Test grades constitute 90 percent of the final grade. Each test may be comprised of multiple choice, true false, short answer and/or calculation questions. Students should be prepared for the tests by bringing a calculator (**non-graphing calculators only**, **cell phones ≠ calculators**) and pencils. Test grades will be made available either via e-mail or on Moodle or both. I will e-mail the class when grades are available.

**Extra Credit:** There may be occasional opportunities to earn extra credit points by completing in-class assignments or quizzes. These opportunities will typically not be announced in advance, and will be made available only to the students that are present in class that day. Extra credit points will be added to total test points.

**Students who arrive late for tests and/or the final exam will be permitted to take the test or final exam provided no student has turned in their paper prior to his/her arrival. Once a paper has been turned in, late arriving students will not be permitted to begin the test or exam. A student who begins a test or exam late will not be given extra time at the end of the regular test or examination period.**

**Homework:** Homework constitutes 10 percent of the final grade. Required homework assignments will be completed and submitted through Moodle. I will provide more information about accessing homework assignments in the first day or so of class. Assignments are chapter specific and will be more effective for you if completed AFTER I have presented chapter material. The assignments are intended to help you learn and review for the tests, and to earn some relatively easy points, not to be labor intensive and require a lot of your time, so **relax.** The key to not being overwhelmed and stressed by the homework is to keep current, handle it in small bites. The worst mistake students make is to wait until the last minute, just before the time limit expires, to try and cram in several chapters of homework questions. Then I get desperate e-mails asking me to extend the deadline, though students have had plenty of time to complete the assignments. DO NOT miss your deadlines – I will not extend any
deadlines for any reason. All chapter assignments must be submitted by 11:30pm the night before the test for those chapters.

**Final Exam:** According to the current university exam schedule, the final exam is scheduled for Tuesday, May 8, from 2:00pm to 4:30pm. The exam is optional and cumulative, and substitutes for the lowest test grade, including a missed test. The cumulative portion will not substitute for a homework grade or a test grade resulting from a violation of academic integrity.

**Calculating the grade:**
Grades will be calculated as follows: (Tests 90%, Homework 10%)

\[
\text{Final Grade} = .90\left(\frac{\text{Test Points} + \text{XC}}{4}\right) + .10(\text{HW score})
\]

**EXAMPLE:** Assume your grades on tests 1-4 are 80, 77, 90 and 84, you earned 4 XC points, and you got 95 percent of your homework questions correct.

Final Grade = \( .90\left(\frac{80+77+90+84}{4}\right) + .10(95) \)
= \( .90\left(\frac{331}{4}\right) + .10(95) \)
= \( 75.75 + 9.5 \)
= \( 84.9 \)

**Grading scale:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Letter Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
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<tr>
<td>80-89</td>
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<tr>
<td>70-79</td>
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<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
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<tr>
<td>0 - 59</td>
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Final Grade = A

Test scores will NOT be rounded up. *Rounding of final course averages only* will follow the standard practice (only .5 or above will be rounded up to the next whole number). Thus 79.5 is a B, but 79.4 is not. NO EXCEPTIONS. Do NOT e-mail me when final grades are calculated to beg for extra points. The answer is always no.

**Cell phones:** Please turn off cell phones and all other electronic devices before class begins. If you are expecting a life-or-death phone call, let me know. Otherwise, NO PHONES! It is very distracting for me and for those around you. As you will soon see, I am easily distracted, and if I get off topic, we may never get back.

**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 socio-economic status.*
**Extremely Tentative Calendar**
This outline is extremely tentative (test dates are firm). We will use it as a guide only. We'll regularly regroup throughout the semester to update our schedule.

**Week 1**
1/10  Overview of Course, Syllabus, Introduction
1/12  Chapter 1: Economics: The Core Issues

**Week 2**
1/17  Chapter 1 (cont.)
1/19  Chapter 3: Supply and Demand

**Week 3**
1/24  Chapter 3 (cont.)
1/26  Chapter 3 (cont.)

**Week 4**
1/31  Chapter 5: Demand for Goods
2/2   Chapter 5 (cont.)

**Week 5**
2/7   Catch-up/Review
2/9   TEST 1

**Week 6**
2/14  NO CLASS
2/16  Chapter 4: The Public Sector

**Week 7**
2/21  Chapter 6: The Costs of Production
2/23  Chapter 6 (cont.)

**Week 8**
2/28  Chapter 7: The Competitive Firm
3/1   Chapter 7 (cont.)

**Week 9**
3/5-9  SPRING BREAK!

**Week 10**
3/13  Chapter 8: Competitive Markets
3/15  Chapter 8 (cont.)

**Week 11**
3/20  TEST 2 (Ch 4, 6-8)
3/22  Chapter 9: Monopoly

**Week 12**
3/27  Chapter 9 (cont.)
3/29  Chapter 10: Oligopoly

**Week 13**
4/3   Chapter 10 (cont.)
4/5   Chapter 11: Monopolistic Competition

**Week 14**
4/10  Chapter 11 (cont.)
4/12  TEST 3 (Ch 8-11)

**Week 15**
4/17  Chapter ?
4/19  Chapter ? cont

**Week 16**
4/24  Chapter ?
4/26  Chapter ? cont

**Week 17**
5/1   TEST 4 (Ch ? and ?)

**OPTIONAL FINAL EXAM, Tue 5/8, 2:00pm – 4:30pm**

**TEST SCHEDULE**
(Dates are carved in stone, chapters are flexible)
- Test 1: Thursday, Feb 9 – Ch 1, 3, 5
- Test 2: Tuesday, Mar 20 – Ch 4, 6, 7, 8
- Test 3: Thursday, Apr 12 – Ch 9 – 11
- Test 4: Tuesday, May 1 – Last Chapters