

ECON 2102-004
Principles of Economics - Micro
Spring 2019
TR 2:30 – 3:45 pm
Rowe #130

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Hui-Kuan Tseng
OFFICE: 227A, Friday Building
OFFICE HOURS: MW 10:00 – 11:00 am and TR 10:00 – 11:30 am
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Teaching Assistant: to be announced

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.

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: The Micro Economy Today with Connect, 15th Edition, by Bradley Schiller and Karen Gebhardt.

Note: an eText is included with Connect purchase. You can choose to purchase a paper text as well. If you would like to have a paper text, you can order it through the McGraw-Hill Connect platform or through UNCC bookstore. You are, at a minimum, required to have access to Connect which includes an eText.

Course Website: All course materials including syllabus, lecture outlines and other materials are available on Canvas. The pace of my lectures will be based on the assumption that you have read the outlines before you come to class.

Tutorials: The University Center for Academic Excellence offers drop-in tutoring for this course. Tutoring by appointment is also available. The center is located at *Colvard 2300* and their website is <http://ucae.uncc.edu/programs/tutorial-services>.

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.

Attendance: 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 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. If you miss a class for any reason, you 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. Please do NOT e-mail me to say, “I cut your class today - what did I miss?” I won’t respond. 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. However, any extra credit opportunities offered in class **cannot** be made up.

Grades: Grades will be based upon four midterm exams, homework assignments and an **optional** cumulative final examination. There may be occasional opportunities to earn extra credit points by completing in-class assignments. 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. **No** make-up for these opportunities for whatever reason.

Grade Distribution:

Midterm Exam 1	100 points
Midterm Exam 2	100 points
Midterm Exam 3	100 points
Midterm Exam 4	100 points
8 Homework on Connect	80 points
Optional, cumulative Final Exam	Replaces the lowest test score

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

$$\text{Average}(\%) = \frac{\text{Exam1} + \text{Exam2} + \text{Exam3} + \text{Exam4} + \text{Homework} + \text{Bonus}}{480}$$

A = 90% or above

B = 80% - 89.9%

C = 70% - 79.9%

D = 60% - 69.9%

F = below 60%

Exams: There will be four midterm exams given during the semester and an **optional** cumulative 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 are closed-book and in-class exams. The final exam will be 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. The semester ends with the scheduled final exam time. Exams will typically be comprised of multiple choice and/or true false questions. Students who arrive late for a regular exam and/or the final examination will be permitted to take the exam provided that no student has turned in their paper prior to the student's arrival. Once a paper has been turned in, late arriving students will not be permitted to begin the exam. A student who begins an exam late will not be given extra time at the end of the regular test or examination period.

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

- 1.) You missed the exam due to illness or university-excused absence. You wake up late, you cannot find a ride or you are in a terrible traffic jam do not constitute as 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 second working day after the missed exam. The easiest way to notify me is via e-mail at 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.

Homework: There will be 8 homework assignments. They will be completed and submitted through the McGraw Hill “Connect” online educational software. Access to the software is included with a new book purchase. If you purchase a used copy of the text or an e-book, you will be required to purchase connect separately. All students must enroll in connect in order to complete the homework portion of the course. The web address for the connect section that accompanies this course can be found at this link: <https://connect.mheducation.com/class/h-htseng-spring-2019-tr-230-345-pm>

You have two attempts to complete the homework. If you are given unlimited number of attempts, chances are you will just click on answers until you get the right one and move on. That won't help you learn. Once you have completed and submitted the homework assignment, do not re-open that homework as connect may consider subsequent openings as additional homework attempts and record zero grades for those attempts. **DO NOT** miss your deadlines – I will **not** extend any deadlines for any reason.

Cells phones and other technology: The use of cell phones, beepers, or other communication devices is disruptive, and is therefore not permitted during class. If you have a personal or professional emergency or urgent matter, let the instructor know that you may need to respond to a call during class; turn your cell phone to the "vibrate" option, and leave the room to respond to the call. Otherwise, cell phones and other communication devices should be turned off. I also ask that students do not "surf" the internet, text-message or twitter during class; if you have a personal emergency let me know; you can leave the room to respond to a call or text-message. One more thing, you may not use the calculator features of your cell phone during exams.

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 test days, homework due days and course schedule are subject to change.

Day	Topic	Chapter/s
Thursday, January 10	Course Introduction The Core Issues	Chapter 1
Tuesday, January 15	The Core Issues	Chapter 1
Thursday, January 17	Supply and Demand	Chapter 3
Monday, January 21	Homework #1 is due today at 11:30 pm	
Tuesday, January 22	Supply and Demand	Chapter 3
Thursday, January 24	The Role of Government	Chapter 4
Monday, January 28	Homework #2 is due today at 11:30 pm	
Tuesday, January 29	Review for Midterm Exam 1	Chapter 4
Thursday, January 31	Midterm Exam 1	
Tuesday, February 5	Consumer Choice	Chapter 5
Thursday, February 7	Consumer Choice Elasticity	Chapter 5 Chapter 6
Monday, February 11	Homework #3 is due at 11:30 pm today	
Tuesday, February 12	Elasticity	Chapter 6
Thursday, February 14	Elasticity The Costs of Production	Chapter 6 Chapter 7
Monday, February 18	Homework #4 is due at 11:30 pm today	
Tuesday, February 19	The Costs of Production	Chapter 7
Thursday, February 21	The Costs of Production	Chapter 7
Monday, February 25	Homework #5 is due at 11:30 pm today	
Tuesday, February 26	Review for Midterm Exam 2	
Thursday, February 28	Midterm Exam 2	
Tuesday, March 5	Spring Break	
Thursday, March 7	Spring Break	
Tuesday, March 12	Competitive Markets	Chapter 8
Thursday, March 14	Competitive Markets	Chapter 8
Monday, March 18	Homework #6 is due at 11:30 pm today	
Tuesday, March 19	Competitive Markets	Chapter 9
Thursday, March 21	Monopoly	Chapter 10
Tuesday, March 26	Monopoly	Chapter 10
Wednesday, March 27	Homework #7 is due at 11:30 pm today	
Thursday, March 28	Review for Midterm Exam 3	
Tuesday, April 2	Midterm Exam 3	
Thursday, April 4	Oligopoly	Chapter 11

Tuesday, April 9	Monopolistic Competition	Chapter 12
Thursday, April 11	The Labor Market	Chapter 16
Tuesday, April 16	The Labor Market	Chapter 16
Thursday, April 18	The Labor Market	Chapter 16
Monday, April 22	Homework #8 is due at 11:30 pm today	
Tuesday, April 23	Review for Midterm Exam 4	
Thursday, April 25	Midterm Exam 4	
Tuesday, April 30	Decision on Optional Final Exam	
Tuesday, May 7, 2018	Optional Cumulative Final Exam	2:00 – 4:30 pm