ECON 2102-005  
Principles of Microeconomics  
TR 8:30–9:45AM; 1:00-2:15PM  
FRIDAY #137

PROFESSOR: Dr. Theresa Mannah-Blankson  
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OFFICE: FRIDAY 214B  
Email: tmannahb@uncc.edu  
OFFICE HOURS: TR 10:00AM – 12:00PM/by appointment  
Teaching Assistant: TBA

MindTap from Cengage is required for this course. I will use it for your homework assignments and to provide extra contents and learning tools. MindTap is available for purchase on its own, or through Cengage Unlimited, a subscription that gives you access to all your Cengage access codes and online textbooks for $119.99 per term, $179.99 per year or $239.99 for two years. No matter how many Cengage products you use, they are included in Cengage Unlimited at no additional cost. Prefer print? You also get a textbook rental with your activation through Cengage Unlimited for $7.99 + free shipping and the option to purchase a loose-leaf version of your textbook, which you can keep. Cengage Unlimited is available in the bookstore or at cengage.com/unlimited.

Getting Registered: To access your course materials and explore Cengage Unlimited, log in to Canvas and navigate to navigate to Modules: Mankiw Principles of Microeconomics 8e MindTap - Principles of Economics – Micro XXX (XXX refers to Section#. Example: 005 or 007). When prompted, create or log in with your Cengage account and follow the prompts to complete the registration process. For step-by-step help getting registered, head to cengage.com/start-strong and check out training video and instructions. Just select that you’re using MindTap in Canvas.

It is recommended that you read economic-based current news publications including, The Economist, Wall Street Journal, The Financial Times, Fortune, Forbes or other reliable economic-based news sources. This is helpful in understanding current economic events both in the US and abroad.

Course Website: Canvas. Lecture slides will be posted on canvas.

Required Device: You will need a WEB-ENABLED DEVICE for each class. We will be using the Poll Everywhere system to answer class participation questions. This is a free system provided by the University. This can be a laptop computer, tablet, or smartphone. You have several options: the simplest option may be to buy an inexpensive tablet, such as an Amazon Fire (formerly known as Kindle Fire), which is just under $50, or you can use a (unactivated) wifi-only smartphone, which can also be purchased for as low as $20 or $30. Alternatively, you may check out a laptop or tablet from the library on a daily basis. This method is not completely reliable, since availability is not always guaranteed. You are responsible for ensuring that your device is fully operational. You are encouraged to use the university's Wi-Fi service which is eduroam (Do Not use the Guest Wi-Fi) for internet connection (tablet/phone or laptop) rather than your paid phone service.

NOTE: Photographing, Video Recording, and Audio Recording of Lectures is STRICTLY PROHIBITED. Lectures are the product and property of the Instructor. Your notes of the lectures, however, are your product and may be used/shared however you like.

Course Description: Pricing mechanism of a market economy, the industrial organization of the U.S. economy, problems of economic concentration, and the theory of income distribution. This
course is a study of the fundamentals of individual market behavior, emphasizing the use of demand and supply analysis. The focus is upon understanding the implications of actions taken by individual decision-makers, operating within various market structures, upon the allocation and use of resources, distribution of income, and ability of markets to meet the needs and desires of individuals.

**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. The course will address legal and regulatory issues as well as environmental issues, using tools of economic analysis. Students should be able to achieve the following course objectives:
1. 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.
2. Develop problem-solving skills and skills associated with independent thinking.

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

**Grading Basis:** Grades will be based upon four exams, homework, participation points, and an optional final exam. The four exams are weighted at 15 percent each. Homework is also weighted at 30 percent. Students can opt to drop their lowest regular exam, take the final, and apply the grade of the final to the dropped exam.

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tr>
<td>Participation Points</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Four Exams (15% each)</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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**Grading Scale:**
A: 90-100
B: 80-89
C: 70-79
D: 60-69
F: Below 60

**Participation Points:** These points consist of In-class Poll Everywhere questions and will make up 10% of your final grade. When determining your final Participation Points grade for the course, I will drop your (2) Lowest Poll Session scores. Answering Poll Everywhere questions when you
are not physically present in class is a violation of the Academic Integrity Policy (see below).

Poll Everywhere Links: How do students login to Poll Everywhere to use a license?  Click Here. Poll Everywhere FAQs page: Click Here. Note: As per the instructions, when signing up for Poll Everywhere or when signing in during class, make sure to use your UNCC email and credentials rather than a personal email such as email, etc.

Online Homework Assignments: Homework assignments and practice problems will be distributed on MindTap. There will be 10 homework assignments. Your two lowest homework scores would be dropped. In general, homework assignments open every Saturday and are due the next Friday at 11:59pm EST. However, there could be changes to this schedule as the course progresses. If that happens, I will announce it on Canvas. Practice problems for each chapter are available on MindTap. They will not be included in your final grades. Get familiar with the software as early as possible by looking at the help menus and/or discussing with classmates. You will not be able to work on an assignment once its available time period has expired.

Examinations: The exams will test both recall and your ability to think and analyze. Exams will probably be a combination of multiple choice, true-false, and short essay response questions. Students should bring two #2 pencils and a calculator (cell phones are not allowed to be used as calculators during exams). Students are not allowed to leave the classroom and return during an exam. 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. Prepare in advance for challenging circumstances such as having exams in other courses on the same day.

Attendance and Exam Make-up Policy: Students are expected to make all classes on time. Attendance will be taken. All students are expected to make all exams when scheduled. Make-up exams will only be allowed for pre-excused absences. Note that excused absences must provide a written reason from the appropriate official(s) indicating the exact dates for which class was or will be missed. Examples of acceptable reasons are; medical (minor illnesses not included), death of or serious illness to family members, major traffic accident, and athletes and others who represent the university on a regular basis. If a student misses an exam with an excused absence, the student must take the final exam.

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 stored out of sight.

University Policies:
1. 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.

2. **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.

3. **Students with Disabilities:** 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.

**Other Important Course Policies:**
1. The professor reserves the right to change any aspect of the course syllabus.
2. Class time will tend to focus on the textbook, but additional material may be presented which you will be responsible for.
3. You must regularly refer to the class page on Canvas. I will use this to post course related information. Be sure your Notifications settings in Canvas forward all announcements to your phone and email. This is not the default setting.
4. Feel free to raise questions at all times. I can better enhance your learning if I know what material is of interest to you or is causing you difficulty.
5. **Extra Credit:** Extra credit opportunities may be available from time to time at the discretion of the instructor.
6. **Use of laptops and tablets in Class:** Use of these tools should be solely for course related purposes. Students seen using the tool for non-course related sites will forfeit that privilege.
7. **Non-course related activities:** The instructor does not tolerate students using the class period to do different course assignments or studying for another course.
8. **Statement of Copyright Protection:** The materials in this course are only for the use of students enrolled in this course for purposes associated with this course and may not be retained or further disseminated.

**Guidelines for Classroom Etiquette**
1. Class participants, including the instructor, should arrive on time.
2. Private conversations, however intriguing to the conversants, can distract others and impose costs on the entire class. Please wait until after class for such intercourse.
3. Discreetly drinking coffee, tea, soda, or water during class is acceptable, as long as no mess is left behind and it does not violate building policy.
4. Class participants should not prepare to leave until the class has clearly ended.

**Helpful Hints**
* Each assigned chapter should be read more than once. You may want to read it quickly before class and then read it more carefully with highlighting/underlining after class. Each time you read it you will discover something you missed previously.
* Complete and accurate class notes will be very crucial for your success in this course. Always try to check your notes for completeness and accuracy the same day you take them.
# Tentative Course Schedule

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/Date</th>
<th>Coverage and Assignment</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Module 1: Introduction</strong></td>
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| Week 1 (Aug. 20-22) | • Course Introduction (Syllabus/Poll Everywhere Setup);  
• Chapter 1: Ten Principles of Economics  
• Chapter 2: Thinking like an Economist.  
  - Chapter 2 will not be discussed in class. Read on your own.  
  - Everyone is expected to review the appendix at the end of the chapter. The appendix provides a good review of the graphical methods that we will frequently encounter later in the course. |
| **Module 2: Importance of Markets** | |
| Week 2 (Aug. 27-29) | • Chapter 21: Behind the Demand Curve: Theory of Consumer Choice  
  - Homework assignment 1 (Ch. 21) due at 11:59pm, Aug. 30 |
| Week 3 (Sep. 3-5) | • Chapter 5: Elasticity  
  - Homework assignment 2 (Ch. 5) due at 11:59pm, Sep. 6 |
| Week 4 (Sep. 10-12) | • EXAM 1 (September 10)  
**Module 3: The Economics of the Public Sector** |
| Week 5 (Sep. 17-19) | • Chapter 10: Externalities  
  - Homework assignment 3 (Ch. 10) due at 11:59pm, Sep. 20 |
| Week 6 (Sep. 24-26) | • Chapter 12: The Tax System  
  - Homework assignment 4 (Ch. 12) due at 11:59pm, Sep. 27 |
| Week 7 (Oct. 1-3) | • EXAM 2 (October 1)  
**Module 4: Firm Behavior and the Organization of Industry** |
| Week 8 (Oct. 8-10) | • Chapter 13: The Cost of Production  
  - Homework assignment 5 (Ch. 13) due at 11:59pm, Oct. 11 |
| Week 9 (Oct. 15-17) | • Chapter 14: Firms in Competitive Markets - Market Structure I  
  - Homework assignment 6 (Ch. 14) due at 11:59pm, Oct. 18 |
| Week 10 (Oct. 22-24) | • Chapter 15: Monopoly - Market Structure II  
  - Homework assignment 7 (Ch. 15) due at 11:59pm, Oct. 25 |
| Week 11 (Oct. 29–31) | • Chapter 16: Monopolistic Competition - Market Structure III  
  - Homework assignment 8 (Ch. 16) due at 11:59pm, Nov. 1 |
| Week 12 (Nov. 5-7) | • EXAM 3 (November 5)  
• Chapter 17: Oligopoly  
  - Chapter 17: Oligopoly (continued) |
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 13 (Nov. 12-14)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Module 5: The Economics of Labor Markets</strong></td>
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<td>• Chapter 18: Factor Markets</td>
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<td>➢ Homework assignment 9 (Ch. 17) due at 11:59pm, Nov. 15</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 14 (Nov. 19-21)</strong></td>
<td>• Chapter 18: Factor Markets (continued)</td>
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<td>• Chapter 19: Earnings and Discrimination</td>
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<td>➢ Homework assignment 10 (Ch. 18) due at 11:59pm, Nov. 22</td>
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<td><strong>Week 15 (Nov. 26-28)</strong></td>
<td>• Chapter 20: Income Inequality and Poverty</td>
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<td><strong>No Class – Thanksgiving Holiday (November 27-29)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 16 (Dec. 3)</strong></td>
<td>• EXAM 4 (December 3)</td>
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Final exams are given according to the University Schedule.