

ECON 2010-001 – Principles of Microeconomics

Course Information

Instructor:	Daniel Ossa	Pre-requisites:	None
Email:	daniel.ossa@utah.edu	Semester:	First Half of Summer 2021
Time:	Tuesday & Thursday 10:00am - 12:00m	Place:	Zoom via Canvas

Course Summary

Principles of Microeconomics presents the fundamental tools of analysis for understanding economic decision making among individuals, firms, and organizations, whose collective decisions determine how resources are allocated in a capitalist economy. Students will engage with the basic analytic tools of modeling and critical thinking. The tools presented include supply and demand analysis, theories of consumer and producer behavior, analysis of competition and market power, and their application to social welfare and public policy.

Econ 2010 is a 3-credit introductory course designated Social/Behavioral Science Exploration. The course does not assume any prior training in the field of economics and requires only basic algebra skills.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand the role of markets in modern society
- Build and manipulate the basic microeconomic model of supply and demand
- Apply and interpret the economic logic of basic models of some contemporary public policy issues
- Identify the properties of competitive markets and those with market power

Required Materials

Goodwin, Neva, Jonathan M. Harris, Julie A. Nelson, Pratistha Joshi Rajkarnikar, Brian Roach, and Mariano Torras. *Microeconomics in Context, Fourth Edition*. New York: Routledge, 2019.

The textbook is available through the University's inclusive access program which offers discounted text access for those students who are willing to use a digital textbook through the Canvas course site. You may opt in to or out of inclusive access using the 'bookshelf' tab in the

Canvas course page menu on screen left and using the instructions available in the file titled 'Access the textbook.' You may also opt out at the link <https://portal.verba.io/utah/login>.

Tentative Course Outline:

T	18. May	Chapters 1 & 2	T	08. June	Chapter 11
Th	20. May	Chapter 6	Th	10. June	Chapter 13
T	25. May	Chapter 3	T	15. June	Chapter 15
Th	27. May	Chapter 4	Th	17. June	Chapter 16
T	01. June	Chapter 5	T	22. June	Chapter 17
Th	03. June	Midterm Exam Preparation	Th	24. June	Final Exam Preparation

The midterm exam will be held on June 4th. **The final exam** will be held on June 25th.

Teaching and Learning Methods

Econ 2010-001 is offered as an interactive video class (IVC). The IVC format includes both live video conferencing and pre-recorded presentation.

The course is organized into session modules with materials presented in real-time through Zoom video conferencing during the scheduled class time 10:00 am to 12:00 m on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Live-streamed class sessions will be supplemented with pre-recorded videos on most topics. The modules page on Canvas will help you see the material organized by date and the associated assignments.

Each module of this course includes reading, lecture, interactive question and answer, and one quiz. Students are expected to have read the assigned text before the Monday/Wednesday video conferences, and to come with comments or questions related to the material. Your participation in live class sessions is encouraged.

Use the modules tab on Canvas to view the course calendar and access the course content including links, lectures, and assignments. Each module is presented in the Module Overview and Instructions page showing the objectives and organization for the week, links to live sessions and associated assignments, and housing the recorded lecture material.

Effective communication is essential to our progress this semester and you are encouraged to contact the instructor via email or Canvas, to set up in-person or virtual appointments to discuss any questions, and to reach out when the content or delivery is not working for you. Your instructor is a human being who is invested in your intellectual progress.

Canvas Time Zone Information

To ensure you are viewing due dates and times correctly, as well as events in the calendar, set your student Canvas time zone to your current location by following this [guide](#).

If you do not change your time zone, all due dates and times listed in Canvas default to Mountain Time.

Content written by instructors, such as office hours written in the syllabus, are in Mountain Time, unless stated otherwise.

Course Expectations

While all of the academic expectations of this IVC course are equivalent to those in the traditional course setting, there are a number of additional expectations that students should be aware of when participating in the course online.

Instructor Expectations

Your instructor is your mentor and facilitator of the classroom experience, aided by graduate teaching assistants, and is committed to the following expectations for this course:

- The instructor will design the course to include lectures, readings materials, and assignments that will challenge students and will provide them with opportunities to learn and practice course content.
- Though this IVC course includes pre-recorded lectures, it is **not** a class that is run “automatically” by technology. The instructor will interact with the class via lecture time, but also via announcements, virtual office hours, emails/the Canvas Inbox, feedback on assignments, and comments on lecture bulletin boards, among other methods.
- The instructor will respond to emails in a timely fashion. “Timely” in this instance means within 48 hours, not including weekends and holidays.
- The instructor will be available for individual consultation via virtual office hours or email. Students will not be required to come to campus in order to meet with the instructor.
- The instructor will provide feedback on the assignments in a timely manner.
- The instructor will follow all official University of Utah policies regarding conduct in the classroom, incompletes, and accommodations. Accommodations will be considered on an individual basis and only with required documentation.

Student Expectations

Though the online format allows students greater flexibility to complete their work, this course does have a structure and timeline, including due dates for course assignments. As such, the following is expected of all students in this class:

- Students will log in to the course a minimum of 3 times per week.
- Students may be expected to work with classmates; however, students are not expected to interact with their classmates in person. A good alternative to meeting in person would be online video conferencing, which allows students to find a time to meet that works best for their schedule. Depending on the assignment, students can also choose to interact with their classmates with whatever technology they are most comfortable with (Zoom, Groupme, FaceTime, Google Hangouts, etc).
- To do well in online courses, students must be self-motivated, organized, and willing to stay on top of their schedule. Students should take control of their learning while in this course.
- Students will regularly check course announcements. The **Announcements** area is the instructor's official means of communication when distributing information to the entire class.
- Students will update their Canvas settings to ensure they receive timely notifications from the course.
- If students have any questions, are struggling with course materials, or need further assistance from their instructor, they will take the initiative to contact their instructor via the **Inbox** feature in Canvas or via email.
- Email isn't perfect; sometimes, messages sent to instructors are lost before they are read. If you do not hear back from your instructor 3 days after sending a message, please contact your instructor again.
- Students will engage with the course, students, and the instructor in a respectful and professional manner at all times.

Netiquette

Students are expected to follow the [core rules of netiquette](#) at all times while participating in the class, interacting with other students, and communicating with the course instructor and teaching assistants.

Evaluation and Grading

Semester Grading Scheme

Quizzes: 40%

Midterm exam: 30%

Final exam: 30%

Assignments

All assignments are intended to help you master the material, prepare for exams, and improve the quality of in-class discussions. Any assignment in this course may include a combination of multiple choice, short answer/essay questions, and analytical/graphical analysis. All graded assignments must be written in complete sentences.

Please note: exams will often be posted under the ‘quiz’ function on Canvas. This designation does not change the assignment category of exams – quiz is simply the only modality on Canvas that allows for electronic grading.

Quizzes: They will be made available on Canvas after each class session and will close before the start of class the following class session. The quiz will test your understanding of the material covered over the previous module, and often require you to identify key concepts from the reading for the following module. These quizzes usually consist of 10-12 multiple choice questions.

Exams: The midterm exam will be available from Thursday, June 3rd at 2:00 pm to Friday, June 4th at midnight. The final exam will be available from Thursday, June 24th at 2:00 pm to Friday, June 25th at midnight. The final exam is not cumulative.

Exams will not be proctored and can be taken from your home computer using the resources available to you including the textbook, power point slides, video lectures, and your notes. All students must complete the exam independently – no collaboration is allowed during the exam period.

Exams will be timed - once you have opened the exam page you will have 80 minutes to complete the test. You must study for the exam in order to complete it in the time available.

University of Utah Grading Scale

A	100%–94%	A-	93.9%–90%		
B+	89.9%–87%	B	86.9%–84%	B-	83.9%–80%
C+	79.9%–77%	C	76.9–74%	C-	73.9%–70%
D+	69.9%–67%	D	66.9%–64%	D-	63.9%–60%
E	59.9%–0%				

Late Assignments and Exam Policy

The due dates on quizzes are intended to help you stay on track in the course and identify questions about the core concepts before the class moves on. Please note due dates and work each week to keep up with the course.

Late exams will not be accepted without an excuse from the University or a medical professional.

Content Accommodations

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for

people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, (801) 581-5020. CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in an alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

Technology Issues and Tech Help

Your instructor has invested time before the start of the semester to ensure that the technologies used in this online class will operate smoothly. Nevertheless, technology doesn't always do what we want it to do! As such, this course has the following expectations regarding tech problems:

- Students are **required** to contact the instructor immediately when they notice broken links or inaccessible files in the course. Links and files are assumed to work, unless students indicate otherwise. Points lost on assignments, due to inaccessible links and files, **cannot** be made up if students did not notify the instructor of the problem prior to the assignment due date.
- The instructor is committed to fixing broken links and inaccessible files as soon as possible after being notified by the students. In the case that there will be a significant delay before these items can be fixed, the instructor will post an announcement to let the class know about the problem and to describe any alternate files/links or alternate due dates for assignments, if applicable, that students should be aware of.
- Students are responsible for submitting all assignments and activities by their due dates. In the very rare case that technical problems prevent a student from submitting an assignment, students are required to—
 - Immediately contact their instructor via email or the Canvas **Inbox**, to let them know about the problem and to submit a copy of their assignment as an attachment (where possible).
 - Then, immediately contact the Canvas help desk to troubleshoot and resolve the problem.
 - Submit an email updating the instructor on whether the problem was resolved and of any additional steps the student or instructor needs to take to get the assignment properly submitted to Canvas.
- It is **not** appropriate to send an email to your instructor informing them about tech problems after an assignment due date.
- Students are expected to read all assignment instructions and to submit work in the required file formats. Work submitted as improper file formats will **not** be considered to have been handed in on time. The instructor will only grade work submitted using the proper file format.
- It is the student's responsibility to reach out to the appropriate help desk to troubleshoot and resolve tech problems in the course, 24/7 help is available to all students via the Help button in the far-left Canvas menu.

For more detailed information about getting tech help, please review the information on the [Tech Help](#) page of the course.

Institutional Policies

All students and instructors are expected to adhere to the following university policies:

The Americans with Disabilities Act

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, (801) 581-5020. CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in an alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

Accommodation Policy (see Section Q): <http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-100.php>

University Safety Statement

The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677). You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message.

For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit safeu.utah.edu (Links to an external site.).

Addressing Sexual Misconduct

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran's status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677(COPS).

Drop/Withdrawal

Students may drop a course within the first two weeks of a given semester without any penalties. Students may officially withdraw (W) from a class or all classes after the drop deadline through the midpoint of a course. A "W" grade is recorded on the transcript and appropriate tuition/fees are assessed. The grade "W" is not used in calculating the student's GPA. See the [Academic Calendar](#) for the last day to withdraw from term, first and second session classes.

Deadlines for courses with irregular start and end dates policy:

<https://registrar.utah.edu/handbook/miscellaneous.php>

Plagiarism/Cheating

It is assumed that all work submitted to your instructor is your own work. When you have used ideas of others, you must properly indicate that you have done so. Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses and may be punished by failure on an individual assignment, and/or failure in the course. Academic misconduct, according to the University of Utah Student Code, “*includes, but is not limited to, cheating, misrepresenting one’s work, inappropriately collaborating, plagiarism, and fabrication or falsification of information...It also includes facilitating academic misconduct by intentionally helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of academic misconduct.*”

For detailed definitions and possible sanctions, see the Student Code:

<http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php>

Wellness Statement

Your personal health and wellness are essential to your success as a student. Personal concerns such as stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, cross-cultural differences, etc., can interfere with a student’s ability to succeed and thrive in this course and at the University of Utah. Please speak with the instructor or TA before issues become problems.

For helpful resources, contact the Center for Student Wellness at www.wellness.utah.edu or 801-581-7776.

Veterans Support Center

The Veterans Support Center is a “one stop shop” for student veterans to find services, support, advocacy, and camaraderie. They are located in the Park Building Room 201.

You can visit their website for more information about their services and support at:

<http://veteranscenter.utah.edu>

LGBT Resource Center

The University of Utah has an LGBT Resource Center on campus. They are located in Room 409 of the Olpin Union Building. Hours: M-F 8-5pm.

You can visit their website to find more information about the support they can offer, a list of events through the center and links to additional resources: <http://lgbt.utah.edu>.

Learners of English as an Additional/Second Language

If you are an English language learner, please be aware of several resources on campus that will support you with your language and writing development.

These resources include:

Writing Center (<http://writingcenter.utah.edu>)

Writing Program (<http://writing-program.utah.edu>)

English Language Institute (<http://continue.utah.edu/eli>)

About the U

As the only institution in the state classified in the highest research category (R1), at the University of Utah you will have access to state-of-the-art research facilities and be able to be part of the knowledge creation process. You will have the opportunity to do research of your own with faculty who are leading experts in their field, engaging in programs that match your research interests. Further, you will interact with and often take classes with graduate students that provide an advanced understanding of the knowledge in your field.

Syllabus Changes

This syllabus is meant to serve as an outline and guide for our course. Please note that I may modify it with reasonable notice to you. I may also modify the Course Schedule to accommodate the needs of our class. Any changes will be posted to Canvas under **Announcements**.