

Syllabus

ECON 402-Principles of Economics (Micro)

Department of Economics
Paul College of Business and Economics
University of New Hampshire
Fall, 2018

INSTRUCTOR: Travis Freidman

CLASS TIME: 8:10 am to 9:00 am, M, W, & F

CLASS ROOM: Paul College 115

OFFICE HOURS: M & W: 10:00 am-11:00 am Paul 270J, or *by appointment*

OFFICE: Paul College Room 260U

EMAIL: dtf1000@wildcats.unh.edu

Course Description

Principles of Microeconomics introduces the basic concepts of economics. Core principles of supply and demand, how they affect levels of output, price, and employment under various market structures will be covered in detail during the semester. Students will gain this knowledge through active participation in class, utilizing the textbook, engaging materials posted on the class' *MyCourses* page and completing homework via *Sapling Learning System*.

Course Objectives

The learning objectives that will guide our course this semester will be:

1. Gain an understanding of how market interactions lead to determination of market prices and quantities and the welfare effects of these interactions. You will also learn about the methods governments use to regulate markets, including the effects of minimum wages and taxes.
2. Gain an understanding of the basic methods of economic analysis, including supply and demand analysis. You will learn how to use supply and demand analysis to examine a number of issues that are a source of conflict, including taxes, price floors and price ceilings, inequality of wages, and more.
3. Understand the basic economic concepts that underpin the discipline.

Textbook

Required Textbook:

The required text for the course is *Microeconomics* (5th edition) by Paul Krugman and Robin Wells. Note that you'll also need the *Sapling Plus* version.

Classroom Courtesy

You are expected to attend class. Arriving late or leaving early is disruptive to the class and is very inconsiderate to both me and your fellow classmates; therefore, such behavior will not be tolerated. If a special circumstance dictates that you must leave early, please check with me before class and try to sit near a door. Also, **please turn off cell phones and ALL other personal electronic devices before class begins.**

Classroom Inclusivity

The University of New Hampshire is committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive environment. This syllabus incorporates these ideals by referencing the UNH Student Rights, Rules, and Responsibilities Handbook Section 1 (p. 3) and Section 10 (p. 30) for the University's Diversity policy and proper student conduct.

Learning is best done in a community that promotes and recognizes the different backgrounds, perspectives, and life experiences of everyone in class. As such, I will not tolerate any behavior that seeks to marginalize, offend, or discriminate (as defined broadly by the Student Handbook) against anyone in our classroom.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The University is committed to providing students with documented disabilities equal access to all university programs and facilities. If you think you have a disability requiring accommodations, you must register with Disability Services for Students (DSS). Contact DSS at (603) 862-2607 or visit them in 201 Smith Hall. If you have received Accommodation Letters for this course from DSS, please provide me with that information privately so that we can review those accommodations.

Note that you can submit an accommodation letter at **any time**, given the limited space of places to accommodate student needs, the sooner you get it in, the more likely we can get you a Paul based accommodations.

Academic Honesty

Academic Integrity is a core value of the University of New Hampshire. This syllabus incorporates by reference the UNH Student Rights, Rules, and Responsibilities Handbook, available at http://www.unh.edu/sites/default/files/departments/student_life/pdf/rightsandrulesfinal16-17.pdf. Specifically, refer to Section 9 (p. 23-24) for the University's Academic Honesty policy.

There will be zero tolerance of academic misconduct. As a student, you have the responsibility to protect the integrity of your own work as well. There is to be absolutely no communication during nor collaboration on exams. As for homework assignments and writing assignments, brainstorming with your classmates and/or receiving guidance from me is fine; **however**, the work you ultimately turn in must be your own. You are welcome to ask me for clarification at any time; ignorance of academic honesty policies is not a valid excuse.

Assignments, Testing and Grading

1. *Exams (60%)*. There will be two midterm exams (20% each) and one cumulative final exam (25%). Exam dates are listed on the last page so plan accordingly now, as no make-up exams will be given. If you must miss an exam due to an emergency, notify me before the test. The exams are writing intensive as well.
2. *Homework assignments (20%)*. 12 homework assignments will be given during the semester. All homework will be administrated and graded via the Sapling Learning System. Due dates for the homework will be listed on the Sapling Learning System website, not on Canvas. There will be a homework due on Monday's before class, which will cover the previous week's chapter. The lowest homework assignment grade will be dropped.

Homework assignments are due at the beginning of class and late assignments will not be graded for credit. I will define "late homework" after the outline of your grade. You will be given at least a week to complete every homework assignment.

Collaboration: I encourage you to work on your homework assignments with your classmates. You will learn from each other. However, under no circumstances may one student's homework be copied by another. Please make sure that what you submit reflects your genuine understanding and not merely what a fellow student has told you. If you have any question about this please ask me.

3. *"Muddiest-Point" Exercise (5%)*. Students respond to the question of "What was the muddiest(most confusing) point in this chapter we covered this week?" They will then find a partner and as a team, attempt to talk through clarifying this muddies point. Besides being a good exercise in writing, this is proven scientific technique which has strong positive outcomes on students' grades who utilized this technique versus similar students who didn't.

4. *In-class group work (5%)*. In order to facilitate learning the material I will occasionally assign problems to be solved in a group during class time. These are designed to “get your hands dirty” with a concept or tool-set lectured on in class. On some occasions I’ll ask you to present what you’ve worked through to the class so that everyone can benefit from your brilliance!
5. *In-class Quizzes (5%)* I will often ask students to complete a short 2-3 question quiz during class. These quizzes will cover material lectured upon in class, over an aspect of the textbook chapter we are covering, or fundamental concept that we covered in a previous class. These are meant to help you understand what you do know and where you need to focus your studying. These quizzes are not designed to be punitive and are meant to help as there are a number of different academic studies that demonstrate that small tests help increase final grades by half letter.

Late Homework Definition

All assignments are due **at the beginning of class** on the day it is due. Since this is an electronic grading system I do not have the ability to allow “late” homework on the Sapling Program. That said, if there is special circumstance that you make clear to me before the day the homework is due or emergency circumstances that you have some documentation for, I will reserve the right to **potentially** give you half credit **after** a discussion with me about your given reason for late homework. Note this “exception” will only be available until 24 after the day homework is due. After that point no later work will be accepted.

Course Outline

Please note that this is a tentative outline, and it is subject to change. Any changes will be announced in class and posted on Canvas. Further the final date is tentative, the Registrar will put out an official date & room soon.

Week	Date	Chapter	Things to Note
1	8/27-8/31	Ch 1	
2	9/3-9/7	Ch 2	No Class 9/3
3	9/10-9/14	Ch 3	
4	9/17-9/21	Ch 4 & 5	
5	9/24-9/28	Exam Week	Midterm 1 on 9/28
6	10/1-10/5	Ch 6	
7	10/8-10/12	Ch 7	No Class 10/8
8	10/15-10/19	Ch 9	
9	10/22-10/26	Ch 10	
10	10/29-11/2	Exam Week	Midterm 2 on 11/2
11	11/5-11/9	Ch 11	
12	11/12-11/16	Ch 12	No Class 11/12
13	11/19-11/23	Ch 13	Thanksgiving Break 11/21-11/23
14	11/26-11/30	Ch 13 & 14	
15	12/3-12/7	Ch 14 & 16	
16	12/17	Final Exams	Final 1pm-3pm