

PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS
EC1021A-003
Department of Economics
Western University

September 2020

General Information:

Instructor: Mohammad Iftekher Hossain
Office: 4082 SSC
Phone: 519-661-2111 ext. 87963
E-mail: mhossa87@uwo.ca
Office hours: **Thursday 12:00 pm – 2.00 pm (ET)**
I will arrange office hours using Zoom. Meeting IDs and passwords for the Zoom sessions will be available at the "Announcement" section of OWL beginning of every week. **Only authenticated users (UWO accounts) will be able to join the Zoom sessions.**

Delivery mode: Online
(Textbook, MyLab, Prerecorded video lessons, Tuesday group discussion sessions from 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm)

Course website: <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal>
Undergraduate inquiries: 519-661-3507 or SSC Room 4075 or econugrd@uwo.ca

Registration:

You are responsible for ensuring you are registered in the correct courses. If you are not registered in this course, the Department will not release any of your marks until your registration is corrected. You may check your timetable by using the Login on the Student Services website at <https://student.uwo.ca>. If you notice a problem, please contact your home Faculty Academic Counsellor immediately.

Prerequisite Note:

There are no prerequisites for this course. The former Economics 1020 is an anti-requisite.

Prerequisite(s) for your course can be found in the Western Calendar at

<http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/Courses.cfm?Subject=ECONOMIC&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID>

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites, and that you have not taken any anti-requisite courses. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as a basis for appeal. If you are found to be ineligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time, and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. This decision cannot be appealed.

If you find that you do not have the course prerequisites, it is in your best interest to drop the course well before the end of the add/drop period. Your prompt attention to this matter will not only help protect your academic record but will ensure that spaces become available for students who require the course in question for graduation.

Course Objectives:

This course introduces the principles of microeconomics to undergraduate students. The course explains the microeconomic tools which are relevant in making pricing and purchasing decisions in different markets and how the government interventions influence these decisions. The course is designed for undergraduate students so that after completing the course, they can understand and interpret economic events around them.

Course Learning Outcomes:

After successful completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:

1. use the production possibility theory to explain scarcity, choice, opportunity costs, and growth.
2. use the supply and demand models to explain how the markets determine the prices and quantities of different goods.
3. understand the elasticity of demand and supply and their impact on the firm's revenue and consumer's expenditure.
4. explain consumer behavior using their budget constraints and indifference curves.
5. describe a producer's costs and profit maximization decision.
6. explain the impact of government interventions in different markets.

Textbook(s) and Course Materials:

MICROECONOMICS Canada in the Global Environment, Tenth Edition, by Michael Parkin and Robin Bade, Pearson Canada Inc., 2018

Online Learning Resources: "MyLab Economics" www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com

Access code comes with a new textbook or can be purchased separately.

Course ID for MyLab: hossain80075

"MyLab Economics" is an online resource with many valuable aids to help you with your studying. You can access it on the www.pearsonmylab.com website; **with the purchase of the textbook package, you will get the code to access this website.** You can also purchase the access code separately.

You must join MyLab using your UWO email and student number. I will permanently remove all activities and grades associated with the accounts not using UWO emails to access MyLab, and will not consider their activities for grading.

Below is the link for the **ebook** version that the students can purchase through the BookStores website: <https://bookstore.uwo.ca/product/cebcodeid25908>

Essential Resources and Instructions:

Textbook: I strongly recommend to buy the Textbook; this is the most important resource in this course.

Pearson MyLab: Pearson Mylab Economics (Course ID: hossain80075) is **REQUIRED**. Please see the Textbook and Course Materials above for more information. **MyLab Economics will be the prime source for online tests/ exams.** During the tests/ exams, you will not be able to use some tools available at MyLab.

PPTs: All PPTs will be available through OWL before the commencement of the semester.

VoiceThreads (VTs): It is a tool available at OWL. I will upload some prerecorded videos at VTs explaining the key concepts in some chapters with the progression of the course.

Practice Test: You can do practice using the Practice Tests available at MyLab. I recommend you try the Dynamic Study Module also, effective use of which will help you to understand key materials. **Your performance in the practice tests will not be graded.**

Group Discussion Sessions: I will arrange Group Discussion Sessions on Tuesday, 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm. Please see the course schedule. I will arrange the sessions using the Zoom. Instructions about how to join the Zoom sessions will be available through the "Announcement" tool available at MyLab and at OWL.

Only participants using UWO credentials will be given access to these sessions.

Attending the Group Discussion Sessions is optional. I will not record any attendance.

Technical Requirements

- Laptop or computer
- Stable internet connection
- Microphone and Webcam
- Scanner/ Smartphone

Important Tools at OWL

Resources: This tool contains all PPTs, some sample questions, and other related materials.

Tests & Quizzes: I may use this tool to administer some tests and quizzes. I will notify you before using the tool. I will also arrange a practice quiz using OWL Tests & Quizzes to make you familiar with the tool, if I use this tool to arrange any tests/ exams.

VoiceThread (VT): I will upload some prerecorded videos at VoiceThread with the progression of the course. Please note that, when you attempt to download a VT, it may take long (20-30 minutes) to be ready for you to view it. But, once you download one VT, next time, just by clicking it, you will be able to see it.

Forum: Please use the Forum to discuss course-related content. I regularly follow the Forum. I will be happy to contribute to the Forum regularly if you participate and discuss related concepts.

Instructions:

- You should check the course website (OWL) every 24-48 hours, and MyLab regularly.
- I will provide a weekly update about readings, VoiceThreads, office hours, and exams (if there is an exam that week) at the beginning of every week.
- Please use the OWL "messages" tool to email me and teaching assistant(s)
- I monitor the emails daily; you will receive a response in 24 – 48 hours
- This course will use the **OWL Forum** for discussions. Please use the OWL Forum to discuss course-related content.

Assessments and Grading:

Grading:

Your grade point is your total points (out of 100) that you will earn in this course when the semester ends. **Four Online Tests** and one **Final Exam** will contribute **100%** of the total points (**Please see the weight below**).

Evaluation:

<i>Exam</i>	<i>Available at 7:00 p.m.*</i> <i>(Tentative)</i>	<i>Closes at 9:00 p.m.*</i> <i>(Tentative)</i>	<i>Covers</i> <i>(Tentative)</i>	<i>Weight</i>
Online Test 1	September 29	September 29	Ch. 1-3	15%
Online Test 2	October 20	October 20	Ch. 3-5	15%
Online Test 3	November 17	November 17	Ch. 5, 6, 9, 10	16%
Online Test 4	December 08	December 08	Ch. 11-14, 17	14%

<i>Exam</i>	<i>Available at</i>	<i>Closes at</i>	<i>Covers</i>	<i>Weight</i>
Final Exam	TBA	TBA	Cumulative	40%

* All dates and times are strictly based on the Time zone in London, ON (ET). It is your responsibility to ensure that you are attempting the exams following the time zone in London, ON. If there is any change in the schedule and the coverage, I will notify you by email and announcement at least two days before the test.

Exam Duration and Type:

Online Tests/ Midterm Exams

While attempting an Online Test, once you click "Begin Assessment," you will have 60 minutes or until the exam closes, whichever is shorter. I will arrange online tests using **MyLab Economics**.

Final Exam:

The duration of the final exam is 2 hours. The registrar's office will set the date and time for the final exam. I will arrange the Final Exam using the MyLab/ OWL Test and Quizzes tools. In due time, you will receive notifications about the date and time when the final exam begins and closes.

Essential information about the tests/ exams

Tests/ exams are open-book tests/ exams. Tests will be a mixed format. Although the tests/ exams are open-book exams, you will not be able to use some tools at MyLab Pearson during the tests/ exams.

Students should keep this schedule and workload in mind, given their other courses and commitments. Students should plan to ensure that they can complete the tests on these dates. Students should notify the instructor of conflicts with any of these test dates no later than September 23.

Policy Regarding Missed Exams:

Students with an approved absence from two assessments during the term will have the weight of the missed assessments reallocated to the final exam. **Please remember that the final exam is cumulative, and, therefore, the difficulty level in the final exam is much higher than the online tests.**

Students who miss more than two assessments during the term will not be permitted to reweight them to the final exam.

Students who have an approved absence from the final exam will be required to write a makeup exam that (i) may differ in format from the original final exam, (ii) may or may not be administered via MyLab, and (iii) will be proctored using Zoom. **The exam format in the make up exam will also be different from the regular exam, and will, therefore, be much harder.**

Students who miss any assessment must follow Western University's procedures for approval of their absence to receive accommodation. Please see pp. 7-9 of this syllabus for details on these procedures. If Western University announces any procedures for the approval of absences during Fall 2020 that supplement or supplant the information provided on this syllabus, please follow those procedures.

Course Schedule (Tentative):

Please see the course schedule below. **If there is any change in this schedule, students will be notified in due time using the "Announcement" tool available at MyLab/ OWL.**

Date**	Week/ Tasks	Chapters
September 09 – September 11	Week 1	See the course outline, buy the Textbook, see the resources, try to explore MyLab Economics
September 14 – September 18	Week 2	1, 2
September 15, 7:00 pm – 10.00 pm	Group discussion session	1, 2
September 21 – September 25	Week 3	3
September 22, 7:00 pm – 10.00 pm	Group discussion session	3
September 28 – October 2	Week 4	3, 4
September 29	Online Test 1	1, 2, 3
October 05 – October 9	Week 5	4
October 06, 7:00 pm – 10.00 pm	Group discussion session	4
October 13 – October 16	Week 6	5
October 12, 7:00 pm – 10.00 pm	Group discussion session	5
October 19 – October 23	Week 7	6
October 20	Online Test 2	3, 4, 5
October 26 – October 30	Week 8	9
October 27, 7:00 pm – 10.00 pm	Group discussion session	6
November 02 – November 08	Reading week	
November 09-November 13	Week 10	10
November 10, 7:00 pm – 10.00 pm	Group discussion session	9, 10
November 17	Online Test 3	5, 6, 9, 10
November 16 – November 20	Week 11	11
November 23 – November 27	Week 12	12, 13
November 24, 7:00 pm – 10.00 pm	Group discussion session	11, 12
November 30 – December 04	Week 13	14, 15, 17
December 01, 7:00 pm – 10.00 pm	Group discussion session	13, 14
December 08	Online Test 4	11, 12, 13, 14, 17
TBA	Final Exam	Cumulative

** Dates mentioned for the online tests are tentative. If there is any change in this tentative schedule, students will be notified through the "Announcement" tool available at MyLab and OWL.

I will not cover Chapters 7, 8, 15, and 16.

You are responsible for the topics in:

Chapter 09 on pp. 205-215

Chapter 13 on pp. 305-307, 310-313, 314-316

Chapter 14 on pp. 325-324

Chapter 17 on pp. 398-401.

All other chapters will be studied in their entirety, including end of chapter mathematical notes where applicable.

Academic Success Program: Economics

Please note that during the first term, this course is participating in the Academic Success Program. The program runs in parallel to our course and is designed to facilitate connections with your online classmates, enhance your academic skills, and communicate tools and campus resources that can assist in your successful transition to Western. Each registered student has been placed in a group, and each group has been assigned a Peer Leader, an upper-year student who has completed this course in the past. If you haven't already heard from your Peer Leader, you can expect to hear from them in the coming days. Your active participation in weekly programming with your group and Peer Leader is encouraged but optional; please plan to participate for 1-1.5 hours each week of the first term, excluding the Fall Reading Week. Please send any questions regarding this program to your Peer Leader or ase@uwo.ca.

Tips on How to Be Successful in this Class:

Students in this class should understand the level of autonomy and self-discipline required to be successful.

- Please make it a daily habit to log onto MyLab and OWL to ensure you have seen everything posted to help you succeed in this class.
- Follow weekly checklists created on MyLab/ OWL or create your own to help you stay on track.
- Treat this course as you would a face-to-face course. Take notes as you go through the lesson material. Keeping handwritten notes or notes in a regular Word document will help you learn more effectively than just reading or watching.
- Connect with others. Try forming an online study group and meet weekly for study and peer support.
- Do not be afraid to ask questions. If you have questions or are struggling with a topic, check the online discussion boards or contact me and or teaching assistant(s).

Professionalism, Privacy, and Copyright:

- Students are expected to follow the [Student Code of Conduct](#).
- All lectures and course materials, including slides, presentations, outlines, and similar materials, are protected by **copyright**. Students may take notes and make copies of course materials for their own educational purposes only.
- Students may not record lectures, reproduce (or allow others to reproduce), post or distribute lecture notes, assessments, or any other course materials publicly and/or for commercial purposes without written consent.
- Recordings (audio or video) are not permitted without explicit, written permission. Permitted recordings may not be distributed or shared.

Please Note
Department & University Policies for 2020-2021

The University expects all students to take responsibility for their own Academic Programs. Students should check their registration to ensure they are enrolled in the correct courses.

Academic Rights and Responsibilities: Students should be familiar with their “Academic Rights and Responsibilities” as outlined [here](#) in the Western Academic Calendar. Claiming that “you didn’t know what to do” is not an acceptable excuse for not following the stated procedures.

Guidelines and Policies for Students are posted online in the current Western Academic Calendar at <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca>. Undergraduate information for the Faculty of Social Science can be found at: <https://www.ssc.uwo.ca/undergraduate/index.html> and for the Department of Economics at: <https://economics.uwo.ca/undergraduate/index.html>.

Rules of Conduct for Examinations: Students are expected to know the university’s Rules of Conduct for Examinations, available [here](#).

Cheating and Academic Offences: Students are responsible for understanding what it means to “cheat.” The Department of Economics treats cheating and other academic offences very seriously and will investigate any suspect behavior. Students found guilty will incur penalties that could include a failing grade or being barred from future registration in Economics courses or programs. The University may impose further penalties such as suspension or expulsion.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is an academic offence. Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Ideas/passages taken from another author must be referenced with footnotes or citations and acknowledged with quotation marks where appropriate. Western University uses software to check for plagiarism and students may be required to electronically submit their work. Those found guilty will be penalized as noted in point 3. See Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students [here](#) in the Western Academic Calendar.

Academic Appeals: Students should refer to the Student Academic Appeals section [here](#) in the Western Academic Calendar. Please note the relevant deadlines.

Department Appeals Procedures: The Department will not consider an appeal unless an attempt has been made to settle the matter with the instructor first. Students who remain dissatisfied with the outcome may submit a written appeal to the Undergraduate Director in Economics, stating the reasons for their appeal. Information on the Department of Economics’ appeals procedure and the appeals form are available [here](#).

Systematic Adjustments: Systematic adjustments of class grade distributions (either up or down) can occur in Economics courses. The systematic adjustment of a class grade distribution is **not** grounds for an appeal.

Add/drop deadlines:

Deadline to add a first term half course:
Deadline to drop a first term half course:

Thursday September 17, 2020
Thursday November 12, 2020

Oversleeping or Misreading the Exam Schedule: Faculty of Social Science policy states that oversleeping or misreading the exam schedule is NOT grounds for a makeup. This rule applies to all exams in the Department of Economics.

End of Term Travel: Students must book travel arrangements AFTER final exam dates have been posted; travel is not an acceptable excuse for absence from a final exam.

Rewriting Exams and Retroactive Reweighting are NOT Permitted: Students who proceed to write a test or examination must be prepared to accept the mark. Rewriting tests or examinations, or retroactive reweighting of marks, is **not** permitted.

Accommodation Policies: Students with disabilities should work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD), which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

Academic Consideration for Student Absence: Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are *not* met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office for more information about the relevant documentation. It is strongly recommended that students notify the instructor as soon as possible, ideally before the assessment, when they become aware of an absence. University policy is that students must communicate with their instructors no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by the SMC or immediately upon their return from their documented absence. Failure to follow University policy and procedures may result in denial of academic accommodation and a grade of zero.

Individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds or for other reasons. **All required documentation for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.**

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see:
[Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs.](#)

For the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

Religious Accommodation: Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

Policy Regarding Class Attendance and Engagement: If the instructor deems a student's attendance or engagement in the class to be unsatisfactory, that student may be prohibited from writing the final examination. Examples of unsatisfactory class engagement include frequent absences from an in-person or synchronous online class, lack of assignment submissions, and inadequate use of online course materials. Instructors who intend to make use of this policy will notify the student in advance.

Statement on Mental Health and Support Services: Students under emotional/mental distress should visit http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/ for more information and a complete list of resources on how to obtain help.