



## **ECON 2010-090 (Principles of Microeconomics), 3 Credit Hours**

Summer 2017

A Strictly Online Class

**Instructor:** Ngwinui Belinda Azenui

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**Office Hours:** All communications with the instructor will be done via email and/or video chat if need arise.

### **Required Materials**

- **eTextbook:** McConnell, Brue, Flynn, McConnell Economics 20e, ©2014, including online Connect-Plus access, McGraw-Hill.  
**Note:** When you register for this class, you will get automatic access to the e-book. You do not need to purchase anything else unless you must have a printed copy. If you want a printed copy, the best way is to purchase a used one from a store or online.
- Economic journals, blogs and newspapers such as the New York Times, the Financial Times or the Wall Street Journal that focus on microeconomic issues. I will post the links of interesting journals, blogs and articles on lecture PowerPoints and Canvas as I find relevant.
- I will also make short videos on key concepts available on Connect.

### **Course Description**

This course introduces students to the main microeconomic principles and theories, and focuses on helping students understand the working of markets of a modern economy as well as the decision making process by consumers and producers. The goal is for students to learn how to analytically think about microeconomic issues. Therefore, some knowledge of basic algebra and calculus as well as graphs will be necessary.

### **Course Outcomes**

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

- Demonstrate understanding of basic demand and supply model
- Explain major microeconomic concepts, including utility, scarcity, elasticity, efficiency, output and costs, and externalities.
- Analyze markets and articulate the decision making process by consumers and producers.

- Comprehend and differentiate between different market types—perfect competition, monopoly, monopolistic completion and oligopoly.
- Understand basics of economic inequality, health care and immigration.

### **Teaching and Learning Methods**

This course will be taught strictly online using PowerPoints, videos, and LearnSmart. I will create a discussion page in Canvas where students can ask questions, debate relevant points and enlarge their worldview. Interaction between students, especially in group studies is highly encouraged to create a dynamic learning experience. I believe students have to be engaged and play an active role in the learning process, so make effective you of your peers by asking questions on the discussion page and responding to other students' questions. I will make extensive reference to current microeconomic issues faced in the U.S. economy and global economy at large, especially on PowerPoints.

### **Course Policies**

We will cover most chapters in the McConnell, Brue, and Flynn textbook, I will skip some chapters and will not include those in Canvas. You are expected to read the chapters and do the related Connect LearnSmart associated to each chapter that is covered. There will always be an assignment and/or quiz due on Sundays at 11:59pm; keep up with due dates.

### **Assignments**

It is your responsibility to stay up to date with readings, watching the posted videos, assignments and quizzes. You will extensively use online resources submit all assignment and quizzes: Connect from the book publisher and McGraw-Hill, the primary homework and testing site. Registering for this class gives you access to this site. You will access Connect from Canvas to get to your ongoing assignments (it is an integrated system). All assignments will be taken and submitted online via Connect.

Grade breakdown is as follows (with weights in percentages):

Timed Quizzes	60%
Assignments completed by due dates	40%
Connect LearnSmart (highly recommended)	0%

### Late Assignments and Exam Policy:

For quizzes and assignments that will be submitted via Connect, the system is set up in such a way that no answers can be submitted after the deadline. In other words, no late assignments and quizzes will be accepted. To successfully pass the class, you must be on top of due dates, all of which are posted in Canvas and I will try to send out reminders when assignments and quizzes are due. Make-up assignments and quizzes will be given at

the discretion of the instructor and only for very serious and verifiable medical reasons. If you cannot submit an assignment or quiz on time, notify the instructor in advance.

### **Grading Policy**

Grades will follow the university's grading scale (in percentage): 93+ A, 90-92.99 A-, 87-89.99 B+, 82- 86.99 B, 80-81.99 B-, 75-79.99 C+, 70-74.99 C, 65-69.99 C-, 63-64.99 D+, 57-62.99 D, 50-56.99 D-, <50 E

### **Course Schedule**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic/Discussion</u>	<u>Readings</u>
<b>Week 1:</b> May 15 – May 21	Syllabus and Introduction Limits, Alternatives, and Choices	Chapter 1
<b>Week 2:</b> May 22 – May 28	The Market System and the Circular Flow Demand, Supply, and Market Equilibrium	Chapter 2 Chapter 3
<b>Week 3:</b> May 29 – June 4	Elasticity	Chapter 6
<b>Week 4:</b> June 5 – June 11	Market Failures: Public Goods and Externalities Utility Maximization	Chapter 4 Chapter 7
<b>Week 5:</b> June 12 – June 18	Businesses and the Costs of Production	Chapter 9
<b>Week 6:</b> June 19 – June 25	Pure Competition in the Short Run Pure Competition in the Long Run	Chapter 10 Chapter 11
<b>Week 7:</b> June 26 – July 2	Pure Monopoly Monopolistic Competition and Oligopoly	Chapter 12 Chapter 13
<b>Week 8:</b> July 3 – July 9	The Demand for Resources Wage Determination	Chapter 14 Chapter 15
<b>Week 9:</b> July 10 – July 16	Rent, Interest, and Profit	Chapter 16
<b>Week 10:</b> July 17 – July 23	Natural Resources and Energy Economics Public Finance: Expenditure and Taxes	Chapter 17 Chapter 18

<b>Week 11:</b> July 24 – July 30	Income Inequality, Poverty, and Discrimination Antitrust Policy and Regulation	Chapter 21 Chapter 19
<b>Week 12:</b> July 31 – Aug. 4	Government’s Role and Government Failure	Chapter 5

### University Policies

- 1. *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.
- 2. *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).
- 3. *Plagiarism,*** which involves copying someone else’s words or ideas without acknowledgement, is unacceptable by law and will result in a course grade of F.