



Welcome to ECO 1104F – Introduction to Microeconomics

Course Outline

APLIA Course Name: ECO1104F - WINTER 2016

Student Registration URL: <http://login.nelsonbrain.com/course/H5NX-N6CV-BJGY>

A student's greatest responsibility is to engage with the course.

Professor: Lawrence Harris

Winter 2016

Course Description

This is the first-year introductory microeconomics course required for students who are majoring in economics.

Official Course Description: Nature and scope of economics. Scarcity and choice. Market mechanism. Demand and supply curves. Shifts of demand and supply. Elasticity and determinants. Consumer behaviour. Nature of the firm and its basic decisions. Production functions. Total, average, and marginal cost curves. Price decision. Perfect competition. Monopoly. Price discrimination. Government regulation. Factor pricing. Case studies and applications. Comparative advantage.

Course Objectives

This course will familiarize students with the basic concepts of microeconomics (which are approached with the use of descriptive language, graphs and mathematics). Students will be assisted in understanding the "economic way of thinking," and in applying these principles not only in technical contexts but also in every-day decision-making in real life.

Teaching Method

This is a very large class. The course is presented in a lecture format, and students will be asked to participate in posing and answering questions.

Students should engage in active note-making, as well as reading the textbook.

There is a required on-line assignment component of the course (called "Aplia" – to register, **see log-in code at top of this page**), as well as a course website on Blackboard/Virtual Campus, which students should consult for schedule and test announcements, grades, etc.

Thank you for your cooperation

Having students who are engaged in the course can make the experience of coming to class much more interesting and enjoyable.

Please be serious and attentive when you come to class. The Professor needs to concentrate, and other students want to hear clearly what the prof is saying.

Electronic devices should be used for course work only, and should not distract other students or the prof. You should not be on YouTube, playing video games, wearing headphones, texting, or talking to seatmates. Cellphones should be off.

Your full attendance is expected — for the full duration of the semester and for the full duration of the lectures!

Copyright and Privacy

The following are not permitted in the lecture hall or during the class:

- taking photos or videos
- audio recording

...unless explicit permission has been given by the professor.

Also, you are not allowed to copy material from the course's Virtual Campus / Blackboard website and re-post it on other websites. It is for your personal use only while you are enrolled in the course.

No Class on February 15 and 18

Reading Week

Textbook and Related Materials

IMPORTANT NOTE: You **MUST** purchase an access code to the on-line assignments, which are produced by the textbook publisher. This is called "APLIA." Be sure APLIA is bundled with your textbook – whether you purchase the print edition or the electronic edition. You can also buy APLIA separately, which you might want to do if you have obtained a used copy of the textbook.

- **Textbook (mandatory): Principles of Microeconomics: Sixth Canadian Edition**, by Mankiw, Kneebone, and McKenzie, available at the campus bookstore and at the student-owned bookstore AGORA. All lecture and exam material is based on the sixth edition.
- **On-line assignments (mandatory):** The name of this system is "APLIA." Each student must purchase APLIA access because part of your official grade is composed of these on-line tests. To log in to Aplia, you need an Aplia "access key" (password) that you purchase AND the Aplia Course Code which is printed near the top of the first page of this course outline.
- **Study Guide (optional but recommended, but only if you are really going to use it!):** Study Guide for Principles of Microeconomics, Sixth Canadian Edition
- The Prof will be posting the lecture slides that go with the textbook on Virtual Campus / Blackboard, but these are not a replacement for attending class and making your own set of notes. These slides are provided by the textbook publisher.
- On-line Resources from Textbook Publisher: quizzes, tutorials, graphing exercises, etc.
- **Check our ECO 1104F Virtual Campus / Blackboard website frequently** for course announcements

Textbook Chapters covered in this course

Read Chapters 1 and 2 immediately during the first week of class.

We will progress through the following textbook chapters, in the following order, at the rate of approximately one per week.

- Chapter 1 - Ten principles of economics (a few of these apply to Macro rather than Micro)
- Chapter 2 - Thinking Like an Economist
- *(Chapter 2 - appendix – Study this on your own and be sure you understand this material)*
- Chapter 3 - Interdependence and the Gains from Trade
- Chapter 4 - The Market forces of Supply and Demand
- Chapter 5 - Elasticity and Its Applications
- Chapter 6 - Supply, Demand, and Government Policies
- Chapter 7 - Consumers, Producers, and the Efficiencies of Markets
- Chapter 8 – Application: The Costs of Taxation
- Chapter 13 - The Costs of Production
- Chapter 14 - Firms in Competitive Markets
- Chapter 15 – Monopoly
- Chapter 10 – Externalities (includes environmental issues)
- Chapter 11 - Public Goods and Common Resources

Assessment Method

20% – APLIA on-line assignments – Generally there will be one test due each week; most chapters will have a test, and there is one test per chapter.

To receive credit for this course you must have an average of at least 50% on your Aplia assignments, AND you must complete at least five APLIA assignments, AND you must meet the deadline for any Aplia assignment you attempt.

- You do not have to obtain a perfect Aplia score in order to gain enough points to receive a mark of 100% for the APLIA on-line assignment component of the course. The more assignments you complete, the more points you can receive, and this will help get you closer to the number of points you need to get 100%, which the Prof will announce near the end of the course.

(The maximum we will credit you with is 100%, even if you surpass the needed number of points.)

45% – TWO MID-TERM EXAMS – during our regular class time, in our lecture hall

20% Monday, February 8, 11:30 a.m.

20% Monday, March 14, 11:30 a.m.

“A medical certificate validated by University of Ottawa Health Services is required for an exemption, make-up exam, etc., — or else, in the case of a personal crisis, a letter from the University’s counseling service. Give your professor the official University of Ottawa medical certificate or counselor’s letter. Do not bring notes from your family doctor to the professor; please take them to the University Health Service. This way your personal details remain confidential, and your professor can treat all students equally by accepting all official UO certificates.”

40% – FINAL EXAM

- **during official exam period – date will be announced by the University in February.**

- covers the entire course. There will probably be 100 multiple-choice questions.

- If you have an acceptable reason for missing the final exam, go to your FACULTY OFFICE (not the Economics Department or the Professor) and fill out a Deferred Exam Request form, and provide supporting documentation. If your request is granted, the Economics Department will contact you to write a final exam at a time arranged by the Department.

Computers, and other electronic devices are not permitted during exams, unless explicitly stated.

Note: Regarding absences from exams, the University has sent all professors a reminder that:
“Reasons such as travel, employment and misreading the examination schedule are not accepted.”

If You Need Help...

- Always feel welcome to ask questions during the lectures. Short, snappy questions are best!
- To get to the course Web Page, log on to Virtual Campus and click this course: ECO1104F Introduction to Macroeconomics. Check the website often for announcements and lecture slides.
- If you have an individual question to ask the Prof, please do it in person at the end of a lecture. I always stay until the last question gets answered! This is my “office hour”, and it has proven popular over the years because I am right here where you are.
- Prof’s email: lawrence.harris@uottawa.ca
- ***Always include your full name, student number, and course code with your message in order to receive a reply!***
- This semester I am teaching two courses, with a total of over 400 students. If you email me, please make sure it is for something important. There may be a delay of several days in replying.
- Get to know other students in the class — they can help you too!

The University requires the following statement to be printed in the course syllabus

Be aware of academic fraud!

Academic fraud consists of dishonest and wrongful acts on exams, test or assignments, resulting in flawed grades and assessments. The University does not tolerate academic fraud, and anyone found guilty of this behaviour is liable to severe penalties.

Here are some examples of academic fraud: Plagiarizing or cheating in any way

Presenting falsified research data;

Submitting an assignment of which you are not the sole author
Presenting the same work from another course without written permission from the professors concerned.

With the development of the Internet these past years, it has become much easier to detect plagiarism. Indeed, given the powerful tools now at their disposal, your professors can, by typing a few simple words, readily trace the exact source of a text on the Web.

For more information on fraud and how to avoid it, you can refer to the Faculty web page, which offers tips to help you with your studies and the writing process for university-level projects at the following address: http://www.socialsciences.uottawa.ca/eng/ugrad_tips.asp. You can also refer to the Faculty web page for information on plagiarism in university assignments: <http://www.socialsciences.uottawa.ca/eng/ethics.asp>

Persons who commit or try to commit academic fraud, or who are accomplices in fraud, will be penalized. Here are some of the possible sanctions:

A grade of F for the assignment or course in question, the imposition of three to 30 more credits as a condition of graduation suspension or expulsion from their faculty.

To consult the regulation, go to:

http://www.uottawa.ca/academic/info/newsletter/fraud_f.html