ECON 2302.004 Principles of Microeconomics (Fall 2020)

Instructor: Dr. Stephen Kosovich
Email: kosovichs@sfasu.edu
Phone: 936-468-1557
Office: 303G
Department: Economics and Finance
Class meeting time and place: Monday/Wednesday/Friday, 10:00–10:50 a.m. in McGee 124
Class website: https://d2l.sfasu.edu/
Office Hours:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday/Wed</td>
<td>11:00 – noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2:30 – 5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>9:00 – noon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(or by appointment)

Office hours will be conducted ‘virtually’ via Zoom. Instructions on how to set up a meeting will be provided in class and in our D2L course.

Catalog Description:
An introduction to the behavioral science of economics which focuses on the behavior of individual consumers, firms, government agencies and resource owners. Topics covered include basic price theory, market allocation of resources, consumer behavior, theory of the firm, government regulation of business, and comparative economic systems.

Prerequisites: None

Text and Materials: Principles of Economics, Mankiw 9th edition with Mindtap software code. You will enroll in Cengage on D2L: https://d2l.sfasu.edu/
Additionally, you need access to a computer with a webcam and internet access.

Attendance:
I will keep an official record of your class attendance until the 12th class day, even though it does not formally enter into your course grade. Because of physical distancing requirements, students may not be able to attend class each and every day. Information about the days you can attend class will be provided on our D2L course website.

Cengage/Mindtap:
At SFA, all ECO 2301/2302 courses use the same book. Recently, Cengage has introduced a new option: Cengage Unlimited, which gives students online access to all Cengage products during the same term for all of their courses that use Cengage products. If you are happy with an ebook, this is the cheapest way to get access to ECO 2301 and/or 2302. Otherwise, you can buy the physical copy of the text/with access at the bookstore or directly from Cengage. Note: either option also comes with a Mindtap iPhone/Android app for tablets and phones, where you can download a copy of the book for offline use. Two final notes: (1) if you took ECO 2301 at SFA last term and purchased two-semester access, you should NOT need to purchase any additional access this term, (2) You will always access Cengage/Mindtap directly through our specific D2L course.

Exams:
Three regular exams and a final exam will be administered during our listed class time, during the course of the semester. These exams will be taken online via a computer. Additionally, the second exam and the final exam will be proctored, and will require access to a webcam and a computer (not a phone, tablet, wifi enhanced refrigerator, etc.) Quizzes and exams are to be completed by each student separately and collaborating with others will be considered a violation of academic integrity.
Course Requirement | Points
--- | ---
**Mindtap Homework Assignments:** Eleven equally weighted assignments through the term, with the lowest one score dropped at the end of the term (I will only count the highest 10 scores). | 60

**Regular Exams:** Three exams scheduled during the term, with each worth 40 points. No makeup exams will be given during the semester. If you promptly provide me verifiable evidence that the absence is excused based upon SFA policy (the absence was caused because of health, family emergencies, or student participation in approved university-sponsored events) the weight of the excused exam will be placed on the comprehensive final exam. | 120

**D2L Quizzes:** These quizzes will be based upon video lectures for the course, and will be completed on our course D2L webpage by the date and time listed in D2L. Each quiz is worth 2 points, with the lowest three quiz grades dropped. (I will count only the highest 15 scores). | 30

**Cumulative Final Exam:** The final is Wednesday, December 9th at 10:45 a.m. | 70

Letter grades are based on the following (out of a possible 280 points):
- 250 points and above is an A
- 222 points and above is a B
- 194 points and above is a C
- 166 points and above is a D
- Less than 166 points is an F

**Keys to Success/Points of Emphasis:**
In my experience, there are three keys to success in this course: (1) ‘Come’ to class and take good notes, (2) do problems and then more problems, and (3) seek help/use additional resources when needed.

**General Student Policies:** **Academic Integrity (4.1)**
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit. Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student_academic_dishonesty.pdf](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student_academic_dishonesty.pdf)

**Masks:**
Masks will be required for students physically attending class. For more information on this policy, see [http://www.sfasu.edu/fall2020](http://www.sfasu.edu/fall2020)

**Students with Disabilities**
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request
services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the full Student Conduct Code at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-conduct-code.pdf). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic, or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the iCare Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.

General Education Core Curriculum Information:
This course has been selected to be part of Stephen F. Austin State University’s core curriculum. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has identified six objectives for all core courses: Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Empirical and Quantitative Skills, Teamwork, Personal Responsibility, and Social Responsibility. SFA is committed to the improvement of its general education core curriculum by regular assessment of student performance on these six objectives. Assessment of these objectives at SFA will be based on student work from all core curriculum courses. This student work will be collected in D2L. The chart below indicates the core objectives addressed by this course, the assignment(s) that will be used to assess the objectives in this course and the date the assignment(s) should be uploaded to D2L. Not every assignment will be collected for assessment every semester. Your instructor will notify you which assignment(s) must be submitted for assessment in this semester.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Objective</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Assignment Title</th>
<th>Date Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical Thinking Skills</td>
<td>To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication Skills</td>
<td>To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas though written, oral, and visual communication.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empirical and Quantitative Skills</td>
<td>To include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Responsibility</td>
<td>To include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student Learning Outcomes (with relevant Core Objectives in parentheses):
Upon successful completion of this course students should be able to:
- Demonstrate a basic understanding of how society’s basic resource allocation decisions are made under different economic systems (CT, SR, CS)
- Show how production costs behave when firms alter their production levels (CT, QS)
- Show how governmental regulation and taxation affects the market allocations of resources (CT, CS, QS, SR)
- Determine equilibrium price and quantity in a single market (CT)
- Calculate and use elasticity measures to describe consumer expenditure behavior (CT, QS)
- Identify profit-maximizing output and input and price levels for firms operating under various market structures, and to correctly predict changes in production costs as output levels change for the firms (CT, QS)

Program Learning Outcomes:
Program learning outcomes define the knowledge, skills, and abilities students are expected to demonstrate upon completion of an academic program. These learning outcomes are regularly assessed to determine student learning and to evaluate overall program effectiveness. You may access the program learning outcomes for your major and particular courses at http://www.sfasu.edu/col/ug-pbd.asp

Withheld Grades--Grades Policy (5.5)
At the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic unit head, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F, except as allowed through policy related to active military service. If students register for the same course in future semesters, the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average. Please refer to the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades.pdf.
Exams and Mindtap dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assigned Tasks</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PPF and trade</td>
<td>Complete Mindtap homework #1</td>
<td>Friday, September 4th, 11 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supply and Demand</td>
<td>Complete Mindtap homework #2</td>
<td>Friday, September 11th, 11 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elasticity</td>
<td>Complete Mindtap homework #3</td>
<td>Friday, September 18th, 11 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam #1</td>
<td>Complete Exam #1</td>
<td>During class, Monday, September 21st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Efficiency and Fairness</td>
<td>Complete Mindtap homework #4</td>
<td>Friday, October 2nd, 11 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governments and Markets</td>
<td>Complete Mindtap homework #5 and #6</td>
<td>Friday, October 9th, 11 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam #2</td>
<td>Complete Exam #2</td>
<td>During class, Wednesday, October 14th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firm Theory</td>
<td>Complete Mindtap homework #7</td>
<td>Friday, October 23rd, 11 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perfect Competition</td>
<td>Complete Mindtap homework #8</td>
<td>Friday, October 30th, 11 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monopoly</td>
<td>Complete Mindtap homework #9</td>
<td>Friday, November 6th, 11 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam #3</td>
<td>Complete Exam #3</td>
<td>During class, Monday, November 9th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monopolistic Competition</td>
<td>Complete Mindtap homework #10</td>
<td>Friday, November 13th, 11 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oligopoly</td>
<td>Complete Mindtap homework #11</td>
<td>Friday, December 4th, 11 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Complete Final Exam</td>
<td>Wednesday, December 9th at 10:45 a.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tentative Content Calendar:

**Week 1:** What is Economics (Chapter 1) and Thinking like an Economist (Chapter 2)

**Week 2:** Specialization and Gains from Trade (Chapter 3) and Demand and Supply (Chapter 4)

**Week 3:** Demand and Supply (continued)

**Week 4:** Elasticity (Chapter 5)

**Week 5:** Efficiency, Equity and Economic Systems (Chapter 7 and 20.2)

**Week 6:** Government involvement in Markets (Chapter 6)

**Week 7:** Taxes (Chapter 8)

**Week 8:** Production and Cost (introduction) (Chapter 13)

**Week 9:** Production and cost (continued) (Chapter 13)

**Week 10:** Perfect Competition (Chapter 14)

**Week 11:** Perfect Competition continued and Monopoly (Chapter 15)

**Week 12:** Monopoly continued (Chapter 15)

**Week 13:** Monopolistic Competition and Intro to Oligopoly (Chapter 16)

**Week 14:** Oligopoly (Chapter 17)