ECON 2302: Principles of Microeconomics  
Fall 2021
Time: MWF 9:00 – 9:50am  
Location: McGee Business 124
Office Hours: **MW: 10:00am – 12:00nn**  
**TR: 1:00pm – 4:00pm**

Office hours will be done either in-person or online. This means that I will be in my office during office hours, but we can still meet online. If you wish to meet online, please click on the Zoom link below. I have enabled the “waiting room” option, which means that you might have to wait a few minutes if I am talking with another student first before I let you into the Zoom meeting.

**Zoom Link:** https://sfasu.zoom.us/j/93920052884?pwd=czhjZ0lUWkNnd2JnTlRKMW6dEptZz09  
**Meeting ID:** 939 2005 2884  
**Password:** 301934

If you wish to meet outside these hours, please email me to schedule an appointment. Be sure to provide several possible meeting times to work with your schedule. Please be ready with specific questions before coming to office hours.

Course Description: An introduction to economics with a focus on the behavior of individual consumers, firms, government agencies and resource owners. Topics covered include the laws of supply and demand, price theory, market allocation of resources, consumer behavior, theory of the firm, government regulation of business, and comparative economic systems.

Prerequisites: None. However, basic understanding of high school algebra and geometry is recommended.  
**Required Materials:** *Principles of Economics, 9th Edition*, by Gregory Mankiw with Mindtap Software code. You will enroll in Cengage on D2L: https://d2l.sfasu.edu/

**Cengage/Mindtap:**
At SFA, all ECON 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 E-book, this is the cheapest way to get access to ECON 2301 and/or 2302. Otherwise, you can buy the physical copy of the text/with access at the bookstore or directly from Cengage. 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. **Note:** (1) if you took ECON 2301 at SFA last term and purchased two-semester access, you will NOT need to purchase any additional access this term, (2) You will **always** access Cengage/Mindtap directly through our specific D2L course.

**Grades:** Your course grade is weighted as follows:

- **Exam 1 – 20%**  
- **Exam 2 – 20%**  
- **Exam 3 – 20%**  
- **Homework – 15%**  
- **Final Exam (cumulative) – 25%**  
- **Participation (extra credit) – 3%**
Exams: Each midterm exam is weighted 20% of your grade, except for the final exam. All exams will be in class. The last exam is cumulative, and weighs 25% of your overall course grade. Exam coverage will be closely tied to class lectures and homework assignments. If you feel that a question has been graded incorrectly, you must bring your exam to the instructor within ten (10) days of receiving the graded exam. More details regarding the exams will be announced as the exam date approaches. The exam dates listed below are subject to change.

Tentative Exam Dates:
Exam 1 – Wednesday, September 15th
Exam 2 – Wednesday, October 13th
Exam 3 – Wednesday, November 10th

The Final Exam for this course is scheduled for Wednesday, December 8th at 8:00am to 10:00am. The Final Exam will be cumulative. There will be no make-up exams for the final exam. Taking this exam is a requirement of all students. Anyone who misses the final exam without any proper (medical or university-related) documentation will automatically receive a zero on the test. There are no alternatives to taking the final exam at this time and date.

Make-up Policy for Final Exam. Only under extraordinary circumstance such as a documented medical emergency will you be granted with permission for a make-up final exam. If you miss the final exam without proper documentation or approval from the instructor, you will generally not be allowed to take a make-up final. Under some extreme circumstances, you may be allowed to take a make-up final for non-documented reasons. However, your make-up final will be worth only 80% of the available points allocated to your final exam, if the reason is not properly documented. If you are given permission for a make-up final, you will receive an incomplete for the course and a make-up final will be administered to you during the next semester. You must see the instructor and sign a removal of incomplete document to receive the grade or you will receive a zero on your final exam. If you do not take the final exam, you will receive a grade of zero for your final exam grade. Oversleeping is not an extreme circumstance—in other words DO NOT miss the final.

Make-up Policy for Semester Exams. There will be one (1) make-up exam available at the end of the semester. However, the student may only avail the make-up exam upon the approval of the instructor. If you need to miss a semester exam and have approval from the instructor, your make-up exam will be comprehensive. It is not in your best interest to miss an exam. You should only request an approved miss of an exam if you truly are unable to take the semester exam as scheduled. If it is necessary to miss an exam, you must contact the instructor (prior to the exam if possible) via e-mail. If you are given permission for the “approved miss” if one class meeting passes after the schedule exam date before you contact the instructor. At most, you can be approved for one “approved miss” of one of the two semester exams. If you are passing the course, you are unable to take a second semester exam after receiving an approved miss for an earlier exam, and the circumstances are outside of your control, you will receive an incomplete for the course. You will need to see the instructor for approval and requirements of the incomplete for the course.

Homework: Homework assignments will be assigned and posted through Mindtap on a roughly weekly basis. These assignments must be completed individually. The two lowest homework grades will be dropped from your overall homework course grade. This means that you are able to miss up to two (2) assignments for the whole semester. Late homework will not be graded, and thus result in a zero. To receive full credit, the student must answer the questions completely and correctly. Copying any part of another student’s work is academic misconduct. There will be no make-up assignments offered for this class.
Participation: Participation will be in the form of completing exercises and submitting them in the dropbox folder. These exercises will be graded as extra credit, and it will reward the student with a maximum of an extra 3 percentage points on top of the overall course grade. If you fail to submit the exercise, you will get a zero for that particular exercise. More details are found in our D2L course.

Extra-credit: There will be no extra credit given to any individual students. Although, an extra credit opportunity for the entire class may arise during the semester.

Grading Scale: At the end of the semester, you will have weighted scores adding up to a possible 100 percentage points (not including extra credit). Your final letter grade for this course will be based on the following scale:

A: 90 – 100  
B: 79 – 89  
C: 67 – 78  
D: 55 – 66  
F: Below 55

Tentative Schedule (subject to change during the semester)

[Related core objectives in bold]

Week 1: What is Economics (Chapter 1); Thinking like an Economist (Chapter 2) [CS, CT, SR]
Week 2: Specialization and Gains from Trade (Chapter 3); Demand and Supply (Chapter 4) [CT, QS]
Week 3: Demand and Supply (Chapter 4) [CT, QS]
Week 4: Exam 1 – Wednesday, September 15th
Week 5: Elasticity (Chapter 5) [QS]
Week 6: Efficiency, Equity and Economic Systems (Chapter 7) [CT, SR]
Week 7: Government involvement in Markets (Chapter 6) and Taxes (Chapter 8) [CS, CT, QS, SR]
Week 8: Exam 2 – Wednesday, October 13th
Week 9: Production and cost (Chapter 13) [CT, QS]
Week 10: Perfect Competition (Chapter 14) [CT, QS]
Week 11: Monopoly (Chapter 15) [CT, QS]
Week 12: Exam 3 – Wednesday, November 10th
Week 13: Monopolistic Competition (Chapter 16) [CT]
Week 14: Thanksgiving Break
Week 15: Monopolistic Competition (Chapter 16) [CT]
Week 16: Final Exam – Wednesday, December 8th at 8:00am – 10:00am

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
**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/

**Acceptable Student Behavior**

Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor's ability to conduct the class or the ability other students to learn from the instructional program (see the full Student Code of 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**

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has identified six core learning objectives: 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. By enrolling in ECON 2302 you are also enrolling in a Core Curriculum Course that fulfills the Social/Behavioral Science requirement. The chart below indicates: (a) the core objectives that are required to be taught in this course per the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), (b) how the required core objectives will be addressed.

**Core Curriculum Objective Table**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Objective</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>How the Core Objective Will be Addressed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical Thinking Skills (CT)</td>
<td>To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.</td>
<td>Students are taught the underlying assumptions of economic models and how to apply the models. These skills are taught through lecture and assigned readings. Students apply these skills on both exams and assignments completed outside of lecture. These assignments require students to use and interpret economic models and manipulate graphs to communicate economic ideas.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communication Skills (CS)</td>
<td>To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas though written, oral, and visual communication.</td>
<td>A significant component of the course is not only the development of an economic vocabulary and ability to communicate using economic terminology, but also the ability to communicate using visual representations of various economic models. These include (but are not limited to) the supply and demand model and the visual representation of welfare economics and government policy in this model, the short-run cost curves, and the visual representation of market structures such as perfect competition and monopoly. Students apply communication skills on both exams and assignments completed outside of lecture.</td>
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### Empirical and Quantitative Skills (QS)

| Areas of emphasis include the calculation of equilibrium prices and quantities, the calculation and interpretation of various elasticities and their use in the real world, and the mathematical derivation of a firm’s cost curves. Students will demonstrate their understanding and use of these skills by completing exam questions and through the completion assignments outside of class. |

### Social Responsibility (SR)

| Basic economic literacy helps students to be better informed participants in important discussions about how resources are allocated in our society. Class lectures and readings from the focus on several issues regarding social responsibility such as their role as consumers and the role of firms in markets, the tradeoff between an efficient and equal allocation of resources, the appropriate role and impact of government policies on markets, and the general development of the theory of welfare economics. Students apply these skills on both exams and assignments. |

### Student Learning Outcomes (with relevant Core Objectives in parentheses):

- Demonstrate a basic understanding of how society's basic resource allocation decisions are made under different economic systems [CT, SR, CS]
- Show how market structure influences firm and consumer decisions over resource allocation [CT]
- 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 firm [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 in the Curriculum Management Handbook at http://www.sfasu.edu/academics/colleges/business/welcome/faculty-resources.

### Withheld Grades in Course Grades Policy (5.5)

At the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, 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 [i.e., Active Military Service (6.14)]. 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.