

California State University – Channel Islands
Econ 110: Principles of Microeconomics
Fall 2010

Instructor: Erin Kaplan
Email: erin.larive@csuci.edu
Office Hours: W 1:30 – 2:30pm
or by appointment

Class Times: W 3:00 – 5:50
Location: Bell Tower 2424
Office: Sage Hall 2016

Course Information

Course Description:

This course applies economic reasoning to the decisions of both consumers and producers and examines the consequences of those decisions for society as a whole.

Text Books:

Mankiw, "Principles of Microeconomics" (5th Ed.) – Required

Course Policies

Attendance:

Lecture attendance is highly recommended, but does not directly figure into your grade. If absent, you are responsible for obtaining any material discussed or handed out in lecture.

Office Hours:

Students are strongly encouraged to attend office hours. The material covered in this course is often challenging, but students should consider office hours an additional resource to aid in their understanding. If you are unable to attend my scheduled office hours, please contact me to schedule another time to meet.

Make-Ups and Late Work:

Late work will not be accepted. If you fail to turn an assignment in on time, you will receive a zero. If you are unable to attend lecture on the day an assignment is due, I will accept it via email as long as it is sent before the beginning of class on the due date. Make-up exams will not be permitted. If you are unable to attend one of the exams, please contact me as soon as you discover the conflict.

Cheating and Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct includes the following examples as well as any other similar conduct which is aimed at falsely representing a student's academic performance: cheating, plagiarizing, unauthorized collaborating on course work, stealing course examinations or materials, falsifying records or data, or intentionally assisting another individual in any of the above.

If you are caught cheating on an exam or an assignment, you will receive a zero on the exam or assignment. In addition, the event will be reported to the Office of Judicial Affairs and may lead additional actions from the University.

Use of Cell Phones:

The use of cell phones during lectures is a disrespectful distraction to your instructor and other classmates. Please turn your cell phone and other electronic devices off while you are in class. In emergency situations, please discuss limited use of cell phone with me prior to the class during which you would like to use your cell phone.

Email:

In general, email is the best way to get in contact with me. I am happy to answer questions via email as long as they don't require too much explanation. However, if you send me an email within 24 hours of an exam or homework deadline, don't expect me to respond before the exam/due date.

Course Grades

Problem Sets (25%)

There will be 6 problem sets, each designed to help you practice applying the economic methods taught in class to specific problems. Each assignment will be posted on Blackboard at least 1 week prior to its due date. Your lowest score will be dropped, so your best 5 problem set scores will make up 25% of your grade. Students are encouraged to work in groups on the problem sets; however, each student is individually responsible for completing and turning in the assigned work.

Article Reports (15%)

Over the course of the semester you will be required to write 3 one page reports about news articles relating to the material covered in the course. One report will be due on or before each of the three exams. Students are strongly encouraged to stay engaged with the world around them through print, radio, television, and/or online news media sources. You may either choose to report on an article that you come across or one that I have posted on Blackboard. A guide for writing article reports as well as a sample report can also be found on Blackboard.

Midterms (40%)

There will be two midterm exams, so each exam will be worth 20% of your grade. The first exam is tentatively scheduled for October 6th, and the second exam is scheduled for November 10th. Exams will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer questions, which will be similar to your homework assignments.

Final (20%)

The final exam will be comprehensive and similar in format to the midterm exams. It will be held during the week of 12/13 - 12/17, as scheduled by the Registrar's Office.

Tentative Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading	Homework
Sept. 1 st	Thinking Like an Economist	Ch. 1, 2	
Sept. 8 th	Interdependence and the Gains from Trade	Ch. 3	
Sept. 15 th	The Market Forces of Supply and Demand	Ch. 4	Due: Problem Set 1
Sept. 22 nd	Elasticity and its Application	Ch. 5	
Sept. 29 th	Market Equilibrium and Efficiency Government Policies	Ch. 6,7,8	Due: Problem Set 2
Oct. 6 th	<i>Review</i> Midterm 1		Due: Problem Set 3 Due: Article Report
Oct. 13 th	The Costs of Production	Ch. 13	
Oct. 20 th	Firms in Competitive Markets	Ch. 14	
Oct. 27 th	Monopoly	Ch. 15	Due: Problem Set 4
Nov. 3 rd	Monopolistic Competition Oligopoly	Ch. 16 Ch. 17	Due: Problem Set 5
Nov. 10 th	<i>Review</i> Midterm 2		Due: Article Report
Nov. 17 th	Externalities Public Goods	Ch. 10 Ch. 11	
Nov. 24 th	No Class: Thanksgiving		
Dec. 1 st	International Trade Income Inequality and Poverty	Ch. 9 Ch. 20	Due: Problem Set 6
Dec. 8 th	<i>Review</i>		