

## **ECONOMICS 102: PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS**

Section 50438: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:00pm – 9:20pm, MD 306

This syllabus is the contract between you and me. Please read it carefully. “I didn’t read the syllabus” is not an acceptable excuse for missing an exam, overlooking a reading, skipping a problem set, and so on. Prof. Roach

Economics 102 examines the behavior of individuals, firms and industries regarding productive decision-making. In this course we will investigate what determines demand and supply for a product, producer and consumer behavior, market structure, resource markets, market failure, and public policy. Specifically, you will be able to identify the types of markets and illustrate how differences in the markets affect their production and consumption patterns.

In addition to the skills specific to economics, you will learn many common or "portable" skills. When you master these "portable" skills you will be able to transfer them to other school or work situations. The "portable" skills for this class include communication skills such as listening, reading and writing, cognitive skills, such as creative thinking, analysis and synthesis, problem solving and quantitative reasoning and interpersonal skills, such as social interaction and teamwork.

### ***Professor Information***

Tara Roach, MD-377 (Palomar College Main Campus), [troach@palomar.edu](mailto:troach@palomar.edu)

**Office/Visiting Hours:** By appointment

### ***Textbook***

Mateer, D. and L. Coppock. *Principles of Microeconomics*. 2015.

### ***Online Resources***

Norton InQuizitive. Please go to the following link to register. You will be using this resource to complete your online quizzes. Use the following Student Set ID when registering: 33242.

<https://digital.wwnorton.com/prinecomi1>

### ***Special Accommodations***

If you require special accommodations due to a verifiable disability, please contact the Disability Resource Center (<http://www2.palomar.edu/drc/>) on campus. DRC will determine reasonable accommodations and provide the student with an Accommodations Form to give to me. Keep in mind that I need adequate time to provide accommodations, so please do not wait until the last minute to contact DRC.

### ***Letter of Introduction***

Please write a one-page letter of introduction of yourself to Professor Roach. Include your name and anything about yourself that you would like to share. Please include a photo of yourself, which will help me learn your name. A hard copy of your letter is due in class on **Thursday, June 29<sup>th</sup>**.

### ***Assignments***

Assignment	Date	Percent of Grade
Two Problem Sets	Throughout term	60/500 = <b>12%</b>
Fourteen Quizzes	Throughout term	140/500 = <b>28%</b>
Partner Presentation	Assigned Date	50/500 = <b>10%</b>
Paper	Tuesday, August 8	50/500 = <b>10%</b>
Midterm Exam	Tuesday, July 18	75/500 = <b>15%</b>
Final Exam	Thursday, August 17	125/500 = <b>25%</b>

**Quizzes:** There will be fourteen 10-point quizzes based on the textbook chapters. You will be required to take the quizzes electronically using InQuizitive. The weekly quizzes must be completed at the time indicated on the course outline. I will accept ***no late quizzes***, so please do not ask me to reopen a quiz that you have missed.

**Exams:** The examinations will be a mix of short and long answer questions. The midterm exam is worth 75 points, and the final exam is worth 125 points.

**Problem Sets:** There will be 2 problem sets worth 30 points each. I encourage you to form study groups and work together, ***but you must work individually to write your own essays to avoid plagiarism***. I suggest that you make a copy of your problem set answers to keep which you can study from before you turn in the original. If you cannot make it to class on the day that the problem set is due, you must turn it in via e-mail **BEFORE** the class begins. The e-mail must have your first and last name in the subject line as well as the class number. ***In order for me to open your attachment, please save in a pdf format. I will not accept late problem sets, because we go over them in class.***

**Partner Presentation:** Once during the term, you and a partner will make an oral presentation. Your presentation should use PowerPoint (or equivalent). There are no makeup opportunities for presentations. If you fail to make your presentation on the day you signed up for, you get a 0. If you show up without an electronic presentation, you get a 0.

The presentation will be based on a news article you have recently located. In your oral presentation, your group will summarize the article, state the link between the article and what we are covering in Economics 102, and lead your classmates in a brief discussion of two questions that you have written. The article needs to be pertinent to material covered in the class within 2 weeks of your presentation. At least one of your questions must be an exam-like question. You must email the article and your questions to Professor Roach ***at least 72 hours before*** the day you are presenting. If you do not meet this deadline, you get a 0.

Time allotted for the presentation and discussion period: **6 minutes**. Your summary of the article should take *no more than 3 minutes*. The rest of the time you will be coordinating the discussion. You will be graded on the following: your time management, your ability to engage your classmates in a discussion, the relevance of the article to concepts covered in class, and the quality of the questions you pose to the class for discussion.

**Paper:** The two-page paper is an analysis of a microeconomics article in a published newspaper or journal. You will briefly describe the author's thesis and critically analyze his/her point of view using the models (graphs) and concepts that we have learned in this class. You need to attach a copy of the article to your paper.

**Late Assignments:** All assignments need to be turned in on the date that they are due (see course calendar). I WILL NOT accept late problem sets because we go over them in class.

**Attendance:** To succeed in this class it is important to attend the class regularly, ask questions, read the material, and enjoy the process. I encourage questions, comments, and any general relevant conversation. It is crucial to be engaged in the learning process. Active learners are much more successful than passive learners. You need to arrive to class ON TIME, turn off your distracting electronic devices, and immerse yourself in the process. If you are going to be absent for any length of time, please contact me so we can arrange for make-up work.

### ***Additional Housekeeping Details***

I will drop the “no show” students after the second day of class; however, after the second day, it is the student's responsibility to drop the class if it becomes necessary. The last day to add the class with a permission code, OR drop the class without a grade notation on your transcript and receive a tuition refund is **July 5th**.

### **Contacting me via e-mail ([troach@palomar.edu](mailto:troach@palomar.edu))**

When you send me an e-mail, please write in the subject line: “Econ 102: Your Full Name”.

This will help ensure that I don't skip over your email by mistaking it for junk mail.

I try to check my e-mail daily, but please give me **at least 48 business hours** to respond. I do not check e-mail on the weekend.

### **Honor Code**

I expect that you will adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity. According to the Palomar College Course Catalog, that includes: Honesty, Trust, Fairness, Respect, and Responsibility.

**Warning!** One problem that is rampant is *plagiarism*. Whenever you use another's ideas or words without citing your source, it is plagiarism. If you work with a friend on the problem sets, make sure you write your essays separately. If your answers are too close, you will receive a **zero** on the assignment. It is increasingly easy to plagiarize with the internet, but it is also increasingly easy to catch plagiarism. If you plagiarize, you will receive a **zero** on the assignment and/or an F in the class. Please complete the following plagiarism training on the Library's Dashboard site: <http://www2.palomar.edu/dashboard/>.

**On-Campus Student Support Services:**

*Admissions & Records:* (760) 744-1150 x2171

*Counseling & Behavioral Health Services:* (760) 744-1150 x2197

*Career Center:* (760) 744-1150 x2194

*Disability Resource Center (DRC):* (760) 744-1150 x2375

*Extended Opportunity Programs & Services (EOPS):* (760) 744-1150 x2449

*Health Center:* (760) 744-1150 x2380

*Student Affairs:* (760) 744-1150 x2595

*Student Support Programs & Services:* (760) 744-1150 x 2177

*Transfer Center:* (760) 744-1150 x2552

**Learning Colleagues:**

It is beneficial to have a contact or two or three in each class so that you can get assistance with assignments, information if you miss a class, or just someone to have coffee with before class.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

***Course Outline and Assignment Schedule***

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Readings</b>	<b>Due Dates</b>
6/27/17	Five Foundations of Economics	Chapter 1	
6/29/17	Model Building and Gains from Trade	Chapter 2	<b><i>Letter of Introduction due 6/29 Quizzes on Chapters 1 &amp; 2 due 7/2 at midnight</i></b>
7/4/17	<b>NO CLASS</b>	<b>Independence Day</b>	<b><i>Enjoy the holiday!</i></b>
7/6/17	Supply and Demand	Chapter 3	<b><i>Quiz on Chapter 3 due 7/9 at midnight</i></b>
7/11/17	Elasticity	Chapter 4	<b><i>Quiz on Chapter 4 due 7/12 at midnight</i></b>
7/13/17	Price Controls	Chapter 5	<b><i>Quiz on Chapter 5 due 7/16 at midnight</i></b>
7/18/17	<b>Midterm Exam</b>		<b><i>Problem Set #1 due in class on 7/18</i></b>
7/20/17	Efficiency of Markets and Costs of Taxation	Chapter 6	<b><i>Quiz on Chapter 6 due 7/23 at midnight</i></b>
7/25/17	Market Inefficiencies: Externalities and Public Goods	Chapter 7	<b><i>Quiz on Chapter 7 due 7/26 at midnight</i></b>
7/27/17	Business Costs and Production	Chapters 8	<b><i>Quiz on Chapter 8 due 7/30 at midnight</i></b>
8/1/17	Firms in a Competitive Market	Chapter 9	<b><i>Quiz on Chapter 9 due 8/2 at midnight</i></b>
8/3/17	Understanding Monopoly	Chapter 10	<b><i>Quiz on Chapter 10 due 8/6 at midnight</i></b>
8/8/17	Monopolistic Competition and Advertising	Chapter 12	<b><i>Paper due in class on 8/8 Quiz on Chapter 12 due 8/9 at midnight</i></b>
8/10/17	Oligopoly Demand and Supply of Resources	Chapters 13 & 14	<b><i>Quiz on Chapters 13 &amp; 14 due 8/13 at midnight</i></b>
8/15/17	Income, Inequality, and Poverty	Chapter 15	<b><i>Problem Set #2 due in class on 8/15 Quiz on Chapter 15 due 8/16 at midnight</i></b>
	Inequality in the United States	In-class Film	
8/17/17	<b>Final Exam</b>		