

ECONOMICS 102: PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS

Mondays 6:00pm – 8:50pm, MD-319

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

Textbook

Mateer, D. and L. Coppock. *Principles of Microeconomics*. 2014.

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

For our second class meeting, 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. The paper will not be graded nor returned.

Assignments

Assignment	Date	Percent of Grade
Two Problem Sets	Throughout term	60/500 = 12%
Fourteen Quizzes	Throughout term	140/500 = 28%
Paper	Monday, May 2	50/500 = 10%
Exam #1	Monday, March 7	75/500 = 15%
Exam #2	Monday, April 18	75/500 = 15%
Final Exam	Monday, May 23	100/500 = 20%

Quizzes: There will be fourteen 10-point quizzes based on the textbook chapters. You will be required to take the quizzes electronically. 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, including the final exam, will be a mix of short and long answer questions. The first two exams are worth 75 points each, and the final exam is worth 100 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.***

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 the article to your paper. You have the option to rewrite the paper one time if you wish to improve your grade.

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 on the first day of class; however, after the first day it is the student’s responsibility to drop the class if it becomes necessary. The last day to drop the class without a grade notation on your transcript and receive a tuition refund is ***January 31st***.

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

Date	Topics	Readings	Due Dates
1/25/16	Five Foundations of Economics	Chapter 1	
2/1/16	Model Building and Gains from Trade	Chapter 2	<i>Letter of Introduction due 2/1 Quizzes on Chapters 1 & 2 due 2/7 at midnight</i>
2/8/16	Supply and Demand	Chapter 3	<i>Quiz on Chapter 3 due 2/21 at midnight</i>
2/22/16	Elasticity	Chapter 4	<i>Quiz on Chapter 4 due 2/28 at midnight</i>
2/29/16	Price Controls	Chapter 5	<i>Problem Set #1 due in class on 2/29 Quiz on Chapter 5 due 3/6 at midnight</i>
3/7/16	Exam #1		
3/14/16	Efficiency of Markets and Costs of Taxation	Chapter 6	<i>Quiz on Chapter 6 due 3/20 at midnight</i>
3/28/16	Market Inefficiencies: Externalities and Public Goods	Chapter 7	<i>Quiz on Chapter 7 due 4/3 at midnight</i>
4/4/16	Business Costs and Production	Chapters 8	<i>Quiz on Chapter 8 due 4/10 at midnight</i>
4/11/16	Firms in a Competitive Market	Chapter 9	<i>Problem Set #2 due in class on 4/11 Quiz on Chapter 9 due 4/17 at midnight</i>
4/18/16	Exam #2		
4/25/16	Understanding Monopoly	Chapter 10	<i>Quiz on Chapter 10 due 5/1 at midnight</i>
5/2/16	Monopolistic Competition and Advertising	Chapter 12	<i>Paper due in class on 5/2 Quiz on Chapter 12 due 5/8 at midnight</i>
5/9/16	Oligopoly Demand and Supply of Resources	Chapters 13 & 14	<i>Quiz on Chapters 13 & 14 due 5/15 at midnight</i>
5/16/16	Income, Inequality, and Poverty	Chapter 15	<i>Quiz on Chapter 15 due 5/20 at midnight</i>
5/23/16	Final Exam		