ON-LINE CLASSES

A. GENERAL INFORMATION. Online classes are offered for students who are unable to attend regular classes (because of job or other commitments, distance from Eugene, etc.). Also, some students take online classes because they prefer the flexibility that an online class adds to their schedule. The material in online economics classes is the same as that in lecture economics classes, and the exams, all multiple choice, are extremely similar in format and difficulty. However, online classes require more discipline by students than regular classes given the necessity of mastering the material primarily from the textbook and related sources (both offline and online).

Thus, contrary to what many anticipate, online classes are harder, not easier, than lecture classes. To succeed in an online class, you must be extremely motivated and well organized.

Unlike with regular classes, exams for online classes are taken at a day and time chosen by the student, but must be taken by the exam deadline. In addition, a reservation is required to take the exam. It is encouraged that students coordinate their online exams with exams for other classes in order to minimize conflicts and create "space" for exam preparation for each course. Because the exam dates are flexible (subject to the requirement that they meet the deadline), it is not possible for students to obtain a copy of an exam after completing the exam.
B. EXAMS FOR STUDENTS LIVING IN AND NEAR EUGENE

You will take all your tests at the Social Science Instructional Lab (SSIL) located in McKenzie Hall 445. All tests are given and scheduled by appointment only!

Before you can schedule an exam, you must complete the on-line introduction by going to: http://distanceeducation.uoregon.edu/ and clicking on the link under “First time here”, entitled “Click this link to activate your account.” After you complete the introduction, you will activate your account and log in using your DuckID and corresponding password.

From the Test Taker Home Page you can make appointments to take tests, cancel appointments, see your test scores, e-mail your professor, and more. You must go through the On-Line introduction the first week of class. Take the time to read the information under the link, On Campus. If you have further questions about testing, contact: de@ssil.uoregon.edu.

Important: you must complete the On-Line Introduction by the end of the first week of class.

C. EXAMS FOR STUDENTS WHO DO NOT LIVE NEAR EUGENE

Go to the web site: http://distanceeducation.uoregon.edu/ and click on the Off Campus link at the bottom of the page. Read all the information on the page. Before you can take a test, you must obtain a proctor and have the proctor approved by SSIL. You must do this before the end of the second week of classes. The web page describes how to do this. There is a link to proctors used by students in the past under the Remote Proctor sites. These are only locations used in the past. They may no longer be active sites. It is the students responsibility to locate a proctor. Once you have found a proctor, fill out the remote site request form on the web page. SSIL will notify you if the proctor you have chosen is approved. If you have further questions, contact: de@ssil.uoregon.edu.

Important: you must obtain approval of the proctor by the end of the second week of class.

D. BLACKBOARD. Frequent use of Blackboard is essential to pass this course, analogous to the importance of class attendance for a lecture class. Thus, you need to make sure that you can log on to Blackboard at http://blackboard.uoregon.edu, following the instructions on the homepage of Blackboard. Your username will be your "official" UO computing center email account address, but without the “uoregon.edu” at the end, and the corresponding password for that account. If you have problems logging on, make sure you can log on to your official UO email account, since you might have an old password. You can also check your official UO account on Duck Web. If you still have problems, contact the computing center for assistance in 151 McKenzie.

Once you log on to Blackboard, click on this course and then click on Course Documents. Course Documents contains the course syllabus, class emails (with weekly study checklists), and chapter folders. Each chapter folder contains the chapter summary, outline, Power Point lectures, several sets of practice questions and answers with explanations, and "active graphs." As the course proceeds, five “assignments” will be posted in Course Assignments on Blackboard. And numerical exam and assignment scores will be available on Blackboard. The Blackboard addresses are http://blackboard.uoregon.edu and courseinfo@blackboard.uoregon.edu.
E. WEEKLY EMAILS. Emails will be sent weekly to students to provide information on scheduling of exams, material to study for exams, the course assignments, and exam results. It is essential that you receive and read the class emails carefully.

Important: if you do not receive the emails, contact the instructor ASAP, as you are probably not using your computing center email account address!

ECONOMICS 201

A. COURSE OVERVIEW. Microeconomics concerns how demand (based on decisions of consumers) and supply (from decisions of firms) interact in a price system to lead to the efficient allocation of goods and factors of production. Since factors of production are scarce, consumers and firms face tradeoffs. Microeconomics explores how prices and markets signal relative scarcity, leading to a coordination of individual transactions and efficient allocation of these scarce resources. This process answers three key questions facing all economies -- WHAT goods to produce, HOW these goods will be produced, and WHO can purchase these goods. Also, microeconomics examines market complications, e.g., imperfect competition and monopoly; market failures, e.g., externalities that lead to pollution; options that are available to the government to address these complications; and extensions to international economics.

While many of the applications in the course may be susceptible to a lively political debate in other settings, the focus will be on the application of the logic of economics, which often simply amounts to common sense, to illuminate how prices and market structure influence decisions and outcomes. Diligent students who wish to continue the study of economics should expect to receive the essential theoretical preparation for more advanced material found in courses for the major. Those who do not wish to continue the study of economics should nevertheless expect to gain an understanding of how an economic way of thinking may be constructively applied in practical and illuminating ways.

B. GRADING: EXAM AND ASSIGNMENT DEADLINES. There are two types of evaluations for determining grades in the class. First, there are three exams, totaling 145 multiple choice questions and hence 145 points maximum, which will be taken at the Social Science Instructional Lab (unless you do not live near Eugene).

Second, there are also five “assignments,” each of which consists of ten multiple choice questions typical of the type you will see on exams. You will complete these assignments on Blackboard, and the lowest score of the five will be dropped (if you miss an assignment and receive a zero, this score will be the one dropped), for 40 points maximum.

The deadlines and grading weights for the exams and assignments and the deadline for completing the "On-Line Test Taker Introduction," are listed below.

I will assign grades in the course by curving the total points summed over the three exams and the four “counting” assignments, where there are 185 points maximum that can be earned from the exams and assignments. Thus, I will not be assigning a formal letter grade to individual exams; only the total points at the end of the term matter.
However, after each exam, I will provide sufficient feedback so that you will know how well you are doing in the class.

"On-Line Introduction"  
Deadline is Saturday, Apr. 7

**PART ONE: Basics of MicroEconomics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Questions</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assign. 1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Saturday, Apr. 14</td>
<td>5.4%*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assign. 2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Tuesday, Apr. 24</td>
<td>5.4%*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Saturday, Apr. 28</td>
<td>21.6%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**PART TWO: Consumer/Firm Behavior and Market Structure**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Questions</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assign. 3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Saturday, May 12</td>
<td>5.4%*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assign. 4</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Tuesday, May 22</td>
<td>5.4%*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Saturday, May 26</td>
<td>21.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PART THREE: Externalities & International Trade**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Questions</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assign. 5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Saturday, June 9</td>
<td>5.4%*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>Wed, June 13</td>
<td>35.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** There are no extra credit points in this course.

*Since the lowest of five Assignment scores is dropped, the weights sum to 100%. Thus, 185 points total are available from the three exams and the four “counting” assignments.

C. **FOUR IMPORTANT NOTES ON EXAMS, WHICH ARE TAKEN AT SSIL.**
   
   **First,** there will be no exceptions to the exam deadlines, and there are no makeup exams. You must take an exam by the day of the deadline to receive credit for the exam. If a substantial emergency arises, you must contact the instructor well in advance of the deadline, and submit formal documentation with phone numbers. **Second,** exams may be taken prior to the exam deadline, and a reservation is required to take an exam. But do not wait until the last minute to schedule your exams, as testing slots will fill up fast. **Third,** SSIL's webpage allows you to make appointments for exams two weeks in advance regardless of the deadlines given above. For example, if you log on Apr 20 to make an appointment for exam 1, SSIL will permit you to schedule the exam on, say, Apr. 29. But note that Apr. 29 is beyond the deadline for exam 1 (by one day), and that exam will not count! Do not interpret the dates given by the SSIL webpage as extensions of the exam deadlines -- they are not! **Fourth,** the exams are closed book and closed notes.

D. **FOUR IMPORTANT NOTES ON THE ASSIGNMENTS, WHICH ARE COMPLETED ON BLACKBOARD.**
   
   **First,** analogous to the exams, there will be no exceptions to the assignment deadlines. You must complete each assignment by the day of the deadline to receive credit, but of course can complete it sooner if you wish. **Second,** the multiple choice questions on the assignments are taken primarily from the practice questions QUES posted on Blackboard. Thus, if you wish to do well on the assignments (and also the exams), you should work and master the QUES questions on
Blackboard. Third, these assignments will be completed on Blackboard, with the procedure detailed in subsequent weekly emails sent to the class, and the lowest score of the five will be dropped. Fourth, since the purpose of the assignments is to assist in mastering the course material, the assignments are open book and open notes, and you will have two chances on each assignment.

E. TEXT AND OTHER LEARNING SOURCES. In addition to the text, there are a number of excellent learning sources and sets of practice questions. This material is especially important to study for online courses.


2. **Related Materials, mostly on Blackboard in Course Documents, organized by Chapter.**
   - a. **Summary and Outline** of each chapter. This is from the Instructor's Manual. The outlines are excellent -- very clear, detailed, and thorough.
   - b. **Power Point** development of each chapter's topics. Excellent mode of presenting the material, especially the graphical points.
   - c. **Multiple Choice "Ques" and "Ans" Practice Questions.** These questions with my answers serve two important functions: they help the student master the material, and they are excellent samples of questions that will appear on the midterms, the final, and the assignments. These questions are the most important questions to study for the course.
   - d. **Assignment Questions,** located under Assignments on Blackboard, are discussed in detail above. You can earn up to 40 points for the course by doing well on these Assignment questions.
   - e. **Additional Practice Questions.** If you would like more practice questions, there is an additional source. See the solutions to the questions at the end of each chapter in the text; these solutions are found at the conclusion of the first document cited in this section -- the Summary and Outline of each chapter, from the Instructor's Manual.
   - f. **Active Graph** presentation of each chapter's main points; this is an innovative manner of presenting the graphical material.

3. **Weekly Emails with Study Checklists** (contact me if you do not receive emails).
   - a. Emails will both be sent to students and posted on Blackboard.
   - b. Emails will include essential information about scheduling exams, exam deadlines, study hints for assignments and exams, etc.

G. WEEKLY READING LIST FOR TEXT, AND CHAPTER COVERAGE BY ASSIGNMENT AND EXAM. For each chapter, all regular pages are assigned. However, all appendix pages are omitted, with the exception of part of the appendix of Chapter Seven (see next). If you schedule an exam prior to the deadline date, you will have to accelerate your study of the material relative to the pace outlined next.

**Part One: Basics of Microeconomics**

**WEEK ONE (Apr 2-6) INTRODUCTION**

Chapter One: What is Economics?

Chapter Two: Key Principles.
WEEK TWO (Apr 9-13)  MARKETS, SUPPLY, AND DEMAND
Chapter Three:  Markets
Chapter Four:  Supply, Demand, and Market Equilibrium
DEADLINE FOR ASSIGNMENT ONE:  SATURDAY, Apr 14

WEEK THREE (Apr 16-20)  ELASTICITY
Chapter Five:  Elasticity as a Measure of Responsiveness

WEEK FOUR (Apr 23-27)  MARKET EFFICIENCY
Chapter Six:  Market Efficiency and Government Intervention
DEADLINE FOR ASSIGNMENT TWO:  TUESDAY, Apr 24
DEADLINE FOR EXAM ONE:  SATURDAY, Apr 28

Part Two:  Agent Behavior and Market Structure
WEEK FIVE (Apr 30-May 4)  CONSUMER AND FIRM BEHAVIOR
Chapter Seven, plus Appendix (pp. 165-175):  Consumer Demand
Chapter Eight:  Firm Supply and Production
WEEK SIX (May 7-11)  PERFECT COMPETITION AND MONOPOLY
Chapter Nine:  Market Structure -- Perfect Competition
Chapter Ten:  Market Structure -- Monopoly
DEADLINE FOR ASSIGNMENT THREE:  SATURDAY, May 12

WEEK SEVEN (May 14-18)  MONOPOLISTIC COMPETITION
Chapter Eleven:  Market Structure -- Monopolistic Competition

WEEK EIGHT (May 21-25)  OLIGOPOLY
Chapter Twelve:  Market Structure -- Oligopoly
DEADLINE FOR ASSIGNMENT FOUR:  TUESDAY, May 22
DEADLINE FOR EXAM TWO:  SATURDAY, May 26

Part Three:  Externalities & International Trade
WEEK NINE (May 28-June 1)  PUBLIC CHOICE
Chapter Fifteen:  Public Goods and Taxes

WEEK TEN (June 4-8)  INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ISSUES
Chapter Nineteen:  International Trade and Public Policy
DEADLINE FOR ASSIGNMENT FIVE:  SATURDAY, June 9
DEADLINE FOR FINAL (CUMULATIVE): WEDNESDAY, June 13

Chapter Coverages by Assignment and Exam for Ec 201:

Assignment One – Chapters One, Two, and Three.
Assignment Two – Chapters Four, Five, and Six.
Exam One – These six chapters listed above.

Assignment Three – Chapters Seven, Eight, and Nine.
Assignment Four – Chapters Ten, Eleven, and Twelve.
Exam Two – These six chapters listed above.

Assign. Five – Chapters Fifteen and Nineteen.
Final Exam – Cumulative.