



On-Campus Course Syllabus

ECN 202 L1

Principles of Microeconomics

Fall 2022

Class Information

Day and Time: Mondays and Wednesdays, 3:15-4:30pm

Room Number: E211

Contact Information

Instructor Name: Dr. Brandon Seitzler

Instructor Email: bseitzler@criswell.edu

Instructor Phone: 214.818.1309

Instructor Office Hours: [Mondays 9:30-11:30am; Wednesdays 1-3pm, or by appointment](#)

Course Description and Prerequisites

A foundational study for economic analysis. The course treats things like supply and demand, equilibrium forces for a market economy, consumer behavior, and the impact of market structures on firms' decisions and behavior. It also studies international trade, uncertainty, capital markets, economic policy, and social insurance.

Course Objectives

This course will teach you to think like an economist.

At the end of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Define and summarize basic economic terms and concepts in one's own words.
2. Apply and illustrate the economic way of thinking to one's personal choices and interactions with others and the world around them through written assignments.

Required Textbooks

- Economics: Private and Public Choice. Gwartney et al. 17th Edition. (if you do not plan on taking principles of Macroeconomics, with me, at Criswell, next semester, you can buy "Microeconomics: Private and Public Choice." But, if you are going to take Macro with me....but the full "Economics" version of the book to save money)
- Philosophy, Politics, and Economics. Gaus and Thrasher. 2021.

Recommended Reading

- www.economist.com – After reading whatever click-bait, infotainment news sources your friends and family link to on Facebook, have you ever found yourself thinking "there must be a better way!" (cue black and white infomercial video of frustration personified)? Try "The Economist!" The Economist goes

to press once per week. This means that you are able to stay current on what is going on in the world but without the daily (or hourly) urgency created by daily newspapers and the 24-hour news cycle. By reading a weekly newspaper that is global in perspective you are able to step back and see what is going on in the world with a more complete and reasonable perspective. You can get a discounted student subscription to The Economist magazine. The digital subscription includes an audio version of each week's edition.

- If you find yourself struggling in this course, a great supplement to readings, lectures and office hours is the Khan Academy. There is an entire video series on macroeconomics at www.khanacademy.org

Course Requirements and Assignments

- 35% - Weekly Reading Quizzes in Canvas. These quizzes are open book and must be completed individually. You may attempt each quiz as many times as you would like. Only the highest grade for each reading quiz will count for that week's grade.
- 15% - Dear Mr./Ms. Know-it-all. Your friends sure are lucky. Whereas you have always known what was best for others and therefore offered the best unsolicited advice around, you have now taken microeconomics – which will make you advice even more helpful! While your unsuspecting friends may think you are in a class about money, you know you are in a class about decisions. Using the tools and concepts from this class (especially rationality, utility, and efficiency), describe a decision that college students face and what, given the constraint of scarcity, these students should decide. In other words, what would homo economicus do (WWHED)? Tell me in 500-750 words.
- 25% - Midterm Exam
- 25% - Final Exam

Course/Classroom Policies and Information

- The ideas expressed by readings, resources, and outside guests in this course should not be interpreted as implying the instructor's or college's endorsement. Course materials and outside speakers are selected for their perceived value in helping to meet the course goals and objectives.
- You may not have your cell phone anywhere in sight during class.
- The one exception to my cell phone rule is using your cell phone as a calculator or to look something up online as a part of class participation. Other than these two exceptions, phones belong in bags.
- You may not use your laptop during class for anything other than class-related activities.
- Instructors work closely with the Student Success Manager. To help provide resources to students who may need it most, I will communicate the names of students who have two consecutive absences, low grades, or any other signs that they may be struggling. The Student Success Manager will reach out to these students and help find appropriate resources.

Class Attendance

Students are responsible for enrolling in courses for which they anticipate being able to attend every class session on the day and time appearing on course schedules, and then making every effort to do so. When unavoidable situations result in absence or tardiness, students are responsible for acquiring any information missed. Instructors are not obliged to allow students to make up missed work. Per their independent discretion,

individual instructors may determine how attendance affects students' ability to meet course learning objectives and whether attendance affects course grades.

Campus Closure

To ensure the health and safety of students and employees, college administrators may decide it is necessary on rare occasions to close the campus. Once this decision is announced, instructors will contact students to provide further details regarding the campus closure's impact on those courses. Students are responsible to watch for communication from their instructors and respond appropriately. (Unless otherwise specified by the instructor in this syllabus, this communication will be sent to the student's Criswell College e-mail account.)

In order to make progress toward the courses' objectives, instructors have the freedom during most campus closures to require students to participate in activities as alternatives to meeting on campus. An instructor may, for example, hold class remotely (through Zoom) at the scheduled time, provide a recording of a class or presentation for students to watch independently, or assign other activities that students are to accomplish before returning to campus. Students are responsible for accomplishing these alternative activities as well as any course requirements listed in this syllabus during the period of the campus closure. If, during the period of the campus closure, personal circumstances prohibit a student from accomplishing these alternative activities or course requirements and assignment listed in the syllabus during the campus closure, the student is responsible for communicating with the instructor as soon as possible. Instructors will not penalize students who do not have the means to accomplish the alternative activities during the period of the campus's closure and will work with students whose circumstances during the campus closure prohibited their timely completion of course requirements and assignments in the syllabus.

Grading Scale

			Grade Definitions
A	93-100	4.0 grade points per semester hour	Exceptional
A-	90-92	3.7 grade points per semester hour	
B+	87-89	3.3 grade points per semester hour	
B	83-86	3.0 grade points per semester hour	Above Average
B-	80-82	2.7 grade points per semester hour	
C+	77-79	2.3 grade points per semester hour	
C	73-76	2.0 grade points per semester hour	Average
C-	70-72	1.7 grade points per semester hour	
D+	67-69	1.3 grade points per semester hour	
D	63-66	1.0 grade point per semester hour	Below Average
D-	60-62	0.7 grade points per semester hour	
F	0-59	0.0 grade points per semester hour	Unacceptable

Incomplete Grades

Students requesting a grade of Incomplete (I) must understand that incomplete grades may be given only upon approval of the faculty member involved. An "I" may be assigned only when a student is currently passing a

course and in situations involving extended illness, serious injury, death in the family, or employment or government reassignment, not student neglect.

Students are responsible for contacting their instructors prior to the end of the semester, plus filing the appropriate completed and approved academic request form with the Registrar's Office. The "I" must be removed (by completing the remaining course requirements) no later than 60 calendar days after the close of the term or semester in which the grade was awarded, or the "I" will become an "F."

Academic Honesty

Absolute truth is an essential belief and basis of behavior for those who believe in a God who cannot lie and forbids falsehood. Academic honesty is the application of the principle of truth in the classroom setting. Academic honesty includes the basic premise that all work submitted by students must be their own and any ideas derived or copied from elsewhere must be carefully documented.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- cheating of any kind,
- submitting, without proper approval, work originally prepared by the student for another course,
- plagiarism, which is the submitting of work prepared by someone else as if it were his own, and
- failing to credit sources properly in written work.

Institutional Assessment

Material submitted by students in this course may be used for assessment of the college's academic programs. Since programmatic and institutional assessment is done without reference to specific students, the results of these assessments have no effect on a student's course grade or academic standing at the college. Before submitting a student's work for this type of assessment, the course instructor redacts the work to remove anything that identifies the student.

Institutional Email Policy

All official college email communications to students enrolled in this course will be sent exclusively to students' institutional email accounts. Students are expected to check their student email accounts regularly and to respond in an appropriate and timely manner to all communications from faculty and administrative departments.

Students are permitted to setup automatic forwarding of emails from their student email accounts to one or more personal email accounts. The student is responsible to setup and maintain email forwarding without assistance from college staff. If a student chooses to use this forwarding option, he/she will continue to be responsible for responding appropriately to all communications from faculty and administrative departments of the college. Criswell College bears no responsibility for the use of emails that have been forwarded from student email accounts to other email accounts.

Disabilities

Criswell College recognizes and supports the standards set forth in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and similar state laws, which are designed to eliminate discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities. Criswell College is committed to making reasonable

accommodations for qualifying students, faculty, and employees with disabilities as required by applicable laws. For more information, please contact the Student Services Office.

Intellectual Property Rights

Unless otherwise specifically instructed in writing by the instructor, students must neither materially nor digitally reproduce materials from any course offered by Criswell College for or with the significant possibility of distribution.

Resources and Supports

Canvas and SONIS: Criswell College uses Canvas as its web-based learning tool and SONIS for student data. Students needing assistance with Canvas should contact the Canvas Help Support line at (844) 358-6140. Tech support is available at this number, twenty-four hours a day. Students needing help with SONIS should contact the Campus Software Manager at studenttechsupport@criswell.edu.

Student Services: The Student Services Office exists to foster and encourage success in all areas of life—physical, intellectual, spiritual, social, and emotional. Students are encouraged to reach out for assistance by contacting the office at 214.818.1332 or studentservices@criswell.edu. The Student Services Office also works with local counseling centers to ensure that every student has access to helpful mental health resources. More information is located on the college website at [Criswell College Mental Health Resources](#), and students may contact the Director of Student Services if they have any questions.

Wallace Library: Students can access academic resources and obtain research assistance by contacting or visiting the Wallace Library, which is located on campus. For more information, email the Wallace Library at library@criswell.edu. Offsite login information is available in Canvas in the “Criswell Student Training Course” under “Library Information.”

Tutoring Center: Students are encouraged to consult with tutors to improve and enhance their skills and confidence in any subject matter taught at the college. Tutors have been recommended by the faculty to ensure that the tutor(s) are qualified to serve the student body. Every tutor brings experience and expertise in an effort to provide the proper resources for the subject matter at hand. To consult with a tutor, students can visit the Tutoring Center located on the second floor in room E203, or schedule an appointment by emailing tutoringcenter@criswell.edu or by calling 214.818.1373.

Course Outline/Calendar

This "Course Outline/Calendar" is subject to change at the discretion of the professor.

Date	Reading Due	Assignments Due
August 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course Introduction • Syllabus • Tools for academic success 	
August 17		
August 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 1 The Economic Approach • Ch. 2 Some Tools of the Economist 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 1 Reading Quiz • Ch. 2 Reading Quiz
August 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (PPE) Introduction • (PPE) Ch. 1 Rationality 	
August 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (PPE) Ch. 2 Ordinal Utility Theory 	
August 31		
September 5	Monday 9/5 is Labor Day (no class that day)	
September 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (PPE) Ch. 3 Cardinal Utility Theory 	
September 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 3 Demand, Supply, and the Market Process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 3 Reading Quiz
September 14		
September 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 4 Demand and Supply: Applications and Extensions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 4 Reading Quiz
September 21		
September 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (PPE) Ch. 4 Efficiency and Contract 	
September 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 5 Difficult Cases for the Market, and the Role of Government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 5 Reading Quiz
October 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 20 Consumer Choice and Elasticity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 20 Reading Quiz
October 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ST 8 The Economics of Health Care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Midterm Exam Due 10/7 at 11:59pm • Midterm Exam is on Canvas. • Midterm Exam covers all lecture and reading material from 8/15 – 9/28.
October 10	No Class – Student Development Week	
October 12	No Class – Student Development Week	
October 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 21 Costs and the Supply of Goods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 21 Reading Quiz
October 19		
October 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 22 Price Takers and the Competitive Process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 22 Reading Quiz
October 26		
October 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 23 Price-Searcher Markets with Low Entry Barriers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 23 Reading Quiz

November 2		
November 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 24 Price-Searcher Markets with High Entry Barriers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 24 Reading Quiz
November 9		
November 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 25 The Supply of and Demand for Productive Resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 25 Reading Quiz
November 16		
November 21	No Class – Fall Break	
November 23	No Class – Fall Break	
November 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 26 Earnings, Productivity, and the Job Market • ST 9 Earning Differences between Men and Women 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 26 Reading Quiz
November 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 27 Investment, the Capital Market, and the Wealth of Nations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 27 Reading Quiz
December 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 28 Income Inequality and Poverty • ST 10 Do Labor Unions Increase the Wages of Workers? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Homo Economicus” paper due
December 7		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Final Exam Due 12/9 at 11:59pm</u> • Final exam is on Canvas. • Final exam covers all lecture and reading material from 10/4 – 12/6.