

ECON 102: Principles of Microeconomics

Fall 2019

Course Information

Professor Information:

Professor: Dr. Katherine Lacy

Office: AB 318G

Phone: 775-682-9370

Email: katherinelacy@unr.edu (preferred method of contact)

Office Hours: Friday 10 AM – 1 PM

If you would like to stop by outside of these hours send me an email to confirm I will be in my office.

Email:

Please include the course and section number when sending me an email so I know exactly which class you are referring to.

I will read and respond to course-related emails in a timely fashion (within a few hours) between the hours of 9 AM and 5 PM, Monday – Friday. However, I hold the right to not respond to emails I perceive as unprofessional. Please read this blog for guidelines about writing professional emails: <http://mleddy.blogspot.com/2005/01/how-to-e-mail-professor.html>. To ensure I receive your email, please send emails via WebCampus or directly from your UNR email address.

I will not discuss grades via email. You must come to my office if you would like to discuss any grade you receive in this course.

Professor Commitment:

You can expect me to be courteous, punctual, organized, and prepared for class activities; to answer questions clearly and in a non-negative fashion; to be available during office hours or to notify you beforehand if I am unable to keep them, and to grade uniformly and consistently according to the written guidelines. I enjoy teaching economics courses and I look forward to working with you this semester.

Student Commitment:

I expect you to be courteous, punctual and prepared for class activities; ask questions regarding material being discussed and be prepared to enter class discussion; be respectful of others' opinions; observe classroom etiquette - be on time, turn off your cell phone, do not chat with your neighbor about non-class related activities, do not text or accept phone calls during class, do not dip or consume other tobacco products, etc. **I hold the right to ask you to leave class if you do not follow classroom etiquette.**

Course Description:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 8:00 AM – 8:50 AM in PSAC 113

This course provides an introduction to the analysis of price determination, resource allocation, market structure, consumer behavior, market failure and government failure.

Core Status: CO6

Course Pre-requisites:

Completion of the Core Math requirement
ACT of 22 or SAT of 500
MATH 126/MATH 127/MATH 128/MATH 176/MATH 181

Required texts, course materials:

Microeconomics (with Connect), Second Edition, by Dean Karlan and Jonathan Morduch
You can access the connect site through WebCampus.

The textbook is provided to you through the Direct Access system at the bookstore and automatically billed *at a reduced price* when you enrolled in this course. You can opt-out of the direct access and purchase the subscription to the Connect course from another party. However, this will be more costly than the direct access price.

You are required to register for a Turning Point account and download the Turning Point App on your smart device. If you do not have a smart device, please let Dr. Lacy know ASAP. The instructions to register for Turning Point is located on WebCampus.

Handouts and other reading assignments may be used to supplement the text and will generally be available via the course WebCampus site.

WebCampus:

There is a class website available through the University WebCampus. To access the class page through WebCampus, go to <https://wcl.unr.edu/>. Course-related material will be posted on the website so you should check this site regularly.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

- demonstrate an understanding of the methods and principles of microeconomic theory, including tradeoffs, opportunity costs, incentive effects, gains from exchange, and marginal decision making.
- explain how markets work and how market prices are determined.
- show mastery of the theories of demand, supply, consumption, production and cost, perfect competition, monopoly, and imperfect competition.
- assess the impact of imperfect information, externalities, and public goods on efficiency and welfare, and evaluate possible public policy remedies.
- use theory to analyze economic policy issues.
- analyze social/human conditions by understanding how the interests of individuals both support and compete with the interests of groups such as firms, societies, and nations.
- apply quantitative reasoning to understand and solve problems.
- demonstrate ability to be critical consumers of information by explaining alternative perspectives and structuring hypotheses to evaluate evidence and distinguish between those alternatives.

Core Objective 6: Cultures, Societies & Individuals. Students will learn how to systematically analyze human social conditions (e.g., individuals, groups, communities, and cultures). In particular, students will learn to observe, theorize, model, experiment, and/or interpret as a means of inquiring into human social relations.

Team-Based Learning and Lecture:

This class will incorporate elements of team-based learning and will use a variety of both individual and team assignments to help you learn the course material. Some of the content is covered individually with readings and short problems completed outside of class. Class time will include lecture, which will build upon outside reading and application activities completed in teams during class.

Teams:

Teams will be assigned the first day of class and will remain together the entire semester. You are to sit with your team during each lecture and take attendance on your team folder. Relevant course handouts can be found in the team folder. Additionally, you will complete applications (in class problems) with your team throughout the semester.

Attendance:

You are expected to attend every class and will be graded on attendance. No make-ups will be provided for a missed homework assignment, application, or exam

Because some absences are unavoidable, I will drop the lowest two attendance scores, the lowest HW grade, and the lowest quiz grade at the end of the semester.

If your final exam score is higher than either of the previous exams, your final exam score will replace the lowest exam score. For example, if you receive a 50 on exam 1, a 75 on exam 2, and a 90 on the final, your grades at the end of the course would be 90 on exam 1, 75 on exam 2, and 90 on the final. If you receive an 80 on exam 1, a 60 on exam 2, and a 75 on the final, your grades at the end of the course will be 80 on exam 1, 75 on exam 2, and 75 on the final. If you receive an 80 on exam 1, a 90 on exam 2, and decide not to take the final, your grades at the end of the course will be 80 on exam 1, 90 on exam 2 and ZERO on the final (you are required to take the final. Your exam grades do NOT replace your final).

Calculators:

Phones may NOT be used as calculators on quizzes and exams. Please see Dr. Lacy if you have any questions.

Applications:

There will be frequent team applications (in class problems) throughout the semester. Missed applications may not be made up. I will drop your lowest application grade when determining your final grade at the end of the semester.

You will work with your team to answer the provided questions. Each team is expected to participate in the application discussions and your participation will be part will hand in one answer sheet to be graded. from the previous homework assignment. Please bring your notes from completing your homework with you to class, which you can use during the team quiz.

Homework:

Graded homework through Connect will be assigned on a regular schedule and due **Saturday at 11:59 PM**. You will be notified in class when changes are made to the schedule. Late homework will not be accepted. Homework is due on **Saturday** to give you enough time to read the chapter for the upcoming week.

Additionally, you are to read the weeks chapter before class begins on Monday. To ensure you have read the chapter, the **Learn Smart** associated with the chapter on Connect will be due **Sunday at 11:59 PM**.

Peer Evaluations:

You will be asked to evaluate your team members three times during the semester. These evaluations will be completed through WebCampus and distributed to team members anonymously. The scores from all team members will be averaged to form 60% of your total score. The remaining 40% of your total grade will be based on the quality of the comments you provide your teammates. See the Peer Evaluation handout for details. If you fail to complete your peer evaluations, you will receive a zero regardless of how your teammates scored you. I will drop your lowest peer evaluation score at the end of the semester. Peer Evaluations are scheduled as follows:

- Peer Evaluation 1 **Due Sunday, September 29th at 11:59 PM**
- Peer Evaluation 2 **Due Sunday, November 3rd at 11:59 PM**
- Peer Evaluation 3 **Due Wednesday, December 11th at 11:59 PM**

Exams:

There will be two in-class exams and a cumulative final in this course. The exams are temporarily scheduled for **Wednesday, September 25th** and **Wednesday, October 30th**. The exam dates are subject to change depending on the progress made in class. The final exam, which WILL be cumulative is scheduled for **Thursday, December 12th from 9:50 AM – 11:50 AM**. All exams are in the same classroom as a regular class. Seating on exam days will be randomly assigned. There will be no make-up exams for missed exams (see the attendance section for my exam grading policy).

You **MUST** bring a 100 question SC882-E scantron with you to every exam.

Grading Criteria, Scale, and Standards:

Scores in six major performance areas will determine your grade:

Homework	10%
Learn Smart	5%
Attendance/Turning Point	5%
Peer Evaluations	5%
Applications	10%
In-class Exams	40%
Final Exam	25%

Course letter grades will be assigned on a straight scale. There will not be any curving of the final grade.

A	93 – 100
A-	90 – 92.9
B+	87 – 89.9
B	84 – 86.9
B-	80 – 83.9
C+	77 – 79.9

C	74 – 76.9
C-	70 – 73.9
D+	67 – 69.9
D	64 – 66.9
D-	60 – 63.9
F	< 60

I will not discuss grades via email. You must come to my office if you would like to discuss any grade you receive in this course

Course Calendar or Topics Outline:

Week	Topics	Reading	Assignments Due on Saturday at 11:59 PM
1	Introduction Economics and Life	Chapter 1 Learn Smart Due 8/28	HW 1 Due 8/31
2	Specialization and Exchange	Chapter 2 Learn Smart Due 9/1	HW 2 Due 9/7
3	Supply and Demand	Chapter 3 Learn Smart Due 9/8	HW 3 Due 9/14
4	Elasticity Efficiency	Chapters 4 and 5 Learn Smart Due 9/15	HW 4 Due 9/21
5	Exam 1 – Wednesday, September 25th		
6	Government Intervention	Chapter 6 Learn Smart Due 9/29	HW 5 Due 10/5
7	Externalities Public Goods and Common Resources	Chapters 18 and 19 Learn Smart Due 10/6	HW 6 Due 10/12
8	Consumer Behavior	Chapter 7 Learn Smart Due 10/13	HW 7 Due 10/19
9	Behavioral Economics	Chapter 8 Learn Smart Due 10/20	HW 8 Due 10/26
10	Exam 2 – Wednesday, October 30th		
11	Game Theory and Strategic Thinking	Chapter 9 Learn Smart Due 11/3	HW 9 Due 11/9
12	The Costs of Production	Chapter 12 Learn Smart Due 11/10	HW 10 Due 11/16
13	Perfect Competition	Chapter 13 Learn Smart Due 11/17	HW 11 Due 11/23
14	Monopoly	Chapter 14 Learn Smart Due 11/24	HW 12 Due 11/30
15	Monopolistic Competition and Oligopoly	Chapter 15 Learn Smart Due 12/1	HW 13 Due 12/7
16	Final Exam Review		
Final Exam – Thursday December 12th from 9:50 AM – 11:50 AM			

University Policies

Statement on Academic Dishonesty:

"The University Academic Standards Policy defines academic dishonesty and mandates specific sanctions for violations. See the University Academic Standards policy: [UAM 6,502](#)."

Statement of Disability Services:

"Any student with a disability needing academic adjustments or accommodations is requested to speak with me or the [Disability Resource Center](#) (Pennington Achievement Center Suite 230) as soon as possible to arrange for appropriate accommodations."

This course may leverage 3rd party web/multimedia content, if you experience any issues accessing this content, please notify your instructor.

Statement for Academic Success Services:

"Your student fees cover usage of the [Math Center](#) (775) 784-4433, [Tutoring Center](#) (775) 784-6801, and [University Writing Center](#) (775) 784-6030. These centers support your classroom learning; it is your responsibility to take advantage of their services. Keep in mind that seeking help outside of class is the sign of a responsible and successful student."

Statement on Audio and Video Recording:

"Surreptitious or covert videotaping of class or unauthorized audio recording of the class is prohibited by law and by Board of Regents policy. This class may be videotaped or audio recorded only with the written permission of the instructor. In order to accommodate students with disabilities, some students may have been given permission to record class lectures and discussions. Therefore, students should understand that their comments during class may be recorded."

The University of Nevada, Reno is committed to providing a safe learning and work environment for all. If you believe you have experienced discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, or stalking, whether on or off campus or need information related to immigration concerns, please contact the University's Equal Opportunity & Title IX office at 775-784-1547. Resources and interim measures are available to assist you. For more information, please visit the [Equal Opportunity and Title IX](#) page.

August 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Learn Smart Chapter 1	26 Introduction	27	28 Chapter 1	29	30 Team Application	31 HW 1 Due 11:59 PM
1 Learn Smart Chapter 2 Due 11:59 PM	2	NOTES				

September 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Learn Smart Chapter 2 Due 11:59 PM	2 No Class	3	4 Chapter 2	5	6 Team Application	7 HW 2 Due 11:59 PM
8 Learn Smart Chapter 3 Due 11:59 PM	9 Chapter 3	10	11 Chapter 3	12	13 Team Application	14 HW 3 Due 11:59 PM
15 Learn Smart Chapters 4 & 5 Due 11:59 PM	16 Chapter 4	17	18 Chapters 4 & 5	19	20 Chapter 5	21 HW 4 Due 11:59 PM
22	23 Review	24	25 Exam 1	26	27 Review	28
29 Peer Evaluation 1 & Learn Smart Chapter 6 Due 11:59 PM	30 Chapter 6	1	2 Chapter 6	3	4 Team Application	5 HW 5 Due 11:59 PM
6	7	NOTES				

October 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29 Learn Smart Chapter 6 Due 11:59 PM	30 Chapter 6	1	2 Chapter 6	3	4 Team Application	5 HW 5 Due 11:59 PM
6 Learn Smart Chapters 18 & 19 Due 11:59 PM	7 Chapter 18	8	9 Chapter 19	10	11 Team Application	12 HW 6 Due 11:59 PM
13 Learn Smart Chapter 7 Due 11:59 PM	14 Chapter 7	15	16 Chapter 7	17	18 Team Application	19 HW 7 Due 11:59 PM
20 Learn Smart Chapter 8 Due 11:59 PM	21 Chapter 8	22	23 Chapter 8	24	25 No Class	26 HW 8 Due 11:59 PM
27	28 Review	29	30 Exam 2	31	1 Review	2
3 Peer Evaluation 2 & Learn Smart Chapter 9 Due 11:59 PM	4	NOTES				

November 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3 Peer Evaluation 2 & Learn Smart Chapter 9 Due 11:59 PM	4 Chapter 9	5	6 Chapter 9	7	8 Team Application	9 HW 9 Due 11:59 PM
10 Learn Smart Chapter 12 Due 11:59 PM	11 No Class	12	13 Chapter 12	14	15 Chapter 12	16 HW 10 Due 11:59 PM
17 Learn Smart Chapter 13 Due 11:59 PM	18 Chapter 13	19	20 Chapter 13	21	22 Team Application	23 HW 11 Due 11:59 PM
24 Learn Smart Chapters 14 Due 11:59 PM	25 Chapter 14	26	27 Chapter 14	28	29 No Class	30 HW 12 Due 11:59 PM
1 Learn Smart Chapter 15 Due 11:59 PM	2	NOTES				

December 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Learn Smart Chapters 15 Due 11:59 PM	2 Chapter 15	3	4 Chapter 15	5	6 Team Application	7 HW 13 Due 11:59 PM
8	9 Review	10	11 No Class Peer Evaluation 3 Due 11:59 PM	12 Final Exam 9:50 - 11:50 AM	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	NOTES				