

ECON 2010: Principles of Microeconomics

Summer 2026 · Online

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Office	GC 4100
Office hours	Monday 3:00–4:30 PM (Mountain Time), by appointment
Section	ECON 2010-090 / 201-090 (online, asynchronous)
Class dates	May 11 – June 17 (first half of the summer semester)
Credit hours	3

Course Description

Principles of Microeconomics presents the fundamental tools of analysis for understanding economic decision-making among individuals, firms, and organizations, whose collective decisions determine how resources are allocated in a capitalist economy. Students will engage with the basic analytic tools of modeling and critical thinking. The tools presented include supply and demand analysis, theories of consumer and producer behavior, analysis of competition and market power, and their application to social welfare and public policy. ECON 2010/201 is a 3-credit introductory course designated Social/Behavioral Science Exploration. The course does not assume any prior training in economics and requires only basic algebra skills.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand the role of markets in modern society.
- Build and manipulate the basic microeconomic model of supply and demand.
- Apply and interpret the economic logic of basic models of international trade, environmental resource management, and other contemporary public policy issues.
- Identify the properties of competitive markets and those with market power.

Required Materials

Neva Goodwin, Jonathan Harris, Julie Nelson, Pratistha Joshi Rajkarnikar, Brian Roach, and Mariano Torras. *Microeconomics in Context*, 5th edition. New York: Routledge, 2019.

The textbook is available through the University's Inclusive Access program, which offers discounted access to a digital textbook through the Canvas course site. You may opt in to or out of Inclusive Access using the "Bookshelf" tab in the Canvas course menu, following the instructions in the file

titled “Access the textbook.”

Important Dates

Classes begin	Monday, May 11
Last day to add, drop (delete), elect CR/NC, or audit classes	Thursday, May 14
Last day to wait list	Thursday, May 14
Last day to withdraw from classes	Friday, May 29
Last day to reverse CR/NC option	Friday, June 12
Classes end	Wednesday, June 17

Teaching and Learning Methods

ECON 2010-090 is offered as an online asynchronous class. The online format includes prerecorded presentations and problem-solving videos. Questions can be clarified by contacting the instructor by email to set up a meeting or by attending the Monday office hours.

The course is organized into weekly modules. The Modules page on Canvas shows the material organized by week together with the associated assignments. Because of the compressed summer schedule, one week may include multiple modules. Each module includes readings, prerecorded videos, and one quiz for every topic. There are no live class sessions.

Effective communication is essential to our progress this semester. You are encouraged to contact the instructor by email or Canvas, to set up in-person or virtual appointments to discuss any questions, and to reach out when the content or delivery is not working for you.

Canvas time zone. To view due dates and times correctly, set your Canvas time zone to your current location by following [this guide](#). If you do not change your time zone, all due dates and times in Canvas default to Mountain Time. Times written in this syllabus, such as office hours, are in Mountain Time unless stated otherwise.

Online Course Expectations

Instructor expectations

- The instructor will design the course to include lectures, reading materials, and assignments that challenge students and provide opportunities to learn and practice course content.
- The instructor will interact with the class through announcements, virtual meetings, email and the Canvas Inbox, feedback on assignments, and comments on discussion boards.
- The instructor will respond to emails within 48 hours, not including weekends and holidays.
- The instructor will be available for individual consultation via Zoom, email, or phone. Students will not be required to come to campus to meet with the instructor.
- The instructor will provide timely feedback on assignments and follow all official University of Utah policies regarding conduct, incompletes, and accommodations.

Student expectations

- To do well in an online course, students must be self-motivated, organized, and willing to stay on top of the schedule.
- Students will regularly check course announcements, the instructor's official means of communicating with the whole class, and will update their Canvas settings to receive timely notifications.
- Students who have questions, are struggling with course material, or need further assistance will take the initiative to contact the instructor via the Canvas Inbox or email. If you do not hear back within 3 days, please contact the instructor again.
- Students will engage with the course, other students, and the instructor in a respectful and professional manner at all times, following the [core rules of netiquette](#).

Evaluation and Grading

- Weekly quizzes and assignments completed on Canvas before the deadline: 30%
- Midterm exam: 35%
- Final exam: 35%

Exams. The midterm and final are online multiple-choice exams with 30 questions each. The midterm is held May 25 – June 3 and the final June 15 – June 21. Exams are not proctored and can be taken from home using the textbook, slides, video lectures, and your notes. All students must complete the exams independently; no collaboration is allowed. Exams are timed: once you open the exam, you have 120 minutes to complete it.

Grading scale. Final grades are assigned according to the University of Utah scale:

≥ 94.00	A	80.00–83.99	B–	67.00–69.99	D+
90.00–93.99	A–	77.00–79.99	C+	64.00–66.99	D
87.00–89.99	B+	74.00–76.99	C	60.00–63.99	D–
84.00–86.99	B	70.00–73.99	C–	≤ 59.99	E

Course Policies

Late assignments and exams. Due dates on quizzes are intended to help you stay on track and identify questions about the core concepts before the class moves on. Please note due dates and work each week to keep up with the course. **Late exams will not be accepted without an excuse from the University or a medical professional.**

Final grade policy. Final grades are calculated strictly on the weighted average of all assignments, as listed in this syllabus. Grades will not be rounded or adjusted unless there is a documented error in calculation. Please do not email asking for extra credit, makeup work, or grade bumps at the end of the term. All opportunities to earn points are built into the course structure.

Course Schedule

Topic	Approximate dates	Reading (Goodwin et al.)
Orientation; markets and society	May 11 – May 21	Chapters 1 and 2
Production possibilities and international trade	May 11 – May 21	Chapters 1 and 6
Trade policy; supply and demand	May 11 – May 21	Chapters 6 and 3
Supply and demand; elasticity	May 18 – May 28	Chapters 3 and 4
Welfare analysis and taxes	May 18 – May 28	Chapters 5 and 11
<i>Review and midterm exam</i>	May 21 – June 3	
Welfare analysis and taxes (cont.)	June 1 – June 7	Chapters 5 and 11
Market failures I: externalities and the environment	June 1 – June 11	Chapter 12
Market failures II: public goods and common property resources	June 8 – June 18	Chapter 13
Production costs and perfect competition	June 8 – June 18	Chapters 15 and 16
Monopoly, monopolistic competition, and oligopoly	Tentative	Chapter 17
<i>Review and final exam</i>	June 10 – June 21	

University Policies and Resources

Updated mandatory syllabus policies regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act, Safety at the U, Addressing Sexual Misconduct, and Academic Misconduct can be viewed at <https://cte.utah.edu/instructor-education/syllabus/institutional-policies.php>.

Academic misconduct. It is expected that students adhere to University of Utah policies regarding academic honesty, including but not limited to refraining from cheating, plagiarizing, misrepresenting one's work, and/or inappropriately collaborating. This includes the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools without citation, documentation, or authorization. Any student who engages in academic dishonesty may be subject to academic sanctions as per the University of Utah's Student Code: <https://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-410.php>.

Drop and withdrawal. Students may drop a course within the first two weeks of a given semester without any penalties. Students may officially withdraw (W) from a class or all classes after the drop deadline through the midpoint of a course. A "W" grade is recorded on the transcript and appropriate tuition/fees are assessed. The grade "W" is not used in calculating the student's GPA. See the University's Academic Calendar for deadlines.

Campus resources.

- *Accommodations:* Center for Disability & Access, 162 Union Building, 801-581-5020, <https://disability.utah.edu>
- *Safety:* To report suspicious activity or request a courtesy escort, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677); <https://safeu.utah.edu>

- *Title IX*: Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 383 South University Street, 801-581-8365
- *Wellness*: Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776, <https://wellness.utah.edu>
- *Basic needs*: Basic Needs Collective, <https://basicneeds.utah.edu>
- *Tutoring*: Learning Center, <https://learningcenter.utah.edu>; Writing Center, <https://writingcenter.utah.edu>
- *Other student support*: <https://studentsuccess.utah.edu/resources/student-support/>

Syllabus changes. This syllabus is meant to serve as an outline and guide for our course. I may modify it with reasonable notice to you, and I may also modify the course schedule to accommodate the needs of our class. Any changes will be posted to Canvas under Announcements.