

Econ 101: Introduction to Economics

UNC at Chapel Hill
Economics Department
Summer 2009

Instructor Information:

Mike Aguilar

Office: 06A Gardner Hall | Phone: 919-966-5378

Email: maguilar@email.unc.edu | Web: www.unc.edu/~maguilar

Office Hours: M,W,F 2pm-3pm, or by appointment

Lecture Schedule:

Lecture: M,T,W,R,F 9:45am - 11:15am Gardner Hall Room 07

Course Materials:

Required Text: *Economics - Custom Edition*, by R.Bryns and G.Stone; Pearson Publishing; ISBN: 9780536507617.

Required Software: Assignments, announcements, grades, readings, and other information will be posted at blackboard.unc.edu. Blackboard will be the primary method of communication for this course, so please check it frequently.

Recommended Periodicals: The Wall Street Journal; The Economist.

Course Goals:

If we are successful, this course will change the way you think. Regardless of your academic major or your career after college, economics plays a vital role in our daily lives. This course will explore several key economic concepts such as supply and demand, taxation, international trade, and others. We will apply these concepts to many “real-world” scenarios throughout the semester. By the end of the course you should have an idea of how an economist thinks, and be able to apply this critical skill to interpret the world around you.

Course Calendar:

A tentative course calendar is provided on the last page of this syllabus. It will be updated as we progress throughout the semester. Please use the date and time stamp found on the lower right corner of this page to ensure that you have the latest version of this document.

Grading	% of Course Grade	Date	Details & Policy
Final Exam	(30%)	07/23/09 8am - 11am	Comprehensive exam. Missing the Final Exam without a valid excuse from the Dean will result in a zero exam score.
Test 1 Test 2	(20%) (20%)	06/30/09 9:45am-11:15am 07/13/09 9:45am-11:15am	Missing a Test without an “excused” absence results in a zero score for that Test. If you miss either Test with an “excused” absence, the Final Exam will account for 40% of the course grade, and the other Test will account for 30%. If you miss both Tests with an “excused” absence, the total Test grade will account for 0% of the course grade, and the Final Exam will account for 70%.
Homework	(30%)	TBD	There will be approximately six homeworks throughout the semester. You may drop the assignment with the lowest score. No late assignments will be accepted. No “make-ups” will be given. If you miss an assignment due to an “excused” absence, your Homework grade will be reweighted among the remaining homework assignments.

Students associated with Disability Services must contact me one week prior to each Test.

Excused Absences: Illness or participation in University sanctioned activities. Documentation from coach or doctor must be provided. You must fill out the “Excused Absence” form found on the Blackboard site, and turn it in to me as soon as possible.

Letter grades are computed from the total points earned during the semester and assigned based on the scale nearby. There is no maximum number of A’s nor B’s awarded. However, in previous courses 20% – 25% of my students have earned in the A range, 30% – 40% have earned in the B range, and 20% – 30% have earned in the C range. Although the grade distribution may change this semester, the past scores should give you a sense of my grading standards.

A	$x \geq 95\%$
A-	$90 \leq x < 95$
B+	$85 \leq x < 90$
B	$80 \leq x < 85$
B-	$75 \leq x < 80$
C+	$70 \leq x < 75$
C	$65 \leq x < 70$
C-	$60 \leq x < 65$
D+	$50 \leq x < 60$
D	$40 \leq x < 50$
F	$x < 40$

Econ101:001 Summer Session II 2009 - Tentative Schedule

#	Date	Day	Topic	Reading*	Items Due**
1	6/18/2009	R	1.1.a - What is Economics?; 1.1.b - Tools	Ch1+App.	
2	6/19/2009	F	1.2.a - Production Possibilities	p32-46	
3	6/22/2009	M	1.2.a - Production	p32-46	
4	6/23/2009	T	1.2.b - Gains From Trade	p32-46	HW#1
5	6/24/2009	W	1.2.b - Gains From Trade	p32-46	
6	6/25/2009	R	1.3 - The Market Mechanism	Ch3	
7	6/26/2009	F	1.3 - The Market Mechanism	p81-93	HW#2
8	6/29/2009	M	2.1 - Consumer Theory	p124-131; p142-143	
9	6/30/2009	T	Exam 1 (Section 1)		
10	7/1/2009	W	2.1 - Consumer Theory	Ch5	
11	7/2/2009	R	2.2 - Theory of the Firm	p152; p158-159	HW#3
	7/3/2009	F	No Class - University Holiday		
12	7/6/2009	M	2.2 - Theory of the Firm	p167-184	
13	7/7/2009	T	2.3.b - Perfect Competition	p192-212	
14	7/8/2009	W	2.3.b - Perfect Competition	p192-212	
15	7/9/2009	R	2.3.c - Monopoly	p219-226; p228-236	HW#4
16	7/10/2009	F	3.2.a - GDP	p402-410, p412-419	
17	7/13/2009	M	Exam 2 (Sections 1&2)		
18	7/14/2009	T	3.2.b - CPI	p385-391, p396-400	
19	7/15/2009	W	3.2.c - UR	p264-278; Ch12	HW#5
20	7/16/2009	R	3.3 - The Business Cycle	p346-362, p338-341, p431-443	
21	7/17/2009	F	3.4.a - Fiscal Policy	Ch21	
22	7/20/2009	M	3.4.b - Money & Monetary Policy	p492-503, Ch23	
23	7/21/2009	T	3.4.c - Trade Policy	p532-538, p543-553	HW#6
	7/23/2009	R	Final Exam 8am - 11am (Sections 1,2,3)		

* All readings are in Byrns & Stone "Economics" Custom Edition, unless otherwise indicated.

** All assignments are due by 5pm on the date indicated, unless otherwise indicated.