

Principles of Microeconomics

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Office Hours: Tuesday, 10:30-12:30pm, or by appointment

Required Texts:

N. Gregory Mankiw. Principles of Microeconomics. 5th Edition. Thomson South-Western, 2009.

We will also be using the online coursework website Aplia heavily in this class. You have two options available when purchasing access to Aplia:

Option A: Pay Aplia Directly

- Purchase access to your course directly from Aplia on our website for \$80.00 USD. The website includes:
 - Access to an online copy of your textbook.
 - Content that has been customized for your textbook and course.
- However, if you try using the online textbook and decide you would also like a physical textbook, you can order one from Aplia for \$5.00 USD plus shipping and handling.

Option B: Purchase at Bookstore

- Purchase a bundle from your school's bookstore, which includes:
 - An Aplia Access Card containing a Payment Code that you can enter on Aplia's website as payment for your Aplia course.
 - A physical textbook.

In the past, most of my students have chose Option A – it is less expensive, and you can access your online copy of the textbook from anywhere. If you would like a physical copy of the textbook, I still recommend option A (and either buying the text from Aplia or online). Be aware, however, that you will not have access to the online version of the text after the semester ends.

The Aplia code (which is different from the Payment code) for this class is: HHSW-WA32-MLQ3.

Course Requirements

The course will consist of weekly graded assignments on Aplia, two “mid-term” examinations, a final examination, and two writing assignments. There will be no make-up examinations. If a mid-term is missed, the final will carry the additional weight **if and only if** a valid excuse (e.g., doctor’s note) is presented.

Aplia assignments are generally due on Friday at 11:00 PM. I cannot accept late assignments, as Aplia automatically tallies your total at 11:00 and posts the solutions at 11:01. Don't worry should you miss an assignment or two, however – I will drop your lowest two Aplia grades. You should keep in mind that these problems are excellent study guides for your mid-term and final.

The writing assignments will be based on news reports. You will be asked to read and summarize a news report, answer a series of questions requiring graphical analyses, and summarize your findings. I expect you to use feedback received from me on the first assignment to improve your writing and analytical skills on the second assignment.

Both writing assignments will be due in class at the dates listed below. I will accept assignments without penalty up through the end of the class period. Any assignments turned in after this time will be accepted, but will carry a penalty (unless, of course, you have a valid, documented excuse).

Academic Dishonesty

Become very familiar with the statement on academic dishonesty found in your California State University Catalogue.

Students with Disabilities

The University requires students with disabilities to register with the Office of Disabled Student Services (DSS), located in UH-101 and at (657) 278 – 3112, in order to receive prescribed accommodations appropriate to their disability. Students requesting accommodations should inform the instructor during the first week of classes about any disability or special needs that may require specific arrangements/accommodations related to attending class sessions, completing course assignments, writing papers or quizzes/tests/examinations.

Withdrawal and Drop Policy

See your California State University Catalogue.

Grading

There are 100 possible points. The grading breakdown is as follows:

Aplia Assignments (I will drop the lowest two grades)	20 points
First Writing Assignment	10 points
Second Writing Assignment	15 points
Midterm Examination #1	15 points
Midterm Examination #2	15 points
Final Examination	25 points

College of Business and Economics Key Perspectives

This is a core course in the curriculum of the College of Business and Economics. The following key perspectives are addressed: 1) Ethical issues; 2) Global Issues; 3) Political, Social, Legal, Regulatory, and Environmental Issues; 4) Technological Issues

Assessment Statement

The main purpose of the degree program at the Mihaylo College of Business & Economics (College) at Cal State Fullerton is to provide you with the knowledge and skills that prepare you for a successful career in business. In order to assist us in achieving this goal, we will use a number of assessment tools to track your progress throughout the College curriculum. Please expect to participate in College assessment activities in several of your courses while at CSU, Fullerton. As you do so, you will assist us in identifying our program's strengths and weaknesses as well as areas for potential improvement. In other words, you are making an important investment in the value of your degree.

General Education Information

This course meets the University's General Education requirement in Category III.C.1, Introduction to the Social Sciences. The learning goals include:

- To reflect on what it means to be a social being.
- To understand the role that cultural diversity plays in defining what it means to be a social being: the past and present processes of cultural differentiation in our own society or elsewhere.
- To understand the origins, workings and ramifications of social and cultural change in our own society or elsewhere.
- To understand what makes a social science different from other disciplines.
- To understand and compare the distinctive methods and perspectives of two or more social science disciplines.
- To understand major concepts, methods, theories and theorists in one or more of the social sciences.
- To apply these methods, perspectives and concepts to everyday, "real life" situations.
- To appreciate the relevance of the social sciences to social, political and/or economic institutions and behavior.
- To analyze and evaluate critically social science concepts and theories as applied to particular problems or themes.

Course Outline

This is a very tentative schedule and is subject to change at any time. All due dates and examination dates will not be changed, however.

Preliminaries – Introduction, Principles, and Important Concepts

Aug. 25, 27	Introduction to the Course, Chapter 1
Sept. 1, 3	Chapters 2 and 3

How Markets Work – Supply, Demand, and Elasticity

Sept. 8, 10	Chapter 4
Sept. 15, 17	Chapter 5

First Writing Assignment Assigned: September 15

Wednesday, September 16: Live experiment on Aplia, 10pm (Extra Credit!)

Sept. 22 Chapter 6

First Writing Assignment Due in Class: September 22

Markets and Welfare – Efficiency, Taxation, and Trade

Sept. 24 Chapter 7

MIDTERM EXAMINATION #1: SEPTEMBER 29, covering the first seven chapters

Wednesday, September 30: Live experiment on Aplia, 10pm (tentative – Extra Credit!)

Oct. 1 Exam Results; Economics Discussion (come with questions!)

Oct. 6, 8 Chapter 8 and 9

Public Sector – Externalities and Public Goods

Oct. 13, 15 Chapter 10 and 11

Wednesday, October 14: Live experiment on Aplia, 10pm (tentative – Extra Credit!)

Second Writing Assignment Assigned: October 15

Firm Behavior and Industrial Organization – Monopoly, Competition, and Markets

Oct. 20, 22: FURLOUGH DAYS, NO CLASS

➤ You are expected to use this week to work on your paper!!!

Oct. 27, 29 Chapters 13 and 14

Second Writing Assignment Due in Class: October 29

Nov. 3, 5 Chapters 14 and 15

Nov. 10 Chapters 15

MIDTERM EXAMINATION #2: November 12, covering chapters 8-15

Nov. 17, 19 Exam Results; Chapter 16

Nov. 24, 26 **THANKSGIVING BREAK (CAMPUS CLOSED)**

Dec. 1, 3 Chapters 16 and 17

Dec. 8, 10 **In-class review**

**FINAL EXAMINATION (Cumulative):
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15 AT 12:00**

The main purpose of the degree program at the College of Business & Economics (CBE) at CSUF is to provide you with the knowledge and skills that prepare you for a successful career in business. In order to assist us in achieving this goal, we will use a number of assessment tools to track your progress through the CBE curriculum. Please expect to participate in CBE assessment activities in several of your courses while at the CBE. As you do so, you will assist us in identifying our program's strengths and weaknesses as well as areas for potential improvement. In other words, you are making an important investment in the value of your degree.