

Introductory Microeconomics

Class Information		Instructor Information		First day of classes:	Wed., Sept. 7, 2016
Days:	Tues./Thurs.	Instructor:	Rand Ayres, M.A.Sc., MBA, PhD	Last day to add/drop, or change to audit:	Sun., Sept. 18, 2016
Time:	1:00 – 2:15 p.m.	Email:	rand.ayres@ambrose. edu	Last day to request revised exam:	Mon., Oct. 24, 2016
Room:	A1085-1	Phone:	403.686.7588 Mobile & Text	Last day to withdraw from course:	Mon., Nov. 14, 2016
Lab/ Tutorial:	Monday 1:00 – 2:15 p.m. A2131	Office:	L2078	Last day to apply for time extension for coursework:	Mon., Nov. 21, 2016
FINAL EXAM: Friday, December 16 1:00 – 4:00 in room A1085		Office Hrs.:	T/TH 12:00 – 1:00	Last day of classes:	Mon., Dec. 12, 2016

Textbook and Readings:

Mankiw, N.G., Kneebone, R.D. & McKenzie, K.J. (2014). *Principles of Microeconomics* (6th ed.). Toronto: Nelson.
Additional assigned readings (TBD)

Course Description:

The determination of consumption, production, and distribution in the economy, and the behaviour of firms under various market structures.

Microeconomics is the study of the choices that individuals and businesses make, the way those choices interact in markets, and the influence of governments – it attempts to understand the decision-making behaviour of smaller units within society.

The main purpose of this Microeconomics course is to provide students taking their first course in economics with an understanding of the logic and intuition of economics. The economy is such an important part of society that it is impossible to understand society without a basic knowledge of economics.

As such, this introductory course is devoted to exposing students to the core ideas of the discipline, such as the problem of scarcity, as well as the concepts of marginal cost-benefit, comparative advantage, opportunity costs and trade-offs, and efficiency and equilibrium.

Expected Learning Outcomes:

1. Learn and understand the ten core principles of economics, other core ideas, theories, models and variables of the microeconomics discipline.
2. Graph/diagram, label and explain basic concepts, such as supply & demand, equilibrium price and quantity, price/income/cross-elasticity of demand, production function, etc.
3. Analyze and draw conclusions from news items using microeconomic concepts and theories.
4. Solve conceptual, as well as algorithmic problems utilizing learned economics principles and basic math & graphing skills.
5. Be able to research and describe one of the industries using microeconomics language, tools, concepts and variables.

Course Requirements and Evaluation:

Course grading and evaluation will be conducted according to the following:

Class Participation/Attendance	10%
Assignments (two, each worth 5%)	10%
Quizzes (two, each worth 10%)	20%
Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam (non-cumulative)	35%

Note: To pass the course, students must achieve an overall grade of at least 50%.

Submission of Assignments:

All assignments (unless otherwise notified) are to be submitted via Moodle by the time indicated in the Weekly Reading and Assignment schedule. Late assignments will lose 10% per day late. Answer keys for the assignments will be posted on the fourth day after the due date. Once the answer key has been posted, assignments will no longer be accepted and a grade of 0% will be awarded.

In the case of legitimate or approved absence, and at the instructor's discretion, the assigned date may be rescheduled to a later date, or if this is not practically possible, the marks may be reallocated to other components of the course grade.

Class Participation and Attendance:

A key component of your grade is participation during class time. Students are expected to attend all classes and tutorials, having prepared for class and tutorial by reading the assigned text chapters ahead of time, completing exercises (if assigned) in advance of in-class discussions or tutorials, and then actively participate in these discussions. If external circumstances or illness prevent you from attending or adequately preparing for a class, please let the professor know so that this can be taken into account, as repeated absences from class will negatively impact a student's individual participation grade.

Grading Rubric – Class Participation/Attendance

Rubric Criteria (weight)	Excelling (85%–100%)	Accomplished (72%–84%)	Developing (60%–71%)	Beginning (0–59%)
Attendance (50%) (Excludes certain excused absences such as Ambrose athletic teams practices and out-of-town games)	Misses no more than two classes (100%)	Misses three classes (80%).	Misses four classes (60%)	Misses five classes (40%); misses six classes (20%); misses seven or more classes (0%)
Group Discussions and Contribution Quality (50%) Quality (depending upon context) is exemplified, but not limited to, the following: pursues thoughtful and rigorous lines of discussion, addresses relevant issues, builds on others' ideas, synthesizes across readings and discussions, challenges assumptions and perspectives, expands the group's/class' perspective.	Contributes great effort to group discussions; shares thoughts and ideas; is always prepared to respond to impromptu in-class questions. Input is always of high quality.	Contributes good effort to group discussions; mostly shares thoughts and ideas; is mostly prepared to respond to impromptu in-class questions. Input is mostly of high quality.	Contributes occasionally to group discussions; occasionally shares thoughts and ideas; is sometimes prepared to respond to impromptu in-class questions. Input is occasionally of high quality.	Seldom contributes to group discussions; seems disinterested; is not prepared to respond to impromptu in-class questions. Input is seldom or not of high quality.

Assignments, Quizzes, and Tutorials

The assignments will be take-home exercises. Deadlines for completion and submission of assignments will be clearly indicated in advance. Quizzes will be written in-class. Tutorials will be used to review course material as well as prepare for assignments, quizzes, and exams.

Exams

The midterm exam will be 75 minutes in length. It will be written during regular class time per the Weekly Reading and Assignment Schedule and can cover all materials included in the course up to the date of the exam.

The final examination will be comprehensive (i.e., can cover any materials included in the course during the semester, but emphasis will be on the material covered in the last half of the course). The final examination will have a maximum writing time of three hours.

Grade Summary:

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

<i>% Grade</i>	<i>Letter Grade</i>	<i>Description</i>
95% to 100%	A+	Excellent
90% to 94%	A	
85% to 89%	A-	
80% to 84%	B+	Good
76% to 79%	B	
72% to 75%	B-	
68% to 71%	C+	Satisfactory
64% to 67%	C	
60% to 63%	C-	
55% to 59%	D+	Minimal Pass
50% to 54%	D	
0% to 49%	F	Failure

Because of the nature of the Alpha 4.00 system, there can be no uniform College-wide conversion scale. The relationship between raw scores (e.g. percentages) and the resultant letter grade will depend on the nature of the course and the instructor's assessment of the level of each class, compared to similar classes taught previously. Please note that final grades will be available on student registration system. Printed grade sheets are not mailed out.

Weekly Reading and Assignment Schedule

Date	Class Topic/Chapter Title	Text Chapters	Tutorial Topic
Sept 8 th	Course and Tutorial Overview		
Sept 13 th	Ten Principles of Economics	Chapter 1	Sept 12: No Tutorial
Sept 15 th	Interdependence and the Gains from Trade	Chapter 3	
Sept 14th	Back to Business BBQ (5:30-7:30) 14 Signature Heights S.W.	All students welcome	
Sept 20 th	The Market Forces of Supply and Demand	Chapter 4	Sept 19: Assignment #1 Available in Moodle.
Sept 22 nd	The Market Forces of Supply and Demand	Chapter 4	
Sept 27 th	Elasticity and its Application	Chapter 5	Sept 26: Questions on Assignment #1. Please Bring Study Notes on Chapters 1 & 3 to Tutorial.
Sept 28	Assignment #1 Due in Moodle by 11:59 pm		
Sept 28-29	No Daytime Classes: Spiritual Emphasis Days		
Sept 30th – Oct 1	Soul of the Next Economy Forum		
Oct 4 th	Elasticity and its Application	Chapter 5	Oct 3: Discuss Assignment #1, Review for Quiz #1
Oct 6th	Discussion on Market Forces Quiz #1 (30 minutes): How Markets Work (Chapters 4 – 5)		
Oct 11 th	Supply, Demand, and Government Policies	Chapter 6	Oct 10: Thanksgiving – no tutorial
Oct 13 th	Consumers, Producers, and the Efficiency of Markets	Chapter 7	
Oct 11th – Oct 28th	Academic Advising Weeks		
Oct 18 th	Consumers, Producers, and the Efficiency of Markets	Chapter 7	Oct 17: Discuss Quiz #1, Review for Midterm Exam

Oct 20th	Midterm Exam: Chapters 1, 3 – 7		
Oct 25 th	Deadweight Loss of Taxation and Externalities	Chapter 8, pp.171-176, Chapter 10, pp.211-219	Oct 24: Discuss Midterm Exam
Oct 27 th	Externalities	Chapter 10	
Nov 1 st	Public Goods and Common Resources	Chapter 11	Oct 31: Assignment #2 Available in Moodle
Nov 3 rd	The Design of the Tax System	Chapter 12	
Nov 8 th	The Costs of Production	Chapter 13	Nov 7: Questions on Assignment #2
Nov 9th	Assignment #2 Due in Moodle by 11:59 pm		
Nov 10 - 11	No Classes: Mid-Semester Break		
Nov 15 th	Firms in Competitive Markets	Chapter 14	
Nov 17 th	Firms in Competitive Markets	Chapter 14	
Nov 22 nd	Monopoly	Chapter 15	Nov 21: Discuss Assignment #2
Nov 24 th	Monopolistic Competition	Chapter 16	
Nov 29 th	Oligopoly	Chapter 17	Nov 28: Review for Quiz #2
Dec 1st	Quiz #2: Firm Behaviour and the Organization of Industry (Chapters 13-17)		
Dec 6 th	The Demand for Labour and Income Inequality and Poverty	Chapter 18, pp. 395-409, and Chapter 19, pp.425- 434	Dec 5: Discuss Quiz #2
Dec 8 th	Income Inequality and Poverty And Final Exam Review	Chapter 19	
Dec 16th	Final Exam: Chapters 8 (part.), 10 – 17, 19		Dec 12: Final Exam Review

Note: The dates and order of topics outlined in this schedule may be subject to change at the instructor's discretion throughout the term. Any changes will be communicated in advance.

Policies:

Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

Registration

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty or record. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a "Request to Withdraw from a Course" form or by sending an email to the Registrar's Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of "W" will appear on their transcript.

Exam Scheduling

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the

student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Other electronic devices and accessories (including headphones) apart from those used for class-related purposes should not be used in class. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.

Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have

received permission for a course Extension from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office in writing and providing the basis for appeal within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to acknowledge to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Note: Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.