

Dakota College at Bottineau Course Syllabus

Course Prefix/Number/Title:

ECON 201—Principle of Microeconomics

Number of credits:

3 credits

Course Description:

This course studies the nature, method and scope of economic analysis; economic scarcity, resources, specialization of labor; supply-demand analysis; production and cost analysis; product and resource market structures; distribution of income; international trade.

This class is designed as an introduction to microeconomics. Economics, in general, refers to how society manages its limited resources. In this course, students will focus on the study of microeconomics, which seeks to understand how households and firms make decisions and how they interact in markets.

Pre-/Co-requisites:

None

Course Objectives:

Students will:

1. Define key concepts in the field of economics.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of basic microeconomic principles, including a general understanding of the history of economics, how markets work, and the decisions and interactions that go into the public sector.
3. Apply concepts learned in class to different scenarios (both in class, and within their own lives).

Instructor:

Lexi R. Kvasnicka, Ph.D.

Office:

Thatcher Hall 2208

Office Hours:

Mondays 2:00-3:30

Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00-1:00

Phone: 228-5475

Email: lexi.kvasnicka@dakotacollege.edu

Lecture/Lab Schedule:

MWF 11:00-11:50
TH 1107

Textbook(s):

Mankiw, N. G. (2012). *Principles of Microeconomics*, 6th Ed. Mason, OH: South-Western Cengage Learning.

Course Requirements:

- Exams (4 exams (non-cumulative), each worth 50 points) 200 points
 - Quizzes (10 quizzes, each worth 5 points) 50 points
 - Term Paper 50 points
- Total: 300 points**

A	270 and above
B	240-269
C	210-239
D	180-209
F	179 and below

Major Assignments:

- **Exams:** There will be 4, non-cumulative, exams throughout the semester worth 50 points each. Exams will cover information presented in class and from the textbook. Each exam will consist of 40 multiple choice questions worth 1 point each, and two short answer questions worth 5 points each. All exams are closed book and notes.
- **Quizzes:** Ten (10) quizzes will be given randomly throughout the semester. Each quiz will be worth 5 points, and will vary in nature (e.g., short answer, multiple choice, matching). Quizzes cannot be made up under any circumstances. These quizzes will cover material presented in the week's readings and lectures.
- **Term Paper:** Each student will complete a term paper covering a microeconomic theory or concept covered in class. Students should provide the history of the theory or concept, as well as provide (at least one) real-world example of the theory in use today. The term paper will be written in APA style and should be between 4-6 pages (double-spaced—this does not include the title page or reference page). An informational lecture and discussion over APA style, as well as paper requirements, will be given after the first exam.

Tentative Course Outline:

Week	Date	Day	Topic	Chapter
Week 1	8/24	Wednesday	Class Introduction	1
	8/26	Friday	Ten Principles of Economics	
Week 2	8/29	Monday	Ten Principles of Economics	1
	8/31	Wednesday	Ten Principles of Economics	1
	9/2	Friday	Thinking Like an Economist	2
Week 3	9/5	Monday	Labor Day (No Class)	

	9/7	Wednesday	Thinking Like an Economist	2
	9/9	Friday	Thinking Like an Economist	2
Week 4	9/12	Monday	Interdependence and the Gains from Trade	3
	9/14	Wednesday	Interdependence and the Gains from Trade	3
	9/16	Friday	Interdependence and the Gains from Trade	3
Week 5	9/19	Monday	Review	1-3
	9/21	Wednesday	Exam #1	1-3
	9/23	Friday	APA Style and Paper Discussion	
Week 6	9/26	Monday	The Market Forces of Supply and Demand	4
	9/28	Wednesday	The Market Forces of Supply and Demand	4
	9/30	Friday	The Market Forces of Supply and Demand	4
Week 7	10/3	Monday	Elasticity and Its Application	5
	10/5	Wednesday	Elasticity and Its Application	5
	10/7	Friday	Elasticity and Its Application	5
Week 8	10/10	Monday	Supply, Demand, and Gov't Policies	6
	10/12	Wednesday	Supply, Demand, and Gov't Policies	6
	10/14	Friday	Supply, Demand, and Gov't Policies	6
Week 9	10/17	Monday	Review	4-6
	10/19	Wednesday	Exam #2	4-6
	10/21	Friday	Consumers, Producers, Markets	7
Week 10	10/24	Monday	Consumers, Producers, Markets	7
	10/26	Wednesday	Consumers, Producers, Markets	7
	10/28	Friday	Application: The Cost of Taxation	8
Week 11	10/31	Monday	Application: The Cost of Taxation	8
	11/2	Wednesday	Application: Chap. 8-9	8-9
	11/4	Friday	Application: International Trade	9
Week 12	11/7	Monday	Application: International Trade	9
	11/9	Wednesday	Review	7-9
	11/11	Friday	Veterans Day (No Class)	
Week 13	11/14	Monday	Exam #3	7-9
	11/16	Wednesday	Externalities	10
	11/18	Friday	Paper Work Day	
Week 14	11/21	Monday	Externalities	10
	11/23	Wednesday	Externalities	10
	11/25	Friday	Thanksgiving (No Class)	
Week 15	11/28	Monday	Public Goods and Common Resources	11
	11/30	Wednesday	Public Goods and Common Resources	11
	12/2	Friday	Design of the Tax System (Term Paper by 5:00pm)	12
Week 16	12/5	Monday	Design of the Tax System	12
	12/7	Wednesday	Design of the Tax System	12
	12/9	Friday	Review	10-12
Week 17	12/14	Wednesday	Exam #4 (Final Exam) 3:00-5:00pm	10-12

General Education Goals/Objectives:

- Goal 1: Explains the interrelationships between humans and their environment and the role of science in their lives.
- Goal 4: Demonstrate Effective Communication

Relationship to Campus Theme:

Campus theme: Nature, Technology, and Beyond

- Students will identify wise uses and management of our natural resources (the premise behind economics).
- Students will analyze and interpret experimental data to draw logical conclusions.
- Students will use critical thinking to understand the importance of economics now, and in the future.

Classroom Policies:

- **Participation.** Students are expected to come to class prepared and actively engage in class discussion and activities. The classroom environment is open and harassment free, so please engaged in discussion. Computers are welcome in the classroom for note-taking purposes only. If students abuse this privilege, the instructor reserves the right to ban computers from the lecture periods.
- **Deadlines.** All assignments are due on or before the time that is specified in the syllabus. Students will be deducted 5 points for every 24-hour period the assignment is not turned in, including weekends. If a student is aware that they will miss an exam, they must inform the instructor *at least* two weeks prior to the missed exam. An essay exam (worth 50 points) will substitute for the missed exam. This exam must be taken *before* the scheduled exam date. If a student is sick or experiences unforeseen circumstances where an exam must be missed, the instructor must be informed immediately and proper documentation must be presented (e.g., doctor's note, police accident report). An essay exam will take the place of the missed exam and must be taken within one week of the missed exam. Students involved in college activities (e.g., athletics) that require them to miss an exam will take a make-up which is the same format as typical exams (multiple choice and short answer). Proper documentation from a coach or faculty supervisor is required to avoid the essay exam.
- **Grades.** Questions about test grades can be emailed to the instructor up to 10 days (including weekends) after the grade is posted; after this time grades are considered final. Questions regarding grades can be emailed to the instructor no sooner than 24-hours after the grade has been posted. Challenging the grade will result in a re-grade. Re-grades may result in a grade higher or lower than the original grade.

Academic Integrity:

Plagiarism (taking the ideas, thoughts, or language of someone else and passing them off as your own) will not be tolerated in this class. If a student is suspected of plagiarizing, cheating, or not doing their own work, the matter will be investigated. Any student who is found to engage in academic dishonesty (including letting others cheat off of you) will receive an automatic "F" in the course. Additionally, the incident will be reported to the appropriate University office and additional action may be taken.

Disabilities and Special Needs:

Please inform the instructor within the first week of classes if any assistance is required due to disabilities or special needs.