

Economics 1: Principles of Economics
Online Class

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Office Hours: By appointment only
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NOTE: Email is the best way to reach me for personal questions. Please put Eco 1 Online in the subject line of any email that you send me. However, most of the discussion related to course materials will take place on the “discussion board” on Lehigh BB.

Course Description

This on-line course provides an introduction to the study of economics. The first half of the course focuses on microeconomics. We examine the ways markets work to coordinate the plans of buyers and sellers and to direct resources to the uses most desired by consumers. We also study the reasons for and effects of government policies directed at specific market outcomes.

The second half of the course focuses on macroeconomics. We learn about the factors influencing national economic performance as measured by economic growth, recession and expansion over the business cycle and inflation. And we review the ways in which monetary, fiscal and supply-side policies can affect macroeconomic performance.

In any course, but especially in an on-line course, we can only try to help you learn the material. The quantity and quality of your input into the learning process is far more important in determining what you'll get out of this course.

Textbook

The textbook assigned for this course is *Economics*, 2nd edition, by Hubbard & O'Brien, published by Prentice Hall. If you have a used 1st edition, that would work as well. Information about acquiring access to the text in an online or print plus online format is contained in an accompanying document.

Course Material

All course information will be provided on the MyEconLab web page at: <http://www.myeconlab.com> . There you will find basic information, such as this syllabus, important announcements, and course material organized into learning units. This material includes short videos on topics that summarize and/or extend the coverage of the textbook on a particular topic. There are also homework assignments and quizzes that will be completed on-line. The course web page is almost exactly the same as the blackboard pages used for most courses at Lehigh.

MyEconLab is an online supplement to the Hubbard and O'Brien text. You can purchase MyEconLab by itself at www.myeconlab.com. MyEconLab requires the use of Internet Explorer on a MS Windows computer.

Note for AOL Users

If you access the Internet through AOL, you must minimize the AOL screen and use Internet Explorer or Netscape as your browser to access the Course Compass web page.

Other Technology Issues

Well ahead of the first scheduled quiz in the course, access the course webpage and download all of the necessary plug-ins (MyEconLab, Testgen, etc.). I will not be able to help you with technology problems. If you encounter technology problems, you should access the MyEconLab or Pearson Product Support webpage. This website will provide help with the technology aspect of the course at any time of the day. You must have all plug-ins installed in order to take the quizzes and do the homework. If you plan on taking this course from abroad, you should make sure you have **your own** computer to use, and remember that all the deadlines are EST. Public computers may not allow you to download the plug-ins, and even if they do, you will need to do so each and every time you take a quiz or do the homework. Inability to download plug-ins **WILL NOT** constitute a legitimate excuse for missing deadlines in the class.

Grades

Grades will be determined as follows:

80% Quizzes covering the topics assigned for each week

20% Homework assignments and class participation

Each quiz will be a timed 60-minute, 30 question multiple-choice examination taken on-line. There will be a total of 8 quizzes (including the Optional Micro and Macro General Tests - additional explanation will be announced shortly) over the course of the semester. You will have a five-day window to complete each quiz, and 6 best quizzes will make up your quiz grade. The details of the course calendar will be posted shortly. *You will also be able to see the schedule on MyEconlab webpage continuously.*

Each homework assignment will consist of 20 questions that you will complete online and submit on the MyEconLab webpage electronically. There will be homework assignments to accompany every quiz. **Each homework assignment will also serve as a good preparation to each quiz, and the performance on homeworks also will be a part of your grade.**

Class participation will be measured by student participation in online lectures and use of the course discussion board. Posting and/or discussing questions about the material and articles from the popular press dealing with economic issues will improve your class participation grade. **Any emails I receive will not be considered as class participation. Please post any questions about the class on the course discussion board!**

Your letter grade for the course will be based upon the percentage score you achieve on these quizzes and the exam. If there is a need to “curve” grades this will be done only on the total points accumulated over the entire semester. Letter grades are not assigned to quizzes or other homework assignments.

A Routine for Success

In order to do your best in this course, you must follow a schedule that is convenient for you but that insures that you complete all the tasks you need to complete for each module. These tasks include:

1. Reading the assigned pages in the text
2. Reviewing the chapter summary and doing the self-quizzes and graphing exercises on the MyEconlab webpage for the assigned chapters.
3. Viewing the short video presentations
4. Completing all of the homework assignments and quizzes
5. Participating in the online-lectures and course discussion board
6. *Carefully scheduling your time, downloading the software properly, having a good connection (and preferably a single computer so that you do not have to download material from scratch, and always leave room for the errors and mistakes (i.e. doing a test close to its deadline will not give you any space for errors)*

We have approximately 5 weeks to complete a course that is covered in 14 weeks during the regular semester. So you must stick with a tight schedule in order to complete this course. In scheduling the modules and corresponding quizzes, it is assumed that you will work over the weekends as well as during the week.

This course on campus in the summer has 6 ½ hours of lecture and 2 hours of a recitation class each week. The rule-of-thumb at Lehigh is there should be at least 1 hour of work outside of class for every hour in class. **So your routine for success in this course should plan for a minimum of 15 hours a week devoted to the tasks above.**

Asking Questions

You can ask questions during the online-lectures, also the discussion board on the course web page is organized for you to ask questions (Lehigh BB). Please utilize this instead of e-mail so that other students – like in an on-campus course – can benefit from your questions. The discussion board will be monitored regularly and answers to questions posted there as soon as possible.

Course Calendar

Please **contact me immediately** if there are any conflicts with the planned progress of this course. The course can be accessed 24/7 from any internet connection so you do not have to be at home or any particular place in order to complete each module. You should be using your own personal computer, however, for reasons discussed earlier. The on line format allows for maximum flexibility in adapting the course to your summer schedule. However, it is still not possible to do two things at the same time even on line. So if your vacation or other plans will interfere with steady progress in the course during the first summer session you should withdraw from this course.

Academic Integrity

Lehigh University Student Senate Statement of Academic Integrity. “We, the Lehigh University Student Senate, as the standing representative body of all undergraduates, reaffirm the duty and obligation of the students to meet and uphold the highest principles and values of personal, moral and ethical conduct. As partners in our educational community, both students and faculty share the responsibility for promoting and helping to ensure an environment of academic integrity. As such, each student is expected to complete all academic course work in accordance to the standards set forth by the faculty and in compliance with the university’s Code of Conduct.”

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented learning disability, and will be requesting academic accommodation for this class, please contact Dean Cheryl Ashcroft in the Office of the Dean of Students, UC 212, 8-4152.