



ECON 0011A Section 530

Introduction to Microeconomics

Preliminary Year

Course #: Economics 0011A

Section #: 530

Term: Fall

Year: 2019

Course Day and Time: Tues. 11:30-1:30 and Thurs. 11:30-12:30

Course Location: Brescia Mother Saint James Room 304

Instructor Information

Name: Heather Hallett

E-mail: hhallett@uwo.ca

Office hours for students: TBA

Office location: UH 217

Course Description

This course introduces students to current Canadian and international economic issues. Students will explore basic economic concepts and reasoning, demand, supply and price, and markets, production and costs.

No prerequisite.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Use appropriate economic terminology.
2. Diagram and explain “circular flow” model of a closed economy
3. Apply the concepts of economic thinking when analyzing current events involving economic issues.
4. Identify various contexts in which the skills learned in economics might be useful.
5. Diagram production possibilities curves.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of supply and demand models, (including how to apply these models) and of factors that affect supply and demand price elasticity.
7. Explain the concepts of negative and positive externalities including market efficiency/failure
8. Explain costs of production and diagram cost curves.
9. Describe the features of the various market structures.
10. Argue the notion of “fairness”.

Student competency levels on these outcomes will vary. You can expect to achieve these outcomes if you honour course policies, attend classes regularly, complete all assigned work in good faith and on time, demonstrate comprehension of the course content, and meet all other course expectations of you as a student.

Brescia Competencies

Primary competencies developed in this course include:

1. Communication (Level 1)
2. Critical Thinking (Level 1)
3. Inquiry and Analysis (Level 1)
4. Problem Solving (Level 1)
5. Valuing (Level 1)

See <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/brescia-competencies/> for a detailed description of each competency.

Teaching Methodology and Expectations of Students

This course combines lecture method with in-class activities. Readings may be expanded upon by way of videos, exercises, cases, and/or class discussions. You are expected to be prepared and fully engaged in learning. You should check OWL regularly for lecture notes, reading, and announcements.

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance Policy

You should attend every class in this course. However, extenuating circumstances arise that make this difficult. Family medical issues, personal medical issues, family bereavement, participation in University sports teams are acceptable reasons for missing class, with appropriate documentation (i.e. an academic accommodation).

This course has a Student Focused Learning (SFL) attendance policy. Class attendance is the best predictor of academic performance, so by attending class, you are setting yourself up for success. Missing more than 25% (or 9 hours) of scheduled course hours without an academic accommodation is unacceptable. You should read the course outline and clarify any concerns that you might have regarding the class attendance policy with me. I suggest that you track your class attendance. If you are struggling with attendance, I encourage you to talk to your academic advisor, to a spiritual advisor, or to a member of the student life staff. They may be able to help. If you believe that your situation warrants an academic accommodation, please consult with your academic advisor to determine if an accommodation would apply to your situation.

Student Use of Technology in Class

We will NOT be using laptops or tablets in this class. Using your computer or phone during class for personal activities such as reading or writing e-mail, surfing the web, or playing games is distracting for others, is not conducive to your own learning, and is disrespectful to the instructor.

Please ensure your phones are turned off and placed inside a bag. Recent research shows that grades decline when you use laptops in the classroom for non-educational tasks. Additionally, students find other students use of laptops in the classroom the number one source of interference with their ability to learn (Fried, 2008). So, if I find you using a laptop for non-class related activities, I will ask you to close the laptop for the remainder of the class or until a class exercise requires the use of the laptop.

Texting substantially reduces academic performance. Researchers asked half the students in an accounting class to text their professor three times, while the other half were requested to refrain from texting. Students were then tested at the end of the lecture on the contents of the lecture. The students who texted scored 16% points lower than those who did not text (Ellis, Daniels & Jauregui, 2010). As a result, if I find you texting I will ask you to put your phone away. Fried, C. (2008). In-class laptop use and its effects on student learning. *Computers and Education* (50). 906-914. Ellis, Y., Daniels, B.& Jauregui, A. (2010). The effect of multi-tasking on the grade performance of business students. *Research in Higher Education*. (8).1 – 10.

Email

Email is a useful tool for sharing news, setting up appointments, or for a simple assignment clarification, but for more complex questions, a face-to-face meeting is best. Please make an appointment to discuss any personal, academic, group work, or controversial issues in person, especially any concerns that you might have about your grades. For privacy reasons, you must use your Western email account to contact me. Please include your name, course and section number in the subject line of your emails.

If you are emailing to let me know that you will not be in class, I will make a note of it but may not respond. Academic accommodation requests must go through the academic advisors. If you are asking a question that is answered on OWL (example: “what did we do in class today?”) I will not respond. Please check OWL before emailing. If you have an exceptional question the response to which would benefit the class, I thank you, and will post a response on OWL with gratitude. I will not check email over weekends and holidays, so plan accordingly.

Appointments

Students are welcome to meet with me by arranging an appointment at a mutually convenient time. Be on time for your appointment, have an objective for the discussion and bring a copy of your paper or exam you wish to discuss.

Privacy

To respect privacy laws and the privacy of individual students, all grades will be distributed on OWL only. If you wish to discuss a grade, or review a test or paper, please make an appointment with the professor to do so in person. To respect your privacy, I will discuss your grades only with you. Please do not share or compare your grades. I cannot share information about another student's grades, so discussions comparing grades between students will not be entertained.

Required Course Materials

Exploring Micro Economics (4th Canadian Edition) By: Sexton/Fortuna/Kovacs ISBN-13:978-0-17-653107-2 ISBN-10:0-17-653107-6

Course Content

Weekly Organizer:

| Week/Topic | Date | Description | Assignments and/or Readings Due |
|------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| 1 | Sept.5th | Introduction Economic principles | |
| 2 | Sept.10th/12th | Scarcity and Trade offs Production Possibilities Supply, Demand and Equilibrium | |
| 3 | Sept. 17th/19th | Supply, Demand and Equilibrium cont'd | Homework assignment #1 due Sept 19 th 10% |
| 4 | Sept. 24th/26th | Elasticity | |
| 5 | Oct. 1 st /Oct. 3rd | Production and Costs | Homework assignment #2 due Oct. 3 rd 10% |
| 6 | Oct. 8 th /10th | Production and Costs Cont'd Review | |
| 7 | Oct. 15 th | NO LECTURE | Midterm Test in Class Oct. 15 th 30% |

| | | | |
|----|--------------------|---|--|
| 7 | Oct 17th | Market Structures | |
| 8 | Oct 22/24 | Market Structures cont'd | |
| 9 | Oct 29/31 | Market efficiency/Market failure | Homework #3 due October 31 st 10% |
| 10 | Nov. 12/14 | Externalities | DROP DATE November 12th |
| 11 | Nov. 19/21 | Government interventions | Homework #4 due November 21 st 10% |
| 12 | Nov. 26/28 | Factor Markets | |
| 13 | Dec. 3/5 | Income distribution | |
| | EXAM PERIOD | DO NOT MAKE TRAVEL PLANS BEFORE EXAM SCHEDULE IS RELEASED BY REGISTRAR | CUMULATIVE FINAL EXAM 30% |

Evaluation

You must complete all evaluation components to pass the course. I will not re-weight course components unless you have received an academic accommodation. I will not adjust grades based on need. Your mark in the course will be the mark that you earn based on your comprehension of course content. Extra credit assignments are not available, and evaluations cannot be rewritten to obtain a higher mark. Once you have completed an evaluation, you are committed to the mark earned

Evaluation Breakdown:

| Component | Weight | Timing | Learning Outcome | Brescia Competencies |
|-------------------------|--------|-------------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Homework #1 | 10% | Sept. 19th | 1,4 | 1,2,3,4 |
| Homework #2 | 10% | Oct. 3rd | 6 | 1,2,4 |
| Test #1 Multiple Choice | 30% | Oct. 15th | 1,2,5,6 | 1,2,4 |
| Homework #3 | 10% | Oct. 31st | 8 | 1,2,3,4 |
| Homework #4 | 10% | Nov. 21 st . | 10 | 1,2,3 |

| | | | | |
|--|-----|--------|--------------|-----------|
| Final Exam cumulative Exam period | 30% | TBD | 1,11,12 | 1,3,4 |
| Final Exam Multiple Choice Cumulative | 50% | May 31 | 1 through 10 | 1,2,3,4,5 |

2019-20 BRESCHIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

1. POLICY REGARDING ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

The complete policy regarding [Accommodation for Illness - Undergraduate Students](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12) can be found at http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12.

Students who have long-term or chronic medical conditions which may impede their ability to complete academic responsibilities should seek Academic Accommodation through Student Accessibility Services (http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=1&Command=showCategory&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_10).

Personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are **not** grounds for academic accommodation.

Students who experience an illness or extenuating circumstance sufficiently severe to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements may submit a request for academic consideration through the following routes:

1. Submitting a **Self-Reported Absence** form provided that the conditions for submission are met;
2. For medical absences, submitting a **Student Medical Certificate (SMC)** signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner;
3. For non-medical absences, submitting **appropriate documentation** (e.g., obituary, police report, accident report, court order, etc.) to their Academic Advisor. Students are encouraged to contact their Academic Advisor to clarify what documentation is acceptable.

Requests for Academic Consideration Using the Self-Reported Absence Portal

Students who experience an unexpected illness or injury or an extenuating circumstance of 48 hours or less that is sufficiently severe to render them unable to meet academic requirements should self-declare using the online Self-Reported Absence portal. This option should be used in situations where the student expects to resume academic responsibilities within 48 hours. Note that the excused absence includes all courses and academic requirements within the up to 48 hours, it is not intended to provide an excused absence from a single course while students fulfill their academic responsibilities in other courses during that time.

The following conditions are in place for self-reporting of medical or extenuating circumstances:

1. Students will be allowed a **maximum of two self-reported absences** between September and April and one self-reported absence between May and August;
2. The duration of the absence will be for a maximum of 48 hours from the time the Self-Reported Absence form is completed through the online portal, or from 8:30 am the following morning if the form is submitted after 4:30 pm;
3. The excused absence will terminate prior to the end of the 48 hour period if the student undertakes significant academic responsibilities (writes a test, submits a paper) during that time;
4. Self-reported absences will **not** be allowed for scheduled final examinations; midterm examinations scheduled during the December examination period; or for final lab examinations scheduled during the final week of term;
5. Self-report absences may **not** be used for assessments worth more than 30% of any course;

6. Any absences in excess of 48 hours will require students to present a Student Medical Certificate (SMC), or appropriate documentation;
7. Students **must** communicate with their instructors **no later than 24** hours after the end of the period covered by the Self-Reported Absence form to clarify how they will fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence.

Request for Academic Consideration for a Medical Absence

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation.

Academic accommodation for illness will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete their academic responsibilities. Minor ailments typically treated by over-the-counter medications will not normally be accommodated.

The following conditions apply for students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds:

1. Students must submit their Student Medical Certificate (SMC) along with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities. An SMC can be downloaded from http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf ;
2. In cases where there might be an extended absence or serious issue, students should submit their documentation promptly and consult their Academic Advisor for advice during their recovery period;
3. Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, scheduled tests or examinations, and other academic requirements;
4. Students **must** communicate with their instructors **no later than 24** hours after the end of the period covered by the SMC to clarify how they will fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence;
5. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office/Academic Advisor in consultation with the course instructor(s). Academic accommodation may include extension of deadlines, waiver of attendance requirements, arranging Special Exams (make-ups), re-weighting course requirements, or granting late withdrawal without academic penalty.

The [full policy on requesting accommodation due to illness](#) can be viewed at:

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal challenge that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds are not normally considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines; please refer to the [Registrar's website](#), <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> or the list of official sessional dates in the Academic Calendar (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm?SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=>).

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

3. ABSENCES

Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work, and arrange academic accommodations if appropriate and warranted.

It is important to note that the Academic Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory

(http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=5&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading_68).

4. SCHOLASTIC OFFENCES

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence at:

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_20.

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students in the Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Academic Dean's Office, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Computer-marked Tests/exams:

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal is to be sent to the School Chair. If the response of the Chair is considered unsatisfactory to the student, they may then submit a written appeal to the Office of the Dean. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Dean, they may appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic (SRBA), if there are sufficient grounds for the appeal and if the matter falls within the jurisdiction of the SRBA. For information on

academic appeals consult your Academic Advisor or see the Student Academic Appeals – Undergraduate in the Academic Calendar

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Note that final course marks are not official until the Academic Dean has reviewed and signed the final grade report for the course. If course marks deviate from acceptable and appropriate standards, the Academic Dean may require grades to be adjusted to align them with accepted grading practices.

6. PREREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from the Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisite(s).

7. SUPPORT

Support Services

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/>. Students can access supports through Brescia's Student Life Centre (<http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/student-life/>) and Learning Skills Services at Western (<https://www.uwo.ca/sdc/learning/>)

Mental Health and Wellness 2019-20 BRESCHIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

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Mental Health and Wellness

Students may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to your learning, such as increased anxiety, feeling overwhelmed, feeling down or lost, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. Services are available to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. You can obtain information about how to obtain help for yourself or others through **Mental Health & Wellness at Brescia**

(<http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/mental-health-wellness/>) and **Health and Wellness at Western**, http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html.

Sexual Violence

All members of the Brescia University College community have a right to work and study in an environment that is free from any form of sexual violence. Brescia University College recognizes that the prevention of, and response to, Sexual Violence is of particular importance in the university environment. Sexual Violence is strictly prohibited and unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Brescia is committed to preventing Sexual Violence and creating a safe space for anyone in the Brescia community who has experienced Sexual Violence.

If you or someone you know has experienced any form of Sexual Violence, you may access resources at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/sexual-violence/>.

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.

Students may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to your learning, such as increased anxiety, feeling overwhelmed, feeling down or lost, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. Services are available to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. You can obtain information about how to obtain help for yourself or others through **Mental Health & Wellness at Brescia** (<http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/mental-health-wellness/>) and **Health and Wellness at Western**, http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html.

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