

**MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND  
ECONOMICS  
ECONOMICS 2010, Section 1: *Introduction to Microeconomics*  
FALL 2011-2012**

**Instructor** Roberto Martínez-Espiñeira

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**Timetable** Slot 5: MWF 12:00 pm-12:50 pm

**Classroom** G. A. Hickman Bldg 2018B (ED2018B)

**Office hours** MON 1:00-2:00 TUE 2:30-3:30 WED 1:00-2:00 THU 2:30-3:30 FRI 1:00-2:00 or by appointment

## 1 Textbooks

The main textbook you would want to consult is:

- Michael Parkin and Robin Bade (2010) *Microeconomics: Canada in the Global Environment* with *MyEconLab*, Seventh Edition, 7/e.

Make sure that you purchase access to MyEconLab, so that you can complete the coursework. You will receive instructions about how to register for MyEconLab at the beginning of the term.

## 2 Objectives of the course

- To enhance students' analytical and intellectual skills through the study of Microeconomics
- To provide basic knowledge of Economic concepts and Microeconomic theories
- To equip students for further study in Economics and/or employment in related fields

## 3 Expected learning results

At the end of this course, you should be able to:

- have a clear understanding of how to analyze the economic behaviour of individuals and firms within a capitalist economy
- feel familiar with the basic techniques economists use to communicate their results
- feel familiar with the basic jargon used to model microeconomic behaviour

## 4 Assessment

The final mark for the course comes from the coursework and the final exam (See Table 1)

Table 1: Assessment summary

	date	weight	comments
2 midterms	FRI WEEK 5, and FRI Week 10	60%	Your worst midterm will be 20% and the best quiz will be 40%
Home assignments	TBA	0%	Problem sets and online quizzes will be assigned throughout the course. They will not be graded, but students are strongly encouraged to solve them as this will help prepare for the exams.
Final exam	TBA	40%	

The coursework is designed for students to become familiar with concepts developed in the classes, to learn problem-solving skills, and to prepare for the exams. Midterms will not be rescheduled. If a student misses a midterm, its weight will be automatically added to the final examination. Midterms will be held in class. The final exam will be scheduled by the University.

## 5 Other policies

- E-mail only from your MUN account. It is likely that e-mail from other sources will never reach me
- Make sure you check your e-mail frequently (daily ideally)
- Make sure you check the website frequently (daily ideally). Many announcements pertinent to the course will only be made through the website

## 6 Department of Economics Regulations:

- Students need to follow the MUN calendar for drop dates and deadlines
- It is not possible to drop a course once a student even sees a final exam or writes the final. Economics Department does NOT have Supplementary Exams.

## 6.1 Important Dates to Remember for Fall 2011 Semester:

September 7	Lectures begin, Fall Semester
September 7	Deadline for fees payment, Fall semester
September 21	End of registration period, last day to add courses
September 21	Last day to drop courses
October 10	Thanksgiving Day, no lectures, Fall semester break begins
October 12	Fall semester break ends and lectures resume
October 26	Last day to drop courses without academic prejudice
November 7	Registration begins for next semester
November 11	Remembrance Day holiday, No lectures
December 2	Lectures end, Fall Semester
December 7	Exams begin, Fall Semester
December 16	Exams end, Fall Semester
January 5, 2010	Lectures begin for WINTER semester

## 6.2 Sick notes

A sick note for deferred exams must contain the following:

In the MUN Calendar under the General Academic University Regulations, Section 4 of the University Calendar 2008-2009 (page 53 - page 66) with attention to Information Required for Medical Certificates.

"The University requests that all medical notes be on letterhead from the doctor and be signed by the physician and include details on the following:

- Confirmation of the SPECIFIC DATES on which the student visited the physician

DOCTOR'S COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

- The degree to which the illness (or treatment, in the case of medication, for example) is likely to HAVE AFFECTED THE STUDENT'S ABILITY to study, attends classes, or sit examinations

DOCTOR'S COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

- the LENGTH OF TIME over which the student's abilities were likely hampered by the medical condition (e.g., recurring and severe back pain over a two-month period would likely have a more adverse effect on studies than a single episode of back pain requiring bed rest for a week).

DOCTOR'S COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

- The FITNESS OF THE STUDENT TO RESUME studies (it is in the student's best interest not to return to studies prematurely). "

DOCTOR'S COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

## 7 Preliminary Course outline

Section	Concepts	Chapters
What is Economics?	Definition of Economics	1,2
	Microeconomic issues	
	Macroeconomic issues	
	Economics as a Social Science	
Economics Tools	Graphs used in economic models	1, App.
	The slope of a relationship	
	Equations to straight lines	
Thinking like an economist	The Economist's Way of Thinking	1,2
	Scarcity and Unlimited wants	
	Production Possibilities Frontier	
	The Market Economy	
	Comparative advantage, absolute advantage, gains from trade	
Demand and Supply	The basic theory of demand, supply and price determination	3
	Market equilibrium	
	Predicting changes in price and quantity	
Elasticity	The calculation and importance of the concept of elasticity	4
	Price-elasticity of demand	
	Other elasticities of demand	
	Elasticity of Supply	
Efficiency and Equity	Demand (marginal benefit) & Supply (marginal cost)	5
	Consumer surplus & Producer surplus	
	Deadweight loss Efficiency & equity of markets	
Markets in Action	Applications of market equilibrium and shifts in supply and demand curves	6
	Market Failure: Taxes/subsidies and price controls	
Consumer Theory	Utility and Demand	8,9
	Possibilities, preferences, choices	
Organizing Production	The theory of the firm	10
	Market structures and the firm	
Output and Costs	The theory of production	11
	The theory of costs, short run versus long run costs	
Perfect Competition	<i>Structure</i> of a perfectly competitive market	12
	<i>Conduct</i> of firms operating in perfect competition	
	<i>Performance</i> of the perfectly competitive market	
Monopoly	Single price monopoly output and price decision ( <i>conduct</i> )	13
	<i>Performance</i> of a single price monopoly and competition compared	
	Price discrimination	
	Natural monopoly and regulation	