

Lecture Info: Beatty 115, Tu/Th 9:25 - 10:40, and Kaltura/OAKS videos | January 11 - April 21

Professor: Dr. Doug Walker | 427 Beatty | 953-8192 | <http://walkerd.people.cofc.edu>
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Office Hours: Use Appointment Manager to schedule, Tu/Th 1:30-3:00 in person; W 1:30-3:00 on Zoom

I. KEY COURSE INFORMATION - Information you need to be successful in the class!

LECTURE FORMAT: The course material is delivered using pre-recorded videos in OAKS and in-person lectures. You are expected to watch the video lectures and attend one in-person lecture per week. If your student ID ends in an even number, you attend Tues. lectures; if your ID ends in an odd number, you attend Thurs. lectures. [Note that this format may change just prior to exams, TBA.]

ATTENDANCE POLICY: I will take attendance during lectures. However, if you miss a lecture, you do not need to inform me or provide an excuse. Make sure you get lecture notes from another student for any in-person lecture you miss.

GRADING: Your course grade will be based on your understanding of the material, which you demonstrate on the exams offered during the semester. Exams will be a multiple-choice format, administered in-person or on Akindi (in OAKS). Seating for in-person exams may be limited to 43 students, with spots allocated in order of request.

There are four exams during the semester, including the final exam. Exam coverage and point values are shown in the table below. Each exam may have up to 50 questions.

Exam #	Lectures Covered	Point Value	Date
1	A - E	55	expected mid - late Feb.
2	F - J	45	expected early Apr.
3	K - M	20	Wed., Apr. 21
Final Exam	comprehensive	30	Tues., Apr. 27, 8:30-10:00am

Your course grade is based on the points you accumulate on the exams. You are not required to take all of the exams, nor any individual exam. Your goal in the course should be to get the highest grade possible, based on one of two grading options.

Grading Option 1: If you take exams 1, 2, and 3, but DO NOT take the final exam, then your course grade is based on your point total from exams 1-3, with 120 possible points.

Grading Option 2: If you DO take the final exam, your final exam percentage score replaces any missed exam score (for exams 1-3); then your course grade is based on the percent of points you received on your best three of the four exams.

If you are happy with your course grade based on exams 1-3, then you can skip the final exam and be graded under Option 1. If you do not take exams 1, 2, and 3, then you will need to take the final exam, and you will be graded under Option 2.

Course grades are assigned based on a 90-80-70-60 percent scale, with +/- grades being assigned at my discretion. Your final letter grade may be higher, but not be lower, than indicated by this scale.

MAKE-UP POLICY: Since I do not require you to take any specific exam, NO MAKE-UP EXAMS ARE GIVEN, FOR ANY REASON.

CofC mandates that students take final exams at the College-scheduled day and time. However, if you choose grading Option 2 and miss the final exam (for a reason health related, emergency related, technology related, or personal related), you must report this to me by email or phone message before 8:30am on Tues., Apr. 27. If I excuse your absence, you may take a make-up final exam on Friday, May 7. Make-up exams may include multiple choice, graphical, and essay problems.

REQUIRED BOOKS: The main textbook is a lecture outline, available on Amazon in paperback (ISBN 978-1463763893) or as a free pdf in OAKS. You are also required to read chapters from Hazlitt's *Economics in One Lesson* (ISBN 978-0517548233), and Landsburg's *The Armchair Economist* (ISBN 978-1451651737). You should order these two books from Amazon.com, or see if a local bookstore stocks them.

II. OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION - Important dates and other information you may need.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS: Since you are enrolled in a 200/sophomore level class, you are expected to have basic study- and time management skills. (I recommend that freshmen do not take this class.) Ultimately, it is your responsibility to develop the study skills needed to be successful in college. The most important tip I can give you is to keep up with the material. This means attending all lectures (watching video lectures and attending in-person classes). I also recommend that you re-copy your lecture notes, particularly the graphical models, *as many times as it takes for you to fully understand them*.

PRACTICE QUIZZES: Prior to exams 1, 2, and 3, I will post practice quizzes in Akindi (within OAKS). These quizzes will give a preview of how I tend to write questions. They will also help familiarize you with Akindi if you choose it for taking exams. The practice quizzes are not required or graded.

WITHDRAWING FROM THE COURSE: The last day to withdraw from the course (with a W grade) is Monday, March 22. If you are not satisfied with your exam 1 score or midterm grade, I recommend that you drop the class, since your exam 1 score is predictive of your final course grade.

NEGOTIATING GRADES: Grades are not negotiable. My grading policy is straightforward and transparent, and all students are treated equally. I am simply a "scorekeeper" when it comes to assigning course grades. Please do not ask me to arbitrarily increase your grade, to offer you individual "extra credit," or for other special treatment. This would be unfair to other students, and my answer to such requests is *always* "no."

CHEATING: If I catch you cheating, I will seek to impose the most serious consequences allowed under CofC rules. See the "Honor Code" section below before you consider cheating in this class.

DISABILITY/ACCESS POLICY: Any student eligible for and needing accommodations because of a disability should email a copy of the Professor Notification Letter to me by Friday, January 29. Please forward the PNL even if you may not be initially requesting accommodations. We will discuss accommodations once I receive your PNL. For more information, see <http://disabilityservices.cofc.edu/>.

III. OTHER "INFORMATION" - You can also find the following information, in larger font, under the "Content" tab in OAKS. The College requires that the information below be listed on the syllabus.

Catalog Description: "The structure of the market is presented, including product and factor pricing, allocation of resources and distribution of income, market equilibrium analysis, and analysis of domestic and international problems and policies." **Course Objectives:** Students will gain factual knowledge of the market economy, develop critical thinking and analytical skills through understanding of the following microeconomic models and concepts: (1) the basic principles of scarcity, choice, and opportunity cost; (2) the principle of comparative advantage; (3) the principle of increasing opportunity cost; (4) the operation of a competitive market and how markets help to alleviate the effects of scarcity; and (5) the problem of market failure. **Department of Economics Learning Goals:** This course will contribute to the Department goals of "understanding major economic problems" and "quantitative fluency." The topics examined in the course include a number of economics problems and policy issues, domestic and international. An understanding of these issues is developed through readings and by using graphical models of various economic variables and policy tools. Students demonstrate the achievement of these goals through their performance on exams. **General Education Student Learning Outcome:** Students can apply social science concepts, models, and theories to explain human behavior, social interactions, and social institutions. This learning outcome is assessed with a graded problem worth 4 points. **Course Outline:** A detailed course outline, including reading assignments, will be posted in OAKS. The general topic listing follows the main book: A: Overview. Appendix A: Economics and the "big picture". B: Specialization and trade. Preface to C, D, and E: Notation key. C: Marginal cost and supply. Appendix C: Cost curves & supply. D: Marginal benefit and demand. E: Markets and price determination. F: Markets and economic efficiency. G: Government price controls. H: Elasticity. I: Excise taxes and deadweight losses. J: International trade policy. K: Market failures. L: The US tax system & alternatives. M: Political economy/the next 4 years. **OAKS:** OAKS, including Gradebook, will be used for this course throughout the semester to provide the syllabus and class materials and grades for each assignment, which will be regularly posted. **Continuity of Learning:** Due to social distancing requirements, this class will include a variety of online and technology enhanced components to reinforce continuity of learning for all enrolled students. Before the drop/add deadline, students should decide whether the course plan on the syllabus matches their own circumstances. **Recording of Classes:** Class sessions will be recorded via both voice and video recording. By attending and remaining in this class, the student consents to being recorded. Recorded class sessions are for instructional use only and may not be shared with anyone who is not enrolled in the class. **Inclement Weather, Pandemic or Substantial Interruption of Instruction:** If in-person classes are suspended, faculty will announce to their students a detailed plan for a change in modality to ensure the continuity of learning. All students must have access to a computer equipped with a web camera, microphone, and Internet access. Resources are available to provide students with these essential tools. **Honor Code and Academic Integrity:** Lying, cheating, attempted cheating, and plagiarism are violations of our Honor Code that, when suspected, are investigated. Each incident will be examined to determine the degree of deception involved. Incidents where the instructor determines the student's actions are related more to misunderstanding and confusion will be handled by the instructor. The instructor designs an intervention or assigns a grade reduction to help prevent the student from repeating the error. The response is recorded on a form and signed both by the instructor and the student. It is forwarded to the Office of the Dean of Students and placed in the student's file. Cases of suspected academic dishonesty will be reported directly by the instructor and/or others having knowledge of the incident to the Dean of Students. A student found responsible by the Honor Board for academic dishonesty will receive a XXF in the course, indicating failure of the course due to academic dishonesty. This status indicator will appear on the student's transcript for two years, after which the student may petition for the XX to be expunged. The F is permanent. Students can find the complete Honor Code and all related processes in the Student Handbook at: <http://deanofstudents.cofc.edu/honor-system/>.