

COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS
ECON 200-06 PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS

Spring 2021 – Express I (Online)

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COURSE 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.

Prerequisite: 3 credit hours of MATH

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:

- Explain and apply basic concepts and ideas of economics, such as incentives, opportunity cost, marginal thinking, gains from trade, and efficiency
- Show how the interaction of supply and demand determines prices and quantities of goods traded in competitive markets and predict the directions of price and quantity changes in response to various events and economic policies
- Outline the role of government in modern economies and explain how government policies can influence efficiency of markets and economic well-being
- Calculate firms' costs and profits and use marginal analysis to find profit maximizing output and price for firms' operating in different market structures.

GENERAL EDUCATION STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students are expected to be able to apply social science concepts, models, or theories to explain human behavior, social interactions, or social institutions. These outcomes will be assessed in a special assignment.

COURSE MATERIALS AND TOOLS

All course materials are available via OAKS. The course content is based on the text *Principles of Microeconomics*, Third Edition, by Lee Coppock and Dirk Mateer: W. W. Norton & Company, Inc. The required resources include the *eBook*, *InQuizitive* (an adaptive quizzing tool that combines interactive question types with game-like elements), and *Smartwork5* (an online homework system that provides students with interactive, engaging content). The printed text is optional. Please follow the

instructions in the OAKS “Course Info – Getting Started” module on how to get access to these resources.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS AND RESOURCES

You must have access to a computer with reliable Internet connection at least once a day. You are also expected to have a working knowledge of OAKS and feel comfortable with computer technology (such as downloading/uploading files, creating PDF files, and scanning your handwritten work) within the framework of the tutorials available at <https://blogs.cofc.edu/sits/tutorials/>.

ATTENDANCE, ACTIVITIES, AND ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSIONS

All activities in this course are done via OAKS. You are expected to actively participate in the class by following all of the readings, news posts, discussions, and assignments. The course is designed in learning modules (LMs). All assignments and activities are listed under “Tasks” in each LM. “Active participation” is defined as completing each of the tasks by the due date. If you have more than five unexcused “absences,” i.e. miss more than five graded assignments, you will be assigned a grade of “WA” (“withdrawn excessive absences”), which is equivalent to a failing grade.

Since this is an express course, I encourage you to log into it, check the announcements, and review assignments every day. You should expect to spend the same amount of time preparing for and participating in this course as you would if you were taking a regular-semester face-to-face course (about twelve hours per learning module). Start working on the course assignments as soon as they are available. It will help you see how much time you may need to complete them and plan accordingly. It will also give you time to get help from me or your classmates via OAKS discussions.

COMMUNICATION RULES

Since this is an asynchronous online course, OAKS discussions and e-mail communications with students are my virtual office hours. If you ask me a pertinent direct question via a discussion post or e-mail, I will usually reply within 24 hours (not counting weekends and holidays).

OAKS discussion posts are the preferable way of communication and interaction in this course. Use the designated discussion boards for questions and comments. You are allowed and encouraged to address your classmates’ questions and provide explanations as far as you do not post direct answers to questions in graded assignments. Your discussion postings will *not* be graded but may earn you extra credit for helping others learn.

E-mail (coglobli@georgiasouthern.edu) must be reserved for individual-specific communications such as those about your grade, progress in the course, and personal matters. E-mail should not be used to request additional explanations or clarifications concerning the course materials, schedule, or assignments; you must use the discussion boards to make such requests.

If you have technical problems with the Norton resources (eBook, InQuizitive, or Smartwork5), please contact Norton Help Desk. If you experience computer or network problems, please contact the Student Computing Support Desk at (843) 953-5457 or by email at studentcomputingsupport@cofc.edu. Resolve technical problems promptly. They are not excuses for missing assignments.

CENTER FOR STUDENT LEARNING

I encourage you to utilize the Center for Student Learning (CSL) services for assistance in studying. CSL offers tutoring, supplemental instruction, study skills appointments, and workshops. Students of all abilities have become more successful using these programs. The services are available to you at no additional cost. For more information regarding these services please visit the CSL website at <http://csl.cofc.edu> or call (843) 953-5635.

MENTAL AND PHYSICAL WELLBEING

At the college, we take every students' mental and physical wellbeing seriously. If you find yourself experiencing physical illnesses, please reach out to student health services at (843) 953-5520. And if you find yourself experiencing any mental health challenges (for example, anxiety, depression, stressful life events, sleep deprivation, and/or loneliness/homesickness) please consider contacting either the Counseling Center (professional counselors at <http://counseling.cofc.edu> (843) 953-5640, 3rd Robert Scott Small Building) or the Students 4 Support (certified volunteers through texting "4support" to 839863, visit <http://counseling.cofc.edu/cct/index.php>, or meet with them in person at 3rd Floor Stern Center). These services are there for you to help you cope with difficulties you may be experiencing and to maintain optimal physical and mental health.

COURSE CALENDAR AND OUTLINE

The *tentative* course schedule is shown below. I reserve the right to change the topics and dates if necessary. The exact due dates for upcoming assignments and exams will be shown in *InQuizitive*, *Smartwork5*, and OAKS.

Course module	Topic	Completion date
LM 00	Course Orientation	January 13
LM 01	Foundations of Economics	January 16
LM 02	Gains from Trade	January 20
LM 03	Supply and Demand	January 23
EX 1	Exam 1	January 27
LM 04	Elasticity	January 30
LM 05	Market Outcomes and Taxes	February 3
LM 06	Price Controls	February 6
LM 07	Externalities and Public Goods	February 10
EX 2	Exam 2	February 13
LM 08	Business Costs and Production	February 17
LM 09	Firms in a Competitive Market	February 20
LM 10	Understanding Monopoly	February 24
GEA	General Education Assignment	February 27
EX 3	Exam 3 (Final)	March 1

The last day to withdraw from the class with a grade of “W” is Wednesday, February 10.

GRADING POLICIES

Your course grade will be determined using the following weights:

Quizzes (<i>InQuizitive</i>)	15%
Homework (<i>Smartwork</i>)	20%
Exam 1	20%
Exam 2	20%
Exam 3 (Final)	20%
GE Assignment	5%

All exams will be given online, through OAKS Quizzes. The General Education (GE) Assignment will be given through OAKS Dropbox. The letter grade for the course will be assigned according to the following scale:

Score (%)*	Grade
93 or more	A
90 – 92	A–
87 – 89	B+
84 – 86	B
80 – 83	B–
77 – 79	C+
74 – 76	C
70 – 73	C–
67 – 69	D+
64 – 66	D
60 – 63	D–
59 or less	F

*Rounded to the closest point.

Your cumulative grade will be updated in OAKS after each midterm exam.

MAKE-UP POLICY AND ACCOMMODATIONS

The College anticipates that some members of the community will fall ill or test positive for the coronavirus, and then be required to quarantine thereby missing class, assignments, and assessments. I will provide reasonable accommodations on an individual basis for students who become ill or indicate a need to isolate themselves. To the extent possible, arrangements will be made for students with COVID-19 related absences to continue in the class. However, extended absences for any reason cannot be accommodated in this express course. If you expect to be absent for an extended period, please consider withdrawing before the deadline (February 10). In all cases, grades will be assigned in accordance with the grading policies stated above.

A make-up can only be given if the reason is legitimate and properly documented. Computer malfunctions, Internet outages, and other technical problems do not excuse missing an assignment deadline, except for the cases confirmed by the College. To be considered, a request for a make-up must be made and documentation must be submitted by email before the assignment is due.

COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON HONOR CODE AND ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Lying, cheating, attempted cheating, and plagiarism are violations of our Honor Code that, when identified, 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 a misunderstanding will be handled by the instructor. A written intervention designed to help prevent the student from repeating the error will be given to the student. The intervention, submitted by form and signed both by the instructor and the student, will be forwarded to 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 XF in the course, indicating failure of the course due to academic dishonesty. This grade will appear on the student's transcript for two years after which the student may petition for the X to be expunged. The student may also be placed on disciplinary probation, suspended (temporary removal) or expelled (permanent removal) from the College by the Honor Board.

Students should be aware that unauthorized collaboration—working together without permission—is a form of cheating. Unless the instructor specifies that students can work together on an assignment, quiz and/or test, no collaboration during the completion of the assignment is permitted. Other forms of cheating include possessing or using an unauthorized study aid (which could include accessing information via a cell phone or computer), copying from others' exams, fabricating data, and giving unauthorized assistance.

The complete Honor Code and all related processes are described in the Student Handbook at <http://deanofstudents.cofc.edu/honor-system/studenthandbook/>.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The College will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students should apply at the Center for Disability Services / SNAP (<https://disabilityservices.cofc.edu/>), which is located on the first floor of the Lightsey Center, Suite 104 (tel. 843-953-1431). Students approved for accommodations are responsible for notifying me as soon as possible and for contacting me one week before accommodation is needed.