

# Course Syllabus

**Department** : Social Sciences  
**Course Title** : Principles of Microeconomics  
**Section Name** : ECON\_2302\_WB  
**Start Date** : 1/18/2011  
**End Date** : 05/13/2011  
**Modality** : ONLINE  
**Credits** : 3 Hours

## Instructor Information

---

**Name** : William Wilson  
**OC Email** : gwilson@odessa.edu  
**OC Phone #** : (432) 335-6584

## Course Description

---

Designed to provide communication and interpretation of fundamental analytic concepts of economic theory and practice. Emphasizes micro-economic theory and problem solving. Includes basic theory, price and output determination under varying conditions and income distributions and factor prices.

## Prerequisites/Corequisites

---

Pass writing on THEA, COMPASS, or other state-approved alternate test.

## [Scans](#)

---

SCANS 6

## Course Objectives

1. Graph supply and demand in a single graph, define basic items or concepts related to the graph, and use the graph to explain the process by which a good's equilibrium price and quantity are attained
2. Discuss the tradeoffs faced by an economy and how this relates to the concept of opportunity cost

3. Analyze graphically the marginal cost, average total cost, and average variable cost curves; explain the shape of each curve.
4. Analyze graphically the long-run profit maximizing output of a perfectly competitive firm, a monopolistic firm, a monopolistically competitive firm, and an oligopolistic firm; discuss the economic efficiency of each industry type.
5. Analyze graphically the long-run average total cost curve and explain economies of scale, diseconomies of scale, and constant returns to scale.

## COURSE POLICIES

1. • All e-mail communication is to be through OC student e-mail. While I won't ignore an e-mail from a personal (or other) account, all communication originating from me regarding the course will go to your student e-mail account. This is college policy.
2. • If you run into a problem (taking a quiz, exam, etc.), please notify me right away so that I can correct it asap. Don't hit the back button on your browser while taking the exam as you will (most likely) get kicked off. I will reset the exam for you, but you should know that the test generator will generate a different exam (the same material, but with different questions) each time.
3. • If resetting exams/quizzes for you becomes chronic (more than twice), I do reserve the right to have you take a paper exam in a proctored situation. Please be careful while taking the exam(s) and make sure that your system requirements meet those required by Blackboard. If you continue to have problems submitting assignments/exams, you might consider downloading the Mozilla/Firefox browser. For some reason, Blackboard seems to "play nice/" with Mozilla than with Internet Explorer. Just FYI
4. If you see a padlock where your score should be once you've completed your exam, that means that your exam (for whatever reason) wasn't submitted. Contact me asap and I will reset it for you. If you see an exclamation point where your grade should be, that means that you went over the assigned time limit
5. • Since you don't have to attend lecture and all of the quizzes/exams are "open-book" with more than ample time to complete them (if you are prepared), there is no compelling reason to offer "extra-credit" in this course.

6. Since there is no lecture component to this course, success is going to largely depend on your reading and comprehension skills. Read and prepare thoroughly. Consider outlining each chapter as you read it. Examine the headings, bold-faced words, and chapter summarizations carefully. Contact the Student Success Center if you feel that you need assistance in this area.

## Required Readings/Materials

Textbook: Foundations of Economics **Robin Bade & Michael Parkin** 5<sup>th</sup> edition

SBN-10: 0132543486 ISBN-13: 9780132543484 Publisher: PrenticeHall Copyright: 2011

a) You must purchase the following **required** readings/materials:

## Course Requirements (Lectures, Assignments and Assessments)

### Practice Exams

- 1) There are Practice Exams for each of the relevant chapters.
- 2) They are randomized from a test bank for that chapter
- 3) You may take them up to 3 times. **(YOU MUST TAKE IT AT LEAST ONCE)**
- 4) Your grade will be the highest grade of the number of attempts
- 5) After each attempt, feedback will be provided.
- 6) Practice Exams will remain open to take until noon on the day the Exam opens.
- 7) When the Exam for that Unit opens, the Practice Exams for that Unit will no longer be available

### Discussion Assignments:

We will have **FOUR** discussion assignments in this course. The discussions are not optional. They are to engage you in critical thinking assignments that will challenge your ability to interpret your understanding of the material covered. The selected topics will be posted online with specific instructions and due date. You will receive a grade for your discussion and responses to the other students' comments. **You must participate in all discussion topics.**

### Unit Exams:

Exams will be drawn from a pool of questions compiled by the instructor. There will be a pool for each chapter (sometimes several per chapter) within the unit. Students will be provided with a preparation sheet

(located in Course Documents) that will tell you how many questions will be asked within a chapter or part with the chapter. Also a list of topics that each pool covers will be provided. The Exam will be made up of randomized questions by Blackboard by drawing the appropriate number of questions from each pool for each part. Therefore each exam will be **unique**. No student will have the same exam.

**Warning:** If you lock up an exam while taking it or you get knocked off the internet and the instructor has to unlock it. It will be cleared and you will not get the same exam when you start over. You will get a totally new exam. It is highly recommended that you take the exam on a reliable connection. (Preferably not dialup).

You will have 3 hours to complete the exam. You have to complete it in one sitting, since you can only open it once. Taking longer will cost you 10 points

**For further Details see Course Policies in Blackboard**

### **Examination make-up policy:**

- Since there are no assigned due dates (except Unit 1 & 2 by April 10<sup>th</sup>) there are **NO** makeup Exams for this Class.
- Instead I will offer what I call **DO OVERS**. A do over will be offered for each Exam. You will be allowed to take 2 out of the 4 each semester. You may take them anytime during the course of the semester until May 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Do over exams are 50 computer generated questions over the Unit Chapters relevant to that Exam. Since they are randomly generated, the instructor doesn't know what is asked. Therefore they can cover any material in those Chapters. The Prep sheets are not valid for these do over's except for the total number of questions from each chapter. **You have 2 hours and 30 minutes to complete it.**
- If you take the Do Over and do worse, that is the grade you will make. You **DO NOT** get to choose the highest grade.
- Discussion Assignments , & Practice Exams may **NOT** be made-up
- All due dates will be **STRICTLY** adhered to.
- **NO LATE OR E-MAILED DISCUSSION ASSIGNMENT SUMMARIES WILL BE ACCEPTED**

## **Grading Policy**

<b>Practice Exams (13)</b>
<b>Discussion Assignments (8)</b>
<b>Unit Exams (4)</b>
<b>Total</b>

Since I use a weighted average grading system your current average will be displayed in MY GRADES in Blackboard in the column My AVG

Final semester grades will be based on the following scale:



$$90-100 = A,$$

80-89 = B,

$$70-79 = C,$$

$$60-69 = D,$$

and below 60 = F

Also, keep in mind that once a grade is assigned, it is **final!!!** The need to retain eligibility, please your parents, get into law school, med school, grad school, etc., may be important reasons to

change a grade, but they are not valid. A final semester grade is just that - final. The only reason to change a grade would be an error on my part. If you think that you are in danger of failing, drop

the course!



## **Special Needs**

---

Odessa College complies with Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you have any special needs or issues pertaining to your access to and participation in this or any other class at Odessa College, please feel free to contact me to discuss your concerns. You may also call the Office of Disability services at 432-335-6861 to request assistance and accommodations.



## **Learning Resource Center (Library)**

---

The Library, known as the [Learning Resources Center](#), provides research assistance via the [LRC's catalog \(print books, videos, e-books\)](#) and [databases \(journal and magazine articles\)](#). [Research guides](#) covering specific subject areas, [tutorials](#), and the ["Ask a Librarian"](#) service provide additional help

## **Student E-mail**



---

Please access your [Odessa College Student E-mail](http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/), by following the link to either set up or update your account: <http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/>. **All assignments or correspondence will be submitted using your Odessa College email.**



## **Student Portal**

---

Please access your [Odessa College Student E-mail](http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/), by following the link to either set up or update your account: <http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/>. **All assignments or correspondence will be submitted using your Odessa College email.**



## **Technical Support**



---

For Blackboard username and password help and for help accessing your online course availability and student email account contact the Student Success Center at 432-335-6878 or online at [https://www.odessa.edu/dept/ssc/helpdesk\\_form.htm](https://www.odessa.edu/dept/ssc/helpdesk_form.htm).

## **Important School Policies**

---

For information regarding student support services, academic dishonesty, disciplinary actions, special accommodations, or student's and instructors' right to academic freedom can be found in the [Odessa College Student Handbook](#).