ECO 5114: Microeconomic Analysis
Syllabus

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Office Hours: By Appointment

Required Texts: **1) *Microeconomic Theory* (12th edition) by Walter Nicholson and Christopher Snyder (Cengage, 2017)**
2) *Shaum's Outline of Introduction to Mathematical Economics* (3rd edition). Shaum's Outlines, 2011.

Supplies: **1) Straightedge (i.e., a ruler), 2) Colored Pencils, and 3) Graph Paper**

Prerequisites: **There are no prerequisites for this course.**

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This course will provide a calculus-based introduction to foundational microeconomic theories. We will start with a review of calculus and linear algebra. We will cover univariate and multivariate unconstrained and constrained optimization. Then, we will cover in great detail concepts related to consumer and individual choice and demand, including the analysis of preferences and utility, utility maximization and choice, income and substitution effects, and demand relationships between distinct goods. Next, we will examine concepts related to firms' profit maximization and market supply, with special emphasis on production functions, cost functions, and market structure.

After completing this course, you will be able to:
1) **Construct economic models to analyze unfamiliar economic decisions.**
2) **Examine consumer and firm decision-making using advanced optimization techniques.**
3) **Describe how changes to income, prices, and other relevant variables affect consumer demand.**
4) **Describe how changes to factor prices and technology affect firms' production decisions.**

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES --*carefully read the syllabus for unique features of this course*

1) **Continued enrollment in this course is equivalent to acceptance of all stated responsibilities, policies, and due dates. If there is anything that is unclear, talk to me *immediately*. Waiting until the end of the term often results in less favorable outcomes.**
2) **Students are expected to watch lecture videos and complete assigned textbook readings according to the schedule that is posted at the end of the syllabus and included in the Canvas course site. in this course.**
3) **Students are expected to complete 11 analytic problem sets. These problem sets relate to the topics of the preceding lectures and are intended to offer you practice with the relevant solution techniques. In some cases, questions offer important extensions of the material covered in class. All problem set deadlines are firm; late problem sets (even ones that are only a few minutes late) will not be accepted for partial credit. *See Page 3 for a more thorough explanation of problem sets.***
4) **There are three noncumulative, in-class exams: Midterm Exam 1 (Sept. 22-26), Midterm Exam 2 (Oct. 27-31), and Midterm Exam 3 (Dec. 1-5). *See Page 4 for a more thorough explanation of problem sets.***

COURSE DELIVERY

Microeconomic Analysis is an online course. All lectures and assignments can be completed online. In fact, all course lectures and assignments have already been uploaded into the Canvas course site. Each week's *lesson* page in Canvas links to assigned readings, lectures, and assigned problem sets.

While this course is entirely online, there are strict assignment due dates, and the exams must be taken synchronously. The assignments are available well enough in advance to provide necessary flexibility. You are expected to plan ahead and meet these deadlines. The exam dates and times are also firm, because all students must take the exam together to uphold the University's expectations for academic integrity.

COURSE COMMUNICATIONS

All important course announcements concerning the class will be made via UF email. You are responsible for all information communicated through this channel. I assume that you are checking your UF email account at least once per day.

Most of our one-on-one communication will occur via UF email. I will always respond to these emails within 48 hours, and typically much quicker. If you have not received a response within 48 hours, please assume that I have not seen your email and resend it.

GRADING POLICY AND SCALE

Grades are calculated as follows: Highest 10 Analytic Problem Sets (25%), Midterm Exam 1 (25%), Midterm Exam 2 (25%), Midterm Exam 3 (25%). Your lowest problem set will be automatically dropped at the end of the term. Your final course grade will be assigned according to the concordance table below.

92.00-100	***A***	***78.00-79.99***	***C+***
90.00-91.99	***A-***	***72.00-77.99***	***C***
88.00-89.99	***B+***	***70.00-71.9***	***C-***
82.00-87.99	***B***	***65.00-69.99***	***D***
80.00-81.99	***B-***	***0-64.99***	***E***

The scale listed above is firm. Students should assume that 91.99 is followed by an infinite number of nines and the rest of the cut-offs follow accordingly. Although I will gladly review your grade to ensure you are evaluated fairly, I will not round grades or offer extra credit at the end of the term.

If you would like to contest a problem set or exam score that has been posted, you *must* contest this with me via email within one week of the score posting to the Canvas gradebook. This policy is only in place to restrict unprofessional "point grabbing" at the end of the term.

Problem set extensions and make-up exams must be arranged before the relevant deadline or exam time and will only be offered for absences that are explicitly excused by the UF Attendance Policy. Unexcused absences from exams or failing to turn in a problem set will result in a zero.

A grade of C or higher is required to apply this course to the M.A. in Economics requirements. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

http://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

---AND---

http://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx

PROBLEM SET GUIDELINES AND DUE DATES

There are 11 problem sets required for successful completion this course. These problem sets are designed to provide you with practice with the theories, models, and analytical tools covered in this course. My hope is that these problem sets will assist you in understanding the content of this course, and in preparing for the final exam.

You may work in groups, but each student is responsible for turning in his or her own work, which must include his or her own individual mathematical derivations and written explanations. Submitting another student's work as your own constitutes a violation of the UF Honor Code and will be reported to the Dean of Students Office.

All problem sets must be submitted to Canvas by the posted due date and time. Late submissions will not be accepted, even a few minutes late. Additionally, submissions MUST adhere to the following guidelines:

1) **Submissions should be typed (including math equations) and sent as a single PDF file.**
2) **Assignments should be professionally presented. Your name should appear at the top of each page as a header, and pages should be numbered.**
3) **All graphs should be legible and accurate. Approximations and sloppy expositions are rarely sufficient for receiving credit. That begin said, graphs can be hand-drawn and scanned into your document.**

The problem set due dates are as follows:

PROBLEM SET	OPEN DATE AND TIME	DUE DATE AND TIME
Problem Set 1	Opens at 8:00am on Aug. 25	Due at 5:00pm on Sept. 1
Problem Set 2	Opens at 8:00am on Sept. 1	Due at 5:00pm on Sept. 8
Problem Set 3	Opens at 8:00am on Sept. 8	Due at 5:00pm on Sept. 15
Problem Set 4	Opens at 8:00am on Sept. 15	Due at 5:00pm on Sept. 22
Problem Set 5	Opens at 8:00am on Sept. 29	Due at 5:00pm on Oct. 6
Problem Set 6	Opens at 8:00am on Oct. 6	Due at 5:00pm on Oct. 13
Problem Set 7	Opens at 8:00am on Oct. 13	Due at 5:00pm on Oct. 20
Problem Set 8	Opens at 8:00am on Oct. 20	Due at 5:00pm on Oct. 27
Problem Set 9	Opens at 8:00am on Nov. 3	Due at 5:00pm on Nov. 10
Problem Set 10	Opens at 8:00am on Nov.10	Due at 5:00pm on Nov. 17
Problem Set 11	Opens at 8:00am on Nov. 17	Due at 5:00pm on Nov. 24

EXAM GUIDELINES AND SCHEDULE

There are 3 exams required for successful completion this course. These noncumulative exams will take place as the end of each module. The exams are closed-book, and closed notes. You may use scratch paper and a calculator. All other resources are strictly prohibited.

The three exams will be open for five days. They will be proctored using the Honorlock proctoring service. As the first exam approaches, I will provide additional guidance for seamlessly and successfully taking online proctored exams,

EXAM	OPEN DATE AND TIME	DUE DATE AND TIME
Exam 1	Opens at 8:00am on Sept. 22	Due at 11:59pm on Sept. 26
Exam 2	Opens at 8:00am on Oct. 27	Due at 8:00am on Oct. 31
Exam 3	Opens at 8:00am on Dec. 1	Due at 8:00am on Dec. 5

EXAM PROCTORING

The University of Florida requires that any assessment equivalent to 15% or more of a student's final course grade must be proctored. This policy protects both the value of your academic degree and your own time and effort in becoming a successful UF student. Please expect all exams to be proctored and all assignments to utilize plagiarism software and prepare accordingly.

The exams in this course are proctored using Honorlock. Honorlock requires that you use the Google Chrome browser and that you must add the Honorlock extension to Chrome. For further information, FAQs, and technical support, please visit Honorlock.

For taking online proctored exams using Honorlock, you are expected to have:

- **a State-issued photo ID or UFID**
- **a computer with a working webcam and microphone (restart your computer before your exam for the most effective testing environment)**
- **access to reliable high-speed broadband internet service**
- **Google Chrome and downloaded Honorlock extension to your Chrome browser**
- **a private workspace (if this is unachievable, contact your faculty)**

Online proctored exams will require a room scan before the exam and potential intermittent scans throughout the exam if the proctor considers your testing environment to be compromised.

INTERNET CONNECTIVITY ISSUES

I only offer make-up assignments or exams when there are known system-wide outages. These are the only outages that I can verify. I cannot verify individual connectivity problems, and thus, cannot accommodate them. This is why I drop your lowest problem set score.

You are responsible for verifying that any online assignment submission has properly been submitted through Canvas. As a best practice, after submitting any assignment, close your browser, reopen it and Canvas, and download your own submission. This practice will provide 100% confirmation that your assignment properly submitted. As an additional best practice, never submit an assignment through the Canvas mobile app – it can be glitchy.

GENERAL COMMENTS ON WELLNESS AND SUCCESS

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter that must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

College is an exciting learning experience and a unique opportunity for personal growth. It can, however, also be a stressful and difficult transitionary period. If you are ever having general issues with your coursework *in any course* or trouble in your personal life, please seek help from myself or another faculty member. I also encourage you to utilize the *FREE* and *ANONYMOUS* services of the UF Counseling and Wellness Center: https://counseling.ufl.edu

ACADEMIC HONESTY

You are expected to abide by the University's rules for academic honesty as outlined in the UF Student Honor Code: https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/. All suspicious evidence of cheating, plagiarism, making false statements, and any other violation of these rules will be reported to the Dean of Students Office. Additionally, I will advocate for the strictest of available sanctions (inc. dismissal from the University of Florida) for any student who is found responsible for violating these rules.

The Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code states that:
"A Student must not represent as the Student's own work all or any portion of the work of another. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

- **Stealing, misquoting, insufficiently paraphrasing, or patch-writing.**
- **Self-plagiarism, which is the reuse of the Student's own submitted work or the simultaneous submission of the Student's own work without the full and clear acknowledgment and permission of the Faculty to whom it is submitted.**
- **Submitting materials from any source without proper attribution.**
- **Submitting a document, assignment, or material that, in whole or in part, is identical or substantially identical to a document or assignment the Student did not author."**

It is important to note that cheating and plagiarism are not the only forms of academic dishonesty. "Making a false or misleading statement for the purpose of procuring an improper academic advantage" is also a violation of the UF Student Honor Code. This includes making false statements to your instructor and/or presenting forged documents (e.g., doctors' notes). I verify all suspicious claims and documents, for example, by contacting a student's medical provider or by reviewing a student's UF systems connection data.

While collaboration on the problem sets is permitted, any work that you submit for evaluation and grading should be your own. Collaboration on exams is strictly prohibited.

GENERATIVE ARTIFICAL INTELLIGENCE

The Department of Economics faculty assume that all work that is submitted for grading is written by the student whose name it bears, and that it represents their ideas and work. Accordingly, students are not permitted to use generative AI when completing assignments, quizzes, exams, or other graded work unless their instructor has expressly granted that permission. Unauthorized use of generative AI may constitute cheating and/or plagiarism. Such violations of the UF Student Honor Code will be reported to the UF Dean of Students Office and will be subject to severe sanctions.

NOTE ON END-OF-TERM COURSE EVALUATIONS

At the end of each term, you have the ability to evaluate the quality of each of your courses and the effectiveness of your instructors. I encourage you to take this opportunity seriously and to provide serious and informative feedback. Personally, I am always trying to improve my courses – tweaking them bit-by-bit each term – and student feedback is essential to making real improvements. As the term nears an end, I will discuss this issue (numerous times) in lecture, as I believe the high quality of your education depends on your constructive criticism and affirming support. You can access end-of-term course evaluations at: *https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/*

U Matter, We Care:
If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)
Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or http://www.police.ufl.edu/.

COURSE OUTLINE (AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE)

Course Orientation (Aug. 26 to Aug. 29)	**Read: Syllabus**

MODULE 1

Module 1, Lesson 1 (Aug. 26 to Aug. 29)	**Read: Chiang and Wainwright, Chapter 5** **Complete: Problem Set 1 (due at 5:00pm on Sept. 1)**
Module 1, Lesson 2 (Sept. 1 to Sept. 5)	**Read: Nicholson and Snyder, Chapters 2.1 and 2.2** **Complete: Problem Set 2 (due at 5:00pm on Sept. 8)**
Module 1, Lesson 3 (Sept. 8 to Sept. 12)	**Read: Nicholson and Snyder, Chapters 2.3-2.6 and 2.8** **Complete: Problem Set 3 (due at 5:00pm on Sept. 15)**
Module 1, Lesson 4 (Sept. 15 to Sept. 19)	**Read: Nicholson and Snyder, Chapters 2.3-2.6 and 2.8** **Complete: Problem Set 4 (due at 5:00pm on Sept. 22)**
Exam 1 (Sept. 22 to Sept. 26)	

MODULE 2

Module 2, Lesson 1 (Sept. 29 to Oct. 3)	**Read: Nicholson and Snyder, Chapters 3 and 4.1-4.2** **Complete: Problem Set 5 (due at 5:00pm on Oct. 6)**
Module 2, Lesson 2 (Oct. 6 to Oct. 10)	**Read: Nicholson and Snyder, Chapters 4.3-4.6** **Complete: Problem Set 6 (due at 5:00pm on Oct. 13)**
Module 2, Lesson 3 (Oct. 13 to Oct. 17)	**Read: Nicholson and Snyder, Chapters 6.1-6.5** **Complete: Problem Set 7 (due at 5:00pm on Oct. 20)**
Module 2, Lesson 4 (Oct. 20 to Oct. 24)	**Read: Nicholson and Snyder, Chapters 5.1-5.6** **Complete: Problem Set 8 (due at 5:00pm on Oct. 27)**
Exam 2 (Oct. 27 to Oct. 31)	

MODULE 3

Module 3, Lesson 1 (Nov. 3 to Nov. 7)	**Read: Nicholson and Snyder, Chapters 3 and 9.1-9.5** **Complete: Problem Set 9 (due at 5:00pm on Nov. 10)**
Module 3, Lesson 2 (Nov. 10 to Nov. 14)	**Read: Nicholson and Snyder, Chapters 3 and 10.1-10.4** **Complete: Problem Set 10 (due at 5:00pm on Nov. 17)**
Module 3, Lesson 3 (Nov. 17 to Nov. 21)	**Read: Nicholson and Snyder, Chapters 3 and 11.1-11.4** **Complete: Problem Set 11 (due at 5:00pm on Nov. 24)**
Exam 3 (Dec. 1 to Dec. 5)	