

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

ECON 101-004: INTRODUCTION TO ECONOMICS

Summer II, 2013

MTWThF 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM, GA 309

Instructor: Nazire Ozkan

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Office Hours: Mondays (10:00 AM – 11:00 AM), and Thursdays (1:15 PM – 2:15 PM), or by appointment.

Website: <http://www.aplia.com>

Course Objectives: We will cover a significant amount of material in a very short period of time. In the midst of all of this information remember that the key objectives are to introduce you to: 1) the economic way of thinking; 2) some basic economic models and how economists use models to explain the world around us; and 3) the impact that government policy has on our communities. But, most importantly, I hope to increase your overall interest in economics and the role it plays in your everyday decisions.

Important Course Dates:

Fri., July 5 First Midterm Examination, 11:30 AM

Fri., July 19 Second Midterm Examination, 11:30 AM

Thurs., July 25 Final Exam, 11:30 AM

Fri., July 26 Make-up Final Exam for students with excused absences for the final, 11:30AM.

Required Materials:

- Economics, 3rd Edition, by R. Glenn Hubbard and Anthony Patrick O'Brien (Prentice Hall, 2010). (ISBN-13: 978-0-13-602176-6, ISBN-10: 0-13-602176-X). This edition is available in the bookstore.

- Aplia at <http://www.aplia.com>. A majority of the content needed for this course can be found on this website. This includes reading assignments, problem sets, class announcements, experiments, homework solutions, and other course materials. This website complements the class and does not serve as a substitute for class time. It is highly recommended that you check this website at least twice a day for any new announcements and/or updates. You are responsible for notifying Aplia immediately if you encounter any problems. Registration instructions and payment information for Aplia can be found on the last page of this syllabus. You can register for Aplia immediately without paying. However, your payment grace period ends at 11:59 PM on June 29 at which point unpaid users will be denied access to Aplia.
- Basic calculator (~ \$1). A picture of an acceptable calculator is provided on Aplia. You should bring your calculator with you to each class, including exams. If you want to know if your calculator is acceptable, then please do not hesitate to ask me. Unacceptable calculators will be confiscated during exams.

Furthermore, I strongly encourage you to read a newspaper such as *The Wall Street Journal* or *Financial Times* on a daily basis. *The Economist*, a weekly publication, is also highly recommended. All of these publications are available electronically via the library's e-research tools.

- *The Wall Street Journal* (WSJ). For free access to the WSJ go to <http://eresources.lib.unc.edu/eid/>; under "By Title" click on "P" and scroll down to "ProQuest Newspapers" and click on the link. If you are off campus, then you will need to provide your onyen and password. Once you are in the ProQuest database click on the "Publications" tab and then click on the link entitled "Wall Street Journal; Eastern edition" to access the complete text.
- *The Economist*. For free access to the complete text of *The Economist* go to <http://eresources.lib.unc.edu/eid/>; under "By Title" click on "E" and scroll down to "Economist.com." If you are off campus, then you will need to provide your onyen and password to access the complete text.

Course Requirements: This course is designed to be very rigorous and demanding. You are expected to work hard, actively participate, ask questions when you have any doubts, and perform to the very best of your ability. Still, the purpose of this course is to teach you something about economics, not to destroy your GPA. Evaluation for this course will be based upon two mid-term exams (45%), a cumulative final exam (35%), and "other graded activities" (20%). Your highest mid-term exam will carry a 25% weight. "Other graded activities" include your scores on take-home writing assignments and Aplia problem sets, as well as your participation in economic experiments and activities conducted during and outside of class time. These activities include

economic experiments, discussion of assigned articles, in-class problems, take-home assignments, article analyses. *All Aplia problem sets and experiments must be completed on time – no exceptions.* I will, however, drop your lowest score which means that you can miss one Aplia assignment or experiment without penalty. *Writing assignments must be turned in by their deadline or a 15 percentage-point penalty will be assessed for each day they are late.* Note: the weight on the graded activities will vary.

Grading Scale (as a percentage of total points):

A = 93-100	C = 73-76.99
A- = 90-92.99	C- = 70-72.99
B+ = 87-89.99	D+ = 67-69.99
B = 83-86.99	D = 60-66.99
B- = 80-82.99	F < 60
C+ = 77-79.99	

Letter grades are based on total points and not on an average of the letter grades for course components. The grade distribution for the course depends on how well students perform. There is no maximum number of A's or B's. I do not distribute any grades via email or over the telephone. If you are not in class when an assignment is returned, then you will have to visit me during my office hours in order to review your assignment/exam.

Academic Integrity: All students are expected to adhere to the Honor Code (<http://instrument.unc.edu>). The use of cell phones, pagers, computers, or any other unauthorized device during examinations is an explicit violation of the honor code.

- You may use your notes and textbook to complete Aplia assignments. No other assistance is permitted. If you need a hint or guidance on the assignments, then you can consult with your instructor or tutor. You may not work on the problems with your classmate(s).
- No assistance is permitted on exams. During the exam, however, feel free to ask your instructor for clarification.
- You will be permitted to discuss the writing assignments with your classmates, but each student must submit their own assignment in their own writing.

Exam Format: There will be two mid-term exams given during the semester (July 5th and July 19th) and a cumulative final exam (July 25th at 11:30 am). Each exam will cover material presented in class, readings scheduled outside of class, Aplia assignments, and suggested problems from the textbook. The exam format will be provided in the class prior to a given exam. You should bring a #2 pencil, your UNC ID, and a basic calculator with you to each exam. A 1.5 hour Q&A session will be held during the week of the exam. The time and location of these meetings will appear in Aplia.

Missed Exams: There are *no make-up midterm* examinations. You are forewarned well in advance to properly schedule your time and make proper arrangements for other potential conflicts. If you must miss a midterm exam, say due to illness or religious observances, you will be allowed to transfer the missed credit to the final examination. To qualify for a transfer of credit, you must contact Nazire Ozkan and provide her with an acceptable explanation for missing the exam. You may be required to support your explanation with suitable documentation. If an acceptable explanation is provided, then the percentage (25%) for the missed midterm examination will be added to your final exam. If you miss both mid-term exams, then your final exam will carry a weight of only 70%, i.e. a 10 percentage point penalty applies. If you should be unable to attend the final exam, then you will need to provide me with an “Exam Excuse” from the Dean’s Office no later than Monday, July 22.

- The make-up for the final exam will be held at 11:30 AM on Friday, July 26.

Attendance Policy: Regular attendance is strongly recommended. Absenteeism is most likely to negatively affect your understanding of the subject and, therefore, your grade. Office hours cannot be used as a substitute for a missed class meeting. You are responsible for any announcements that you may have missed if you choose not to attend class. You should get the missed notes/announcements from one of your peers. It is expected that you will respect your peers and the instructor with appropriate behavior while in class and that you will arrive to class on time. This means that you should refrain from reading the paper, browsing the web, instant messaging, playing games, etc. during class time. ***Students who are not willing to attend regularly should drop the course.***

Tips for Being Successful in ECON 101

- Attend all lectures and exam Q&A Sessions.
- Stick to the deadlines given in Aplia. This means all assigned readings should be completed before they are presented, problem sets should be done by the due date, etc.
- Work on the suggested problems at the end of each chapter. These problems and their solutions can be found in the “Course Materials” section of Aplia.
- Work through the student resources that are available on the Hubbard and O’Brien website. A link to “H&O Student Resources” can be found in Aplia.
- Work on the suggested multiple choice problems from each chapter. These problems and their solutions can be found in the “Course Materials” section of Aplia. It is suggested that you scramble the questions across chapters instead of doing all the questions chapter by chapter.
- Read the WSJ, Financial Times, and/or The Economist and think about how most of its content can be applied to economics.
- If you find that you are having particular difficulty with any of the material in this course, then get help immediately. Do not let it build up. It is expected that you will have read the

appropriate sections of the textbook and reviewed your notes before a scheduled meeting. Many students will wait until the last minute to get help and put extraordinary demands on their professor's time. I have office hours twice a week so please take advantage of them. It is impossible for us to drop everything and dedicate all of our time before an exam to procrastinating students. Remember, **seek help immediately if you are having difficulties with the material.**

Calendar and Reading List: A detailed outline with a calendar of required readings and assignments can be found in Aplia under "Assignments." You are expected to have all assigned readings completed before the material is presented. The entire chapter is to be read unless otherwise noted in Aplia.

Disclaimer: Although the instructor intends to follow this syllabus as closely as possible, there may be times when deviations from the material presented herein are necessary. Changes will be announced as early as possible so that students can adjust their schedule.

How to access your Aplia course

Introduction to Economics, Summer II, 2013

Instructor: Nazire Ozkan

Start Date: 06/20/2013

Course Key: NJC3-D4E4-ANQY

Registration

1. Connect to <http://www.aplia.com/>.
2. If you already have an account, sign in. Go to your My Courses page, and click the Enroll in a New Course button.
If you don't have an account, click the Create a New Account button, and choose Student Account.
3. Enter your Course Key when prompted: NJC3-D4E4-ANQY. Continue to follow the on-screen instructions to access your course.

Payment

Online: After registering, you can buy access to Aplia from the Aplia website.

If you choose to pay later, you can use Aplia without paying until 11:59 PM on 06/29/2013