Instructor: Dr. Denise Robson  
E-mail: robson@uwosh.edu  
Office Hours: 1:00 - 2:00 P.M. on Mon & Wed. 1:30 - 2:30 on Tues and by appointment (Use email).  
Office: Sage Hall 2475  
Phone: 424-7152  
Classroom: Sage Hall 2218

Required Course Materials:  
D2L [www.uwosh.edu/d2l](http://www.uwosh.edu/d2l)  
Current periodicals  
Other materials as assigned

**General Course Objectives**

In this course students will:

- apply the economic way of thinking to everyday situations
- answer the core economic questions
- become proficient in the use of marginal analysis
- make connections between product markets and the factor markets
- examine how consumers and producers make decisions
- account for why decisions may vary for different groups within an economy
- understand the lure of competitive markets
- evaluate the competitiveness of a market
- identify market failures and explain how they can affect market outcomes
- appreciate the tradeoff between efficiency and equity
- explore the international dimension of the economy
- evaluate the role government in various markets
- contemplate how politics and ideology affects economic policies
- knowledgably discuss current economic events

Remember, whatever you put into this course determines what you take away from it.

The goal is to acquire knowledge and skills that will help you throughout your life, not just pass the course.

That being said, grades will help you know how much you are actually learning and are determined using the following weights.

1. Examinations (3 tests worth 20% each)  
   60%
2. Assignments (Connect and Problem sets)  
   30%
3. Pre chapter assessments (Connect)  
   5%
4. Miscellaneous (course pre/post tests, class participation)  
   5%

**Grade determination**: based on the percentage of total points (weighted) you have earned: a minimum of each percent given below is the cutoff for the various grades. Pluses and Minuses will be determined at the end of the course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>50% (D- is not given)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Below 50%</td>
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</tbody>
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Grade Interpretation

A  Student demonstrates a level of knowledge relevant to the course that is beyond expectations and has the ability to use this knowledge in unfamiliar situations.

B  Demonstrates a level of knowledge relevant to the course that is beyond expectations. Will be able to use and extend this knowledge in some situations.

C  Demonstrates an acceptable level of knowledge relevant to the course and should be able to continue learning in this field of study.

D  Demonstrates a barely adequate level of knowledge relevant to the course. Unlikely to be able to neither apply knowledge on any level nor continue studies in this direction.

F  Demonstrates insufficient knowledge to be given credit for this course.

Attendance Policy:  Research shows, on average, students who attend class regularly do better in their courses than those who do not attend. But, since you are adults and economics is a decision science, attendance is not mandatory. Your presence in class, though, is highly recommended. On some days points can be earned in class; it will not be possible to make up these points under any circumstances. It is your responsibility to keep informed of class announcements or course changes that may be made during lectures. Also, entering class late or leaving early is extremely rude and disruptive to your classmates and the flow of the lecture. Please be prompt and if you must leave class early please notify me prior to the beginning of the session.

Honor Code:  All honor code rules of the university are in effect - even if not explicitly mentioned on each assignment/exam.

Course Policies

• Help create a friendly, inclusive, and rigorous classroom climate in which everyone feels welcome to comment and contribute. Diverse views are welcome and should be respected. Any concerns you may have about your views not being respected, please bring to my attention.

• Cells phones, ipods, etc. should be turned off and headphones are not to be worn during class.

• If you would like to use your lap-top computer, ipad, or the like during class, please make arrangements with me. Any abuse in using these tools that interfere with your classmates’ ability to learn will result in you (and possibly the entire class) being prohibited from using it.

• If you sleep and snore, I reserve the right to wake you up. If you sleep quietly.

• At all times, I reserve the right to ask you to leave class should I deem your behavior inappropriate.

• In general, any behavior that interferes with anyone’s learning will not be tolerated.

• RESPECT EVERYONE’S RIGHT TO LEARN!
Course preparation

- This course is difficult, rigorous, and covers a lot of material at a very quick pace. It is, therefore, important for you to plan on spending a significant amount of time preparing for each class.
- Come to class prepared to discuss the material and respond your classmates’ questions and comments.
- Reading the text and outlining the chapter before class will help. Taking time after class to review notes and work problems will also help you get a better grasp of this material.
- Connect assignments will help you prepare for class and keep you on task.
- Class lectures need to be interactive to be effective. There is always the temptation on the part of any instructor to move too quickly through the material. You are responsible for making sure you are able to grasp the material presented, even if it means asking the instructor to repeat the material. Besides, it is boring to listen to me talk for 1.5 hours.

Exams: There will be three exams given each worth 20 percent of your grade. The exams will be multiple-choice and consist of between 50 and 60 questions. While they are all multiple choice questions, my exams emphasize the application and evaluation of the theories you have learned using the appropriate economic tools. During exams only simple calculators, no graphing or memory functions may be used. Cellular technologies and computers are expressly prohibited. All ball caps need to be removed or turned backwards during exams.

Homework policies: Class assignments and homework are designed to help you learn how to apply the material presented in lectures. I encourage you to work with study groups when you prepare for your assignments and exams, but ultimately you are responsible for your own learning. Working with others is intended to clarify ideas, concepts, or technical questions, NOT to simply get the correct answer. If you do take short cuts, it will catch up with you during the exam. Connect assignments will take several formats. Some will be available to help you study, others will be counted as assignments. This will be apparent from the assignment policies.

Pre/Post Tests: The department has a policy that every micro student takes both a pre and a post test. You will receive the average of your two scores and if your post test score is higher than your pre test score you will get a bonus point (if your score is lower you will lose a point). You will find the assessments on D2L under the Microeconomics Assessment Course (not under this course). There are 22 questions. Do the best that you can. I am not expecting perfect scores, since not all the material the questions ask will be covered in class.

Missed or late assignments: If you fail to take an exam, or turn in a majority of your assignments, you will not pass this course. The only exception is for serious and compelling reasons, which are limited to documented and serious illness, death in the family, or equally important reasons. If this occurs, you must notify me as soon as possible and I will offer you an alternative to receiving a zero. Connect assignments have fixed due dates, controlled by the computer. Depending on the type of assignment you will have the ability to turn some in late with a penalty. Turning assignments in late can place those who respected the deadline at a grade disadvantage because they had less time to develop their work. Many of the activities done during class cannot be made up no matter what the excuse.
**Study Groups:** I strongly encourage you to form study groups. This will not only help you in knowing others in the classroom better but will also help you relax in class. Furthermore, your learning experience will be all the better when you share your knowledge with others.

**Extra Credit:** In general, I do not believe in extra credit. If you put the effort into the course work instead of extra work, you will end up better off. Occasionally, though, opportunities arise that will enhance your understanding of economics. Since it would be unfair for me to require you to attend some function outside of class, I offer some extra credit, applied to your assignment score, as an incentive for you to attend. If you are aware of an event on campus that you think applies to this course and is accessible to everyone at no monetary cost, please let me know. If there is sufficient notice, I will consider giving extra credit for it.

**Suggestions:** At any time during the semester you are encouraged to share your comments on the course. Your suggestions for improvements are especially valuable. Please don’t hesitate to bring them up or post them on D2L.

*Please come to my office hours or make an appointment to resolve any concerns or difficulties you may have at any point during the semester. The sooner you approach me about concerns the better off you will be and the easier they will be to resolve.*

**CONNECT**

**Connect:** This is a basic course designed to develop the theoretical tools needed to understand and analyze the economy. To help you prepare Connect provides a means of assessing your basic graphical and algebraic knowledge and provides tutorials to help you brush up on them. Assignments are designed to help you determine how well you understand the material being covered, whether in the textbook or in the class, and what questions you may have to ask. I will also be using class results to help tailor class to use our time as efficiently as possible.

Homework assignments are found on the Connect website. These assignments, along with other class assignments, will collectively count for 30% of your grade. The Connect site requires either an access card or a credit card to buy it online.

**TIP:** A "Start Free Trial" registration option allows you to register in Connect without purchasing an access code and receive full access (typically for three weeks) before being required to get one. This option is helpful for those awaiting financial aid or a textbook in the bookstore, those who may drop the class and those who want to try the Connect Plus eBook before they buy.

**TIP:** If using the free trial, be sure to get full access to Connect before the trial period expires to avoid any delays in completing your coursework. If your trial period does expire, your work will be saved. Just login with the username and password you used to create your Connect account and choose to "purchase full Connect access here."
Getting Started with Connect:
2. Click on Register Now.
3. Enter your email address (this will become your Connect username). As a best practice, you may want to register with your school/institution email address.
   **TIP:** If you already have a McGraw-Hill account, you will be asked for your password and will not be required to create a new account.
4. Enter a registration code (comes with textbook) or choose **Buy Online** to purchase access.
5. Follow the on-screen directions.
   **TIP:** Please choose your Security Question and Answer carefully. We will ask you for this information if you forget your password. We recommend that you provide a secondary email address should you forget your Security Question and Answer.
6. When registration is complete, click on **Go to Connect Now**.
7. You are now ready to use **Connect**.

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**Ask questions!!**

*Economics can be a confusing and unsettling area to study. It is not like other subjects where answers tend to be black and white. Economics is known as the *dismal science* -
- be wary!*

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**Tentative Course Outline**

*Dates of coverage are subject to change. You are responsible for knowing about any changes.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam 1 Chapters 1 - 5 tentatively October 6th</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2 Chapters 6 - 9 tentatively November 10th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 3 Chapters 11 - 14 December 15th</td>
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