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**Instructor:** Dr. Anil K. Lal  
**Office:** Kelce Room # 211 H  
**Hours:** Virtual office hours by appointment only: MW 10.30 AM to 2.00 PM; TuTh 9.30 AM to 11.00.  
**Phone:** 620-235-4549 (Economics Department – 620-235-4547)  
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### **Recommended Textbook, etc.**

1. Text: *Microeconomics* (Ninth edition, Prentice Hall), by Robert S. Pindyck and Daniel L. Rubinfeld.
2. Access to *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Economist*, and the Internet.

### **Catalog Course Description**

Theory of rational economic behavior in consumption and production. Topics include the market phenomena and government interventions, indifference curve analysis, production and cost functions, theory of firm under different market structures, game theory.

### **Prerequisites**

ECON 200 Introduction to Microeconomics, ECON 201 Introduction to Macroeconomics, MGMKT 320 Basic Quantitative Business Methods, a "C" in MATH 113 College Algebra or MATH 110 College Algebra with Review or MATH 126 Pre-Calculus, and 55 hours completed.

### **Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes**

The primary objective of this course is to give you an appreciation of the usefulness of Microeconomics for analyzing business and social science problems.

### **Course Outline\***

- Part 1: Introduction: Markets and Prices: Chapters 1 and 2.  
Part 2: Producers, Consumers, and Competitive Markets: Chapters 3, 4, and 6-9.  
Part 3: Market Structure and Competitive Strategy: Chapters 10-13.  
Part 4: Information, Market Failure, and the Role of Government: Chapters 17 and 18.

\*Note that the instructor reserves the right to add or drop chapters and also the right to alter the sequence of chapters.

## **Instructional Material**

1. Assigned reading from the textbook.
2. Lecture videos (55 lecture videos).
3. Online Assignments (54 Assignments: 1 assignment on Syllabus; 53 assignments on lecture videos).
4. Short Answer Type Questions Assignments (12 Assignments).
5. Discussion Forum.

## **Teaching Philosophy/Methods**

*“Education is not the learning of facts. It’s rather the training of mind to think.”*

**Albert Einstein**

## **Teaching Methods**

Recent research has shown that students’ learning is significantly enhanced, when they watch lecture videos of shorter duration and watch them multiple times. For this class, I have created my own lecture videos (each video is of duration no more than 15 minutes) and have also created short online multiple-choice type questions assignments that are associated with lecture videos. It is entirely possible that after watching and replaying my online video(s), you may still have some question(s) about some concept. To remedy this, we will use the Discussion Forum extensively where you should ask questions and anyone (including myself) can respond. In addition, you will receive short answer type questions assignment each week. It is expected that your participation in Discussion Forum and submission of online short answer type questions assignment will further enhance your understanding of the course material.

Also, note my lecture videos must be complemented by reading of the text book. I have been involved with Economics for over 48 years (as a student, a researcher and a teacher) and I have developed my own way of explaining economic concepts. Similarly, Professors Pindyck and Rubinfeld (authors of recommended textbook: *Microeconomics*) have been involved with Economics for a number of years and have developed their own way of explaining economic concepts. I believe that watching the lecture videos and reading the relevant portion of the textbook will provide you with an excellent opportunity to learn Economics and do well in this course (Please also read my document on “Course Organization and Tips on Doing Well”).

## **Canvas**

All lecture videos, online assignments, and discussion forum are placed on Canvas. In addition, all important announcements will be posted on Canvas.

## **Attendance Policy**

Attendance in this online course is measured by:

1. Submission of completed assignments and exams in a timely manner.
2. Regular & effective participation in the Discussion Forum.

## **Online Conduct**

You are expected to participate in online activities (Discussion Forum, email, etc.) in appropriate ways. Failure to treat others with respect and civility will result in a warning at first offense. Repeated issues will result in point penalties and subsequently reduction of grade (as determined by the professor).

In addition, students are responsible for their progress throughout the semester. It is your responsibility to contact the professor through Canvas or email if you need assistance with the course material. It is also up to you to manage your time productively.

## **Minimum Technical Expectations**

Students are expected to have basic computer skills (email with attachments, copy/paste, play videos, word processing, etc.). Students are also expected to have internet access without restrictions (able to watch videos, complete online assignments). Students are also expected to be comfortable using canvas. Failure to meet course requirements due to internet restrictions or other technical expectations listed here is **not a valid excuse**. Gorilla Geeks on University's website is an excellent source for technical issues. Use Canvas 101 Tutorial for Students, in case of any question relating to the use of Canvas.

## **Academic Integrity**

All Pitt State students are bound by the academic integrity policies of the university as described and outlined in the current Syllabus Supplement. Please familiarize yourself with these rules and guidelines. In addition, as a course offered through the Kelce College of Business, students in this class are obligated to adhere to the college's Student Code of Ethics as outlined below.

Students pledge to:

- Prepare for and participate in all online activities.
- Treat fellow students, staff, faculty and administrators with respect.
- Complete assignments and exams honestly.
- Avoid plagiarism or unacknowledged appropriation of another's work in any academic work. Refrain from giving or receiving inappropriate assistance.
- Respect University property and use resources in the most effective and efficient manner.
- Be fair and constructive in the evaluation of faculty.
- Obey the policies, regulations, and laws of the United States of America, The State of Kansas, The Kansas Board of Regents, Pittsburg State University and the Gladys A. Kelce College of Business.

## **Students with Disabilities**

Please inform the instructor if you have a learning or physical disability that interferes with course requirements. Assistance and/or appropriate accommodations may be available through the contacts listed on the current Syllabus Supplement.

## **Course Evaluation Methods**

Your final course grade will be determined by your performance on:

**1. Fifty-four Online Multiple-Choice Type Questions Assignments (Maximum Points Possible: 280)**

All assignments contain multiple-choice questions.

**2. Twelve Online Short Answer Type Questions Assignments (Maximum Points Possible: 48 Extra Credit Points)**

All assignments contain short answer type questions. Submission of these assignments is *voluntary* and only for *extra credit*.

Please note the following with respect to the **Short Answer Type Questions Assignments**:

- (a) Completion and submission of online short answer type questions assignment is *voluntary* and only for *extra credit*.
- (b) Every Saturday I will attach a Word document file to my **Announcement** on Canvas. You must submit completed online short answer type questions assignment by 11.59 PM on Friday of the following week.
- (c) You must send me a copy of your completed online short answer type questions assignment via email. The copy of your completed assignment should be saved in pdf or Word document with your Last name and assignment number (for example, I will save first online short answer type questions assignment as **LAL1**). To receive full credit for each online short answer type questions assignment, answer each question correctly and completely.
- (d) you can discuss issues amongst yourself, but do not copy each-other's answers. If submitted online short answer type questions assignments look the same for some students, all of them will receive a zero.

**3. Participation in Discussion Forum (Maximum Points Possible: 50 Extra Credit Points)**

Please note the following with respect to the **Discussion Forum**:

Please note the following with respect to the **Discussion Forum**:

- (a) Participation in Discussion Forum is *voluntary* and only for *extra credit*.
- (b) In the first week, I will introduce myself in the first week and you should do the same.
- (c) Every week, I will open up a Discussion Forum for Question & Answer session. Use Q & A session in the Discussion Forum to start an academic discussion on any topic, ask questions, and also respond to other student(s)' queries. *Note that you cannot discuss answers to questions on the assignments and exams in the Discussion Forum.*
- (d) **Please use email and not the Discussion Forum to post any issues relating to your situation (like grade, difficult exams, etc.).**
- (e) After the end of each week, I will assign points based on the quality of your participation in the Discussion Forum for a given week (quality of your question(s), quality of your response to questions raised by other students, and the use of appropriate language).
- (f) Please refer to my policy about Online Conduct on page 3 of this syllabus.

#### 4. Four Exams (Maximum Points Possible: 400)

All exams will contain multiple choice or/and short answer type questions. Specific details on how the Exams will be conducted will be made available one week before the scheduled exam.

##### Note:

1. Online multiple-choice type questions assignments, short answer type questions assignments, Exams, and participation in Discussion Forum must be completed on time. Failure to do so will count as a zero. **No extension is possible.**
2. I do not grade on a curve.
3. I simply report the grade you earn.

Your letter grade will be based out of a maximum of 680 points and will be assigned according to the following criteria:

90% or above	A
80% to less than 90%	B
70% to less than 80%	C
60% to less than 70%	D
Below 60%	F

##### Make-Up Exam Policy:

Only in **emergencies** will make - up exam be given in lieu of the regularly scheduled exam. Prior to the exam, I must be notified that you will not be able to take the scheduled exam and also provide evidence that authenticates your claim of an emergency (for example, a note from a Doctor, etc.). **If a student does not request a make-up exam prior to the regularly scheduled exam and also does not provide evidence that authenticates his/her claim of an emergency (for example, note from a Doctor, etc.), no make-up exam will be given.**

##### Syllabus Supplement:

Please click on the following link:

[https://www.pittstate.edu/faculty-staff/\\_files/documents/faculty-senate/documents/syllabus-supplement-spring-2023.pdf](https://www.pittstate.edu/faculty-staff/_files/documents/faculty-senate/documents/syllabus-supplement-spring-2023.pdf)

##### Note:

**The instructor reserves the right to amend and to reorganize this syllabus at any time.**