ECON 2302 - 030: PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS
Course Syllabus
Fall 2019
6:00p.m.-7:15p.m. TR Rassman Business 105

Instructor: Dr. Edwar E. Escalante
Email: eescalante@angelo.edu
Office: Rassman Business 255
Office Hours: TR, 4:45 PM – 6:00 PM
              MW, 4:15 PM – 6:15 PM or by appointment

The physical version of the textbook is strictly optional, but the online version is required.

Any additional readings will be placed on the course Blackboard site.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course introduces students to the economic way of thinking and the fundamental tools of microeconomic analysis. Special emphasis is placed on how market and political institutions influence how human respond to the scarcity of resources. The course makes heavy use of graphical analysis and presupposes knowledge of algebra.

LEARNING OUTCOMES
By the end of this course, students should be able to:
• understand and apply fundamental economic concepts such as scarcity, opportunity cost, incentives, and marginal analysis.
• analyze markets in terms of the interaction of supply and demand.
• understand the basic ideas of comparative institutional analysis and public choice.
• understand and evaluate economic models of production and competition.

GRADING
Grades will be assigned according to students’ final scores:
90+      A
80-89.9  B
70-79.9  C
60-69.9  D
59.9 or less  F
Final scores are broken down into the following components:

- **Reading & Attendance**: 30%
- **Homework**: 30%
- **Exams**: 40%

**Reading and Attendance**: At the beginning of each non-Exam class, I will roll a normal 6-sided die. On a 6, I will take attendance (or a quiz). You will also be assigned completion grades for doing the readings or answering pop quiz questions about them. For more information see the section on using Launchpad below. I will drop the lowest 2 grades from this category. Pop quiz questions will have only two possible results 0 or 100. Right or wrong.

**Homework**: At the end of each unit there will be an online quiz over the material. For more information see the section on using Launchpad below. I will drop the lowest 1 grade from this category.

**Exams**: There will be two midterms and a final. The final will be comprehensive and count for two exam grades. Any student with an ‘A’ before the final exam can skip the final exam and receive an A for the course. If you take the final, I will drop the lowest 1 (of 4) exam grades.

A grade of zero will be given for any exam missed. If the exam was missed for a University-excused reason (i.e., representing the University in a competition, a health emergency, or a family emergency) the student will have the opportunity to make up the exam or replace that grade with the final exam. Otherwise, the grade of zero will remain.

**CLASSROOM RULES AND BEHAVIOR**

Students are expected to show respect to classmates, instructors, and especially guest speakers. These are rules that I will enforce during this class:

1. Do not talk during class meetings. Talking is disruptive to the instructor and to your fellow classmates.
2. Do not arrive late to class and do not leave the classroom during class meetings. Exceptions may occur for medical emergency, physiological urgency or situations where prior instructor approval has been granted.
3. Do not use (including viewing of) communication devices (phones, iPad, etc) during class meetings. All electronic devices should be silenced during class meetings. This includes laptops.
4. Do not read/view other unassigned materials (newspapers, magazines, etc,) during class meetings.
5. Do not exhibit disruptive posture during class meetings. e.g. sleeping, slouching, laying, resting feet/head on furniture, etc.
6. Do not use notebook computers during class meetings unless prior instructor approval has been granted.
INFORMATION ON USING LAUNCHPAD FOR ECO 2302

Our textbook for this class is the Launchpad version of Cowen and Tabarrok, Modern Principles of Microeconomics, 4th edition. The online version includes both the text from the physical book and quizzes, exercises, etc. I recommend you start with the trial version for the first few weeks of class. You should be able to purchase access online or buy an access code in the bookstore.

Two parts of the course will be run on Launchpad, Reading grades and Homework. You will usually receive one grade in each category for every unit, and most units correspond to one chapter in the textbook.

READING ASSIGNMENTS ON LAUNCHPAD

Doing the readings ahead of time is vital for this course. Reading grades are either 100% (if you did the work) or 0% (if you didn’t). You will receive a reading grade for most units that we cover. Your reading grade will usually be based on the Learning Curve assessment in Launchpad. Learning Curve lets you keep answer questions until you achieve a predetermined score, which will correspond to a 100. You should read the chapter before attempting the Learning Curve. Usually, you will also wait until after the first lecture in that unit as well.

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS ON LAUNCHPAD

For each unit there will be a short quiz over the material covered in the book and lectures. These are referred to as Graded Homework in Launchpad. They will be due after the last lecture in each unit. You should complete the quizzes by yourself. They are not a group activity.

MR UNIVERSITY

The creators of your textbook also have an online version of their micro course at MRUniversity.com. Some videos are assigned as part of the course material, but there are many more on the site that will be helpful for any concepts you are struggling with.

TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES

You are responsible for securing access to a reliable computer & network to do the assignments, such as a school computer lab. If you have a shaky internet connection at home, make time to do your work on campus.
Whenever you finish a Launchpad assignment, you should take a screenshot that indicates that the assignment is complete. Make sure to capture the date and time. Save these screenshots in a folder until the end of the semester. We will update you on your grades after each exam and before the final. If your grades do not come through correctly, email me (eescalante@angelo.edu) the appropriate screen shot so that I can correct the grade. No screen shot, no grade correction.

Here's how to take a screenshot on Windows

Here's how to take a screenshot on a Mac
TENTATIVE OUTLINE AND ASSOCIATED TEXTBOOK CHAPTERS

This is a tentative list of topics and readings. More precise reading assignments will be given over the course of the semester. The faculty member reserves the option to make changes as necessary to this syllabus and the course content.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 27</td>
<td>Course Introduction: Microeconomics</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 29</td>
<td>Big Ideas</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 03</td>
<td>Supply and Demand</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 05</td>
<td>Supply and Demand</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 10</td>
<td>Equilibrium and Dynamics</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep 12</td>
<td>Elasticity</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 17</td>
<td>Taxes and Subsidies</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 19</td>
<td>The Price System</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 24</td>
<td>Stocks</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 26</td>
<td><strong>Midterm 1</strong></td>
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**Part I: How Markets Work**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct 01</td>
<td>Production and Price-Takers</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 03</td>
<td>Pure Competition</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 08</td>
<td>Monopoly</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 10</td>
<td>Monopolistic Competition (FMI Event)</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>Oct 15</td>
<td>Price Discrimination</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td>Oct 17</td>
<td>Oligopoly</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>Oct 22</td>
<td>Incentives for Business</td>
<td>22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 24</td>
<td><strong>Midterm 2</strong></td>
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<td>Oct 29</td>
<td>Conference: FMI/ASU Opening</td>
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**Part II: Production Economics**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov 05</td>
<td>Externalities and the Environment</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 07</td>
<td>Public Goods and Common Pool Resources</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 12</td>
<td>Public Goods and Common Pool Resources</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 14</td>
<td>Comparative Advantage</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 19</td>
<td>International Trade</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 21</td>
<td>Public Choice/ Political Economy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 03</td>
<td>Public Choice/ Political Economy</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 05</td>
<td>Economics and Ethics</td>
<td>21</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Part III: Public Policy**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 10</td>
<td>FINAL EXAM @ 6:00 – 8:00 PM</td>
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ACADEMIC HONESTY

Academic honesty is expected on all work. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their online experiences. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

We adhere to the academic honesty statement as set forth in the Angelo State University Student Handbook: Angelo State University's Academic Integrity Policy. The University "faculty expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach and to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experience both in and out of the classroom setting and may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials."

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism at ASU is a serious topic. The Angelo State University’s Honor Code gives specific details on plagiarism and what it encompasses. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else's work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one's own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word for word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. We use the APA Style Manual of the American Psychological Association as a guide for all writing assignments. Quotes should be used sparingly. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list. Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality via Bb Safe Assignment or Turnitin. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center: Angelo State University's Writing Center Website.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the
department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website at www.angelo.edu/ADA. The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Ms. Dallas A. Swafford
Director of Student Disability Services
325-942-2047
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu
Located in the Houston Harte University Center 112

TITLE IX at ANGELO STATE UNIVERSITY

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex. You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

Online: www.angelo.edu/incident-form
Face to Face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
Phone: 325-942-2022
E-Mail: michelle.boone@angelo.edu

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit: www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICY (OP 10.11 Grading Procedures)

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required.

STUDENT ABSENCE FOR OBSERVANCE OF RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS
“A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence.” Please see ASU Operating Policy 10.19.

COPYRIGHT POLICY

Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

If you have read the whole syllabus, let me tell you I am impressed. You are welcome to email me a photo of a llama in Machu Picchu and I will give you your first extra credit which will count as the first pop quiz.