

GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
College of Business and Public Administration

Course Title: Principles of Microeconomics

Instructor: Dr. Donald Miller

Course Number: ECON 301

Credits: Three

Trimester: FALL 1990 - BLOCK 1

Description: Study of price formation, demand and production decisions, examines the individual and inter-related behavior of consumers, firms and industries.

Prerequisites: None

Restrictions: None

Rationale: A knowledge of economics is essential for a proper understanding and appreciation of the society in which we live. Economic events permeate our social, political and cultural environment. Unfortunately, relatively few recognize the importance of understanding our economic system and economic ignorance is the rule. Without economic education how is it possible for the citizen to make those decisions at election time regarding stands on such issues as inflation, unemployment, wage and price controls, "excess" profits, tax level changes and government spending level changes, and the effects of the national debt?

More generally, a knowledge of economics can contribute to an understanding of the causes of the otherwise mysterious happenings just mentioned and thereby to a greater security of mind.

Economics may also be studied for its practical value in the business world. It can aid the businessperson to better understand the internal and external factors affecting business operations involving supply and demand, choice of inputs, the level of production, prices, wages, profits, competition, labor relations and the impact of government regulations and expenditure.

GSU ARCHIVES
ECON 301
F90

Intended
Audience: Juniors and Seniors

Expected Student Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- (1) describe, explain, and apply supply and demand analysis
- (2) explain and apply the analysis of production and costs involving the basic concepts and their relationships
- (3) describe, explain, and analyze the firm's price and output behavior under alternative market structures.

Institutional Modalities/Activities: The course will consist mainly of lecture/discussion with some laboratory work including written assignments and video viewing.

Text: Microeconomics, Byrns and Stone, 4th Edition, 1989, Scott Foresman and Co.

Topical Outline:

Scarcity and Choice
Resolving the Problem of Scarcity
Demand and Supply
Markets and Equilibrium
Unemployment and Inflation
Elasticity and Marginalism
The Foundations of Consumer Choice
Foundations of Producer Decision Making
The Competitive Ideal
Monopoly
Monopolistic Competition and Oligopoly
Antitrust Policy: Reducing Monopoly Power
The Role of Government Regulation
Wages and Employment in Competitive Labor Markets
Labor Markets: Monopoly Power, Monopsony Power
and Labor Unions
Rent, Interest, Profits, and Capitalization

Evaluation: Tests and written assignments.