

### Basic Course Information

|                   |                        |                     |  |
|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Semester:         | <b>Spring</b>          | Instructor Name:    | <b>Craig Blek</b>  |
| Course Title & #: | <b>Economics 101</b>   | Email:              | <b>craig.blek@imperial.edu</b>                                     |
| CRN #:            | <b>21001</b>           | Webpage (optional): |  |
| Classroom:        | <b>412</b>             | Office #:           | <b>813</b>   |
| Class Dates:      | <b>Feb 15 – June 9</b> | Office Hours:       | <b>MW (10:45-11:15)<br/>TH (8:40-9:25 am)<br/>F (8:30-9:30 am)</b> |
| Class Days:       | <b>TR</b>              | Office Phone #:     | <b>760-355-6441</b>  |
| Class Times:      | <b>11:20-12:45</b>     | Units               | <b>3</b>   |

### Course Description

Principles of Microeconomics: An introduction to economic concepts and the principles of economic analysis. The course will focus on production and the allocation of resources through the price-system, with emphasis on economic institutions and issues of public policy. Specific topics covered include: Opportunity cost, circular flow, supply and demand, market failures, labor markets, unions, and market structures.

### Student Learning Outcomes

1. Organize and prioritize costs and benefits of a given issue. Write an analysis using the available data.
2. Illustrate and understand the supply and demand model and use the model to predict price and quantity changes in markets given changes in the determinants of supply and demand.
3. Think at the margin and use marginal thinking to solve problems.

### Course Objectives

1. Evaluate basic microeconomic concepts such as scarcity, opportunity cost and marginal thinking.
2. Illustrate and understand the supply and demand model and use the model to predict price and quantity changes in markets given changes in the determinants of supply and demand.
3. Determine the equilibrium price in a market.
4. Illustrate the effects of price floors and price ceilings.
5. Identify and evaluate elasticity of demand and its importance in price setting.
6. Analyze labor markets and be able to demonstrate the reasons for wage differentials.
7. Demonstrate knowledge of labor unions and labor strategies in the marketplace.
8. List and explain basic market failures and what government can do to correct for them.
9. Differentiate short run from long run: including cost curves and economic profit.
10. Explain the basic parameters of perfect competition and be able to draw the supporting graphs.
11. Analyze markets operating under imperfect competition; monopolistic competition, oligopoly.
12. Compare and contrast monopoly with other market structures.

## Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Economics Today 18th edition with MyLab access by Roger Leroy Miller (Older editions are available and can be used for this course but page numbers will not match those listed in the syllabus)

## Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

|   | Points Possible |
|---|-----------------|
| Exams (2/3) 50 pts. each                    | 100 pts.        |
| Quizzes (in-class) (2)                      | 15 pts.         |
| Cost/benefit analysis (2) 15 pts. each      | 30 pts.         |
| Online Homework (weekly) 10% of final grade | 30 pts.         |
| Online Quizzes (weekly) 10% of final grade  | 30 pts.         |
| Final                                       | 80 pts.         |
| Total                                       | 285 pts         |

Three exams will be given over the course of the semester. The exam format will be a combination of multiple choice and short essay. You will be allowed to drop your lowest exam score. If you miss an exam, that score will be dropped. There will be no make-up exams offered.

Out of Class Assignments: The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement.

## Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Grade Scale: 90-100% A 80-89% B 68-79% C 55-67% D

Any student that earns an "A" (90% or better) on the final exam will get an "A" for the course, regardless of their grade to date, if and only if, the student has taken all four exams and has turned in their papers on time.

## Attendance

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See [General Catalog](#) for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

## Classroom Etiquette

- **Electronic Devices:** Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class, unless otherwise directed by the instructor. Cell phone calculators cannot be used on tests.
- **Food and Drink** are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed by the instructor.
- **Disruptive Students:** Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the [General Catalog](#).
- **Children in the classroom:** Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

## Online Netiquette

- What is netiquette? Netiquette is internet manners, online etiquette, and digital etiquette all rolled into one word. Basically, netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online.
- Students are to comply with the following rules of netiquette: (1) identify yourself, (2) include a subject line, (3) avoid sarcasm, (4) respect others' opinions and privacy, (5) acknowledge and return messages promptly, (6) copy with caution, (7) do not spam or junk mail, (8) be concise, (9) use appropriate language, (10) use appropriate emoticons (emotional icons) to help convey meaning, and (11) use appropriate intensifiers to help convey meaning [do not use ALL CAPS or multiple exclamation marks (!!!)].

## Academic Honesty

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the important of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

- **Plagiarism** is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to "cite a source" correctly, you must ask for help.
- **Cheating** is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the [General Catalog](#) for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test

information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

### **Additional Student Services**

Imperial Valley College offers various services in support of student success. The following are some of the services available for students. Please speak to your instructor about additional services which may be available.

- [Blackboard Support Site](#). The Blackboard Support Site provides a variety of support channels available to students 24 hours per day.
- [Learning Services](#). There are several learning labs on campus to assist students through the use of computers and tutors. Please consult your [Campus Map](#) for the [Math Lab](#); [Reading, Writing & Language Labs](#); and the [Study Skills Center](#).
- [Library Services](#). There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the [Study Skills Center](#), study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

### **Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)**

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the [Disabled Student Programs and Services](#) (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. The DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313. Please contact them if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

### **Student Counseling and Health Services**

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee.

- [Student Health Center](#). A Student Health Nurse is available on campus. In addition, Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District and El Centro Regional Center provide basic health services for students, such as first aid and care for minor illnesses. Contact the IVC [Student Health Center](#) at 760-355-6310 in Room 2109 for more information.
- [Mental Health Counseling Services](#). Short-term individual, couples, family, and group therapy are provided to currently enrolled students. Contact the IVC [Mental Health Counseling Services](#) at 760-355-6196 in Room 2109 for more information.

### **Student Rights and Responsibilities**

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and to due process of law. For more information regarding student rights and responsibilities, please refer to the IVC [General Catalog](#).

### **Information Literacy**

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to helping students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. The IVC [Library Department](#) provides numerous [Information Literacy Tutorials](#) to assist students in this endeavor.

### Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

| <b>Date or Week</b>        | <b>Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic</b>        | <b>Pages/ Due Dates/Tests</b>                        |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| Week 1<br>Feb. 13-17       | Intro to Econ                                    | Chapter 1  |
| Week 2<br>Feb. 20-24       | Scarcity & Marginal Thinking<br>Invisible hand   | Chapter 2 Pgs. 29-32                                 |
| Week 3<br>Feb. 27- March 3 | Demand   | Chapter 3  |
| Week 4<br>March 6-10       | Supply & Price Changes                           | Chapter 3 <b>Quiz 2</b>                              |
| Week 5<br>March 13-17      | Price Controls & Price Rationing                 | Chapter 4<br><b>Exam 1</b>                           |
| Week 6<br>March 20-24      | Elasticity                                       | Chapter 19   |
| Week 7<br>March 27-31      | Market Failures                                  | Chapter 5 Pgs. 107-114                               |
| Week 8<br>April 3-7        | Environmental Issues (Pollution)                 | Chapter 31   |
| Week 9<br>April 10-14      | Labor Markets                                    | Chapter 28   |
| Week 10<br>April 24-28     | Labor Markets<br>Minimum Wage                    | Chapter 28 and Chapter 4<br>Pgs. 93-94 <b>Exam 2</b> |
| Week 11<br>May 1-5         | Labor Unions                                     | Chapter 29   |
| Week 12<br>May 8-12        | Market Structures<br>Short run Costs to the Firm | Chapter 21 Pgs. 487-489<br>Chapter 22 Pgs. 503-517   |
| Week 13<br>May 15-19       | Long run Costs to the Firm                       | Chapter 22 Pgs. 518-523<br><b>Quiz 2</b>             |
| Week 14<br>May 22-26       | Perfect Competition                              | Chapter 23   |
| Week 15<br>May 29- June 2  | Monopoly<br>Imperfect Competition                | Chapter 24<br>Chapter 25 <b>Exam 3</b>               |
| Week 16<br>June 5-9        | Final (Cumulative)                               | <b>Final</b>   |

**\*\*\*Tentative, subject to change without prior notice\*\*\***