

# SYLLABUS MICRO ECONOMICS SS

ECON 2302

F8B

CRN # 53968

SPRING 18

## **I Course:**

Micro Economics - ECON 2302 F8B

**Campus:** Stafford

**Classroom:** W115

**Time:** 11:00 – 1:50 PM

## **II Instructor's Name:**

Birjees Ashraf, BA, MA, and PhD Economics

## **Office Hours:**

Before or after class or by appointment.

## **Preferred contact method:**

Email [birjees.ashraf@hccs.edu](mailto:birjees.ashraf@hccs.edu)

I am very serious about your learning the subject matter and am open to any suggestions you may have to help you understand. I encourage you to ask questions and to see me after class. I am easily accessible via email. Please do not hesitate to contact me and do it soon.

## **III Course Meeting Days, times and location:** \*Classroom may change

CRN	Course Name and Number	Days	Times	Room
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<b>53968</b>	<b>ECON 2302 MICRO ECONOMICS F8B</b>	<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>11:00 - 1:50 pm</b>	<b>STAFFORD Room W 115</b>
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#### **IV**

#### **Course Catalog, Description and Prerequisites:**

Microeconomics examines the fundamentals of the American economy as it relates to business and individual welfare. Emphasis will be on basic economic concepts and theories as they affect domestic and international markets. Microeconomics includes cost and production decisions and discusses the role of competition, monopolies and oligopolies.

The course will help students understand the way the different markets work, how to maximize profits under varying market structures and the efficiency and inefficiencies associated with each. Legal restriction by the government will also be explained.

A prerequisite of MATH 0306 is useful but not necessary provided the student possesses the knowledge of the math required in the course. A good score on the college placement test or some other exam can help make this determination.

#### **V. CATE:**

**None**

#### **V1.**

#### **Student Learning Goals and Objectives:**

**By the time the semester is close to the end, it is expected that:**

- Students will be able to understand and use the concepts when making decisions.
- Students must be able to be able to communicate in a compelling manner the importance of the subject matter and how it relates to efficiency.
- Students must have the ability to compute costs, revenues and profits using varying methods taught.
- Students must be able to determine profit maximizing outputs and loss minimizing outcomes as well as demonstrate the optimum decision a firm must make under both in the short and long run situations.
- Students must have comprehended the law of diminishing returns and utility and be apt at applying the concept of opportunity cost at the individual, social, economic, national levels.
- Students must demonstrate mastery of appropriate concepts diagrammatically and

verbally. It crucial that they can differ between a change in demand and supply versus a change in quantity demanded and supplied.

- Students will be adept to critical thinking and be able to demonstrate creative decision-making skills.
- It is important that students are able to use the tools and concepts used in the course to understand economic and financial news published in the press.

V11.

### **Instructional Methods :**

A variety of instructional methods may be used but most emphasis will be on lectures. Others will include group discussion, films, in class problem solving and homework. Aplia, a web-based learning program is **compulsory**. **Student Assignments:** Student assignments will include reading information assigned, tests, and Aplia. Students will require the use on Aplia for learning and completion of assignments.

A minimum of three tests plus a final will be given during this term. The lowest score earned will be dropped automatically. It is important to note that **the final** cannot be used as a drop grade and is **compulsory** to take in order to earn a passing grade. Failure to do so will seriously lower your grade, possibly to an F.

**Homework/ Assignments:** **Aplia**, a web-based learning program will be used and a necessary requirement in order to take the course. This is a college/department requirement with no exceptions.

**Makeup Test:** There will be no makeup tests. A missed test will count as your drop grade. No exceptions.

### **Assignments:**

Students are required to take several assignments available on Aplia. It is important that you do these assignments in a timely manner. They are designed to help you better understand the material taught. I may initially make them for 'practice' so you can use them for learning purposes, but will change them to 'graded'. I will drop two of the lowest assignment scores. It is not necessary that all the assignments given will be used in the calculation of your grade.

Please note that obtaining help from others on the assignments may make you erroneously believe that your high score will help your final score. Your tests will provide testimony to your actual comprehension of the material. Instead use the assignments as a learning tool!

### **Important:**

If I suspect any form of dishonesty on any work done (homework, tests or any other work) **I reserve the right to exclude those points in the calculation of your final grade.** This could

include but is not excluded to the following:

- test grade
- assignment
- homework
- bonus work
- Any other work.

**Note:** Students must be equipped with supplies necessary for test taking. **No sharing** will be permitted.

**Electronic Devices:** Without prior permission, the use of any **electronic device not allowed**; some examples are laptops, cell phones, iPad. **Text messaging** is disallowed during class. You risk asking to leave the class and or losing points from your final grade.

**Inappropriate Behavior:**

Please understand that you are in an academic environment and should behave/dress accordingly. It is considered improper for students to walk in and out of class whenever they wish. If you do need to leave early, kindly inform the instructor beforehand and then take a seat close to the door. Leave quietly so that the class does not get distracted and disconnect with the lecture.

**Attendance:** may be taken more than once a day. If a student fails to return after a break, he/she will be marked as absent for the entire class.

**V111 Student Assessments:**

Type of Graded Activity/Assignment	
Tests	30%
Aplia Assignments	20%
Bonus points	10%
Final Exam	50%

**The grading scale follows:**

Semester Average	Semester Grade
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79

D	60-69
F	< 60

## How to access your Aplia course

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Ashraf, ECON 2302 CRN 81050, Winter Mini 2013

**Instructor:** Birjees Ashraf

**Start Date:** 12/16/2013

**Course Key:** 9HHA-BNCJ-KXV5

### Registration

Aplia is part of CengageBrain, which allows you to sign in to a single site to access your Cengage materials and courses.

1. Connect to <http://login.cengagebrain.com/>
2. **If you already have an account, sign in.** From your Dashboard, enter your course key (**9HHA-BNCJ-KXV5**) in the box provided, and click the *Register* button.  
**If you don't have an account,** click the *Create a New Account* button, and enter your course key when prompted: **9HHA-BNCJ-KXV5**. Continue to follow the on-screen instructions.

### Payment

**Online:** After registering, you can buy access to Aplia from [myhome.cengagebrain.com](http://myhome.cengagebrain.com).

**Bookstore:** Purchase access to Aplia from your bookstore. Check with the bookstore to find out what they offer for your course.

If you choose to pay later, you can use Aplia without paying until 11:59 PM on 12/23/2013. After paying, you will have the option to purchase a physical book at a discounted price.

For more information on registering for Aplia, please visit <http://www.cengagebrain.com/aplia/>.

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**Bookstore:** Purchase access to Aplia from your bookstore. Check with the bookstore to find out what they offer for your course. NOTE: Bookstore price is higher. Only students on Financial Aid should purchase from the bookstore.

After paying, you will have the option to purchase a physical book at a discounted price. If you choose to pay later, **you can use Aplia without paying until 11:59 PM on 03/01/2013.**

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**Textbook:** Economics by Arnold

**Bookstore Options:** Bundle (Textbook + Aplia) and Aplia Access Cards

**BEST DEAL** \*BEST DEAL\*

Cost for the book for one course or semester is \$90 but if **you purchase it for two economics courses**, then the cost is only **\$110.**

Direct to student purchase site—discounted bundle and the only place that students can acquire a \$90 one semester Aplia access code. Bundle is the best option though. \$110.00 for 2 semesters which includes a book and a two semester Aplia access code. Financial Aid students will still need to go to bookstore to purchase bundle.

(This is at a discounted price also).

<http://www.cengagebrain.com/micro/hccecon2301/2302>

Coursecare site that has Aplia trainings, videos to walk students through registering (in the First Class) and all sorts of other resources (listed below).

<http://cengage.com/coursecare> Just choose Aplia link

- [Online Training Seminars](#)
- [Request Training](#)
- [Self-Training Videos](#)
- [Daily Trainings](#)
- [Instructor Quick Start Guide](#)
- [Tips For Teaching Using Aplia](#)
- [Diagnostic for Developmental Writing and Aplia for Grammar](#)
- [First Day of Class Materials](#)
- [Testimonials](#)

- Technology Power Users
- Tech Support

### On Line Subscription:

[www.aplia.com](http://www.aplia.com)

Required: Textbook's website -this site is an invaluable tool to help you begin to discover economics !

<http://coursemate.cengage.com/CPReader/View/9780840066992/default.aspx?anon=True#home>

Department website:

<http://learning.swc.hccs.edu/courses/social-behavioral-sciences/economics-homepage/>

Please look at the department website for additional useful and fun economics related websites.

**Available Support Services: Library resources, learning center, computer center, tutoring services for economics.**

## IX

### Lab times:

This course has no lab; however, the Aplia assignments are to be used in lieu of lab work. They are practical problems similar to test questions that will give the students the opportunity to practice applications of economics. I strongly encourage making good use of this learning tool.

## X

### ADA Statement

Any student with a DOCUMENTED disability (e.g. physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the Disability Services Office at the respective college at the beginning of each semester. Faculty is authorized to provide ONLY the accommodations requested by the Disability Support Services Office. If you have any questions, it is important to contact counselor, Becky Hauri at 713-718-7909 (Southwest campus). Make an appointment immediately to get the necessary accommodations. I will then be informed of your needs. If you still have questions, contact Donna Price at 713-718-5165.

The information in this publication can be made available in large print, taped or computer-based format upon request. The office of Disability Support Services at your college has the expertise and equipment necessary to accommodate your needs.

## HCC CAMPUS ONLY:

If you have a physical handicap that necessitates assistance during a building evacuation, contact the instructor on the first day of class and a buddy will be assigned to you. This buddy along with the instructor and security personnel will assist you in the unlikely event of a building evacuation.

## XI

Instructors in the department welcome appropriate classroom behavior. This includes attendance as well as verbal participation in class including, but not limited to: answering the instructor's questions, being alert and awake for each class period. We cordially ask that you refrain from inappropriate classroom behavior which includes but is not limited to: sleeping, doing your homework, using your laptop, text messaging, talking with others, touching or attempting to touch another student, throwing any object at any time, interrupting the instructor or another student, being unprepared for class by not bringing necessary materials to class. Remember: If you missed class you are not exempt from

**Unless the disability counselor sends me documentation allowing an individual exception, audio/video/electronic recording of my lectures is strictly prohibited.**

As an active student, it is your responsibility to be respectful of the learning atmosphere in your classroom. It is necessary to have respect of your fellow students and instructor, you will turn off your phone and other electronic devices, and will not use these devices in the classroom unless you receive permission from the instructor.

## XIII

### Academic Honesty:

Honesty Ethical conduct is essential to a community of scholars and students searching for truth. Anything less than total commitment to honesty and honorable conduct undermines the efforts of the entire community. Academic integrity lies at the very heart of any institution of higher learning. At the HCC, students and faculty are expected to commit to a code that exemplifies each individual's honor and integrity. Any conduct that violates this standard and betrays the respect of others is a matter of grave concern and, accordingly, is deemed unacceptable. Make yourself familiar with the college's policy on academic honesty in the college catalog so there are no nasty surprises. ***Remember, technology is making it increasing easy to trace your record and will only get better. Do not risk ruining your career!***

A student who is academically dishonest is claiming an advantage not available to other students. The instructor is responsible for measuring student's individual achievements and also for ensuring that all students compete on a level playing field.

When turning in your work, you are certifying that this is your **own work** and not anyone else's, partially or completely. Cheating includes but is not limited to:

- Looking at another student's paper
- Copying others work
- Plagiarism
- Talking during while working on a graded assignment or test
- Use of any electronic device
- Text messaging
- Receiving or giving unauthorized information that will affect grades

#### XIV

Research indicates that a student's success is enhanced by regular and punctual attendance, critical to achieving success. I want you to succeed in this class and beyond, **but this must be important to you as well**. It is requested that students first contact me should any extraordinary problem occur that causes you to miss 2 or more consecutive classes. Your grade is bound to suffer as a result of absences. Do not take a casual attitude while attaining an education. **Remember: there is a strong correlation between tardiness/ absences and bad grades.** Be punctual and come prepared to class.

#### XV

HCC policy is that a student MAY be dropped from a course after 6 class hours have been missed. **YOU MUST CONTACT THE REGISTRAR'S OFFICE TO DROP THIS CLASS.** After the drop date, **ALL STUDENTS WILL BE ASSIGNED THE GRADE OF A, B, C, D, or F.**

#### XVI

##### NOTICE:

Please be aware that students who take a course for the third time or more must now pay significant tuition/fee increases at HCC and other Texas public colleges and universities. At HCC it is an additional \$50 per credit hour. Also, the state of Texas has passed a new law limiting new students to no more than six withdrawals throughout their academic career in obtaining a baccalaureate degree. If you are considering course withdrawal because you are not earning passing grades, confer with me **immediately**. Your success is very important and be given top priority.

##### Important information:

Material is reviewed in the first few minutes in class. Do not be late as the review reinforces learning which is crucial for success. In case I am late, use this time to review.