



**Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences  
Economics Department**

<http://www.hccs.edu/programs/areas-of-study/social--behavioral-sciences/economics/>

**ECON 2302: PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS | Lecture | #15679**

SPRING 2019 | 16 Weeks (1.14.2019-5.12.2019)

ONLINE | Northline 217 | ONLINE VIA CANVAS

3 Credit Hours | 48 hours per semester

**Instructor Contact Information**

Instructor: Richard J. Gosselin	Office Phone: 713-718-7638
Office: Spring Branch, Room AD2	Office Hours: MW 9:30-11 & TR 8 - 9:30 AM
HCC Email: richard.gosselin@hccs.edu	Office Location: Faculty Offices – North Side

**Instructor's Preferred Method of Contact**

**Your instructor's preferred method of contact is either of the following:**

- Email: richard.gosselin@hccs.edu**
- Phone: 713-718-7638 – Leave message if outside office hours**

Your instructor will respond to emails/calls within 48 hours Monday through Friday and will reply to weekend messages on Monday. Messages sent after 6pm will be answered the next business day.

Only email communication from a HCC student email will be answered; please indicate your name, and course CRN.

Please feel free to contact me concerning any problems that you are experiencing in this course. Your performance in my class is very important to me. I am available to hear your concerns and to discuss course topics.

**What's Exciting About This Course**

First, Welcome! Economics is inherently concerned with everyday behavior and phenomena. It is an elegant, exciting and infinitely applicable science to everyday life. As a teacher, I strive to challenge you to apply concepts you have learned to real world problems and evaluate various opposing points of view. I want to create an environment where students can explore concepts as they actively participate in their own learning. My goal is for you to be physically doing something more than half of the class time we meet or while you are online. I believe this is how learning occurs.

My philosophy:

As a teacher, one of my responsibilities is to help you find the best way to learn new material. I believe in a student centered approach. Where everything you need is readily available; however I also understand you have multiple demands on your time. Therefore, if you ever feel the class is overwhelming or you do not understand something please reach out to me immediately. You do not need to wait until you score a low grade, let's work on this together! We have an easy fun to read book with videos included and multiple practice problems found at the end of the chapter. There are tons of resources, let's find out what works best for you. If something isn't working then we can switch it up. However, let me also encourage you to be a part of this. This is your education, and you have a part to play - so play it! Again, welcome to the class and please read through the syllabus and post any questions to the discussion board.

### **Prerequisites and/or Co-Requisites**

ECON 2302 requires college-level math, reading and writing skills. Research indicates that you are most likely to succeed if you have already taken and passed college math and English. The minimum requirements for enrollment in ECON 2302 include placement into college level reading/writing & developmental mathematics (0314 or higher); or placing into developmental mathematics (0314 or higher) with INRW 0300/0420 (or ESOL 0370/0360) as a co-requisite. Please carefully read and consider the repeater policy in the [HCCS Student Handbook](#).

### **Eagle Online Canvas Learning Management System**

This section of ECON 2302 will use [Eagle Online Canvas \(https://eagleonline.hccs.edu\)](https://eagleonline.hccs.edu) to supplement in-class assignments, exams, and activities.

HCCS Open Lab locations may be used to access the Internet and Eagle Online Canvas. It is recommended that you **USE FIREFOX OR CHROME AS YOUR BROWSER**

For online classes, all students are required to complete an online orientation. Students are expected to log in several times a week, check announcements and emails and complete assigned work.

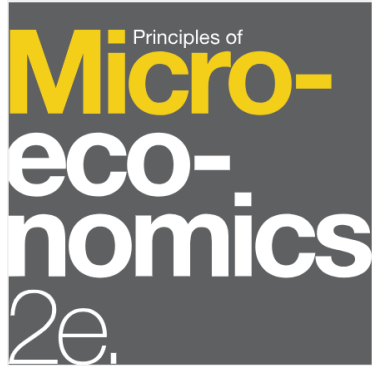
All work is conducted 100% online in this course. You are expected to log in daily and check your HCC Eagle Online inbox everyday. There are weekly quizzes, there are three midterm exams and a final and there are weekly economic experiments as well as required reading of the Wall Street Journal accompanied by quizzes that cover the assigned articles.

### **HCC Online Information and Policies**

Here is the link to information about HCC Online classes including the required Online Orientation for all fully online classes: <http://www.hccs.edu/online/>

## **Instructional Materials**

### **Textbook Information**



## **Principles of Microeconomics by OpenStax, 2nd Edition.**

This book is free and is already embedded in your online course. There are other ways to access it as well:

- **Directly from OpenStax** – go directly to <http://www.openstax.org>, click on “Subjects” and choose “Social Sciences” then choose the book cover that you see pictured at left.

- **Other Options:**



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MobLab Subscription - \$12.00 – go to <http://www.moblab.com>  
More details are available on the first day of class.

Wall Street Journal Subscription - \$10.00 – More details are available on the first day of class.

Remind Subscription – Free – More details are available on the first day of class.

Total Out-of-Pocket Expense for this course - \$22.00

## **Other Instructional Resources**

### **Tutoring**

HCC provides free, confidential, and convenient academic support, including writing critiques, to HCC students in an online environment and on campus. Tutoring is provided by HCC personnel in order to ensure that it is contextual and appropriate. Visit the [HCC Tutoring Services](#) website for services provided.

### **Libraries**

The HCC Library System consists of 9 libraries and 6 Electronic Resource Centers (ERCs) that are inviting places to study and collaborate on projects. Librarians are available both at the libraries and online to show you how to locate and use the resources you need. The libraries maintain a large selection of electronic resources as well as collections of books, magazines, newspapers, and audiovisual materials. The portal to all libraries’ resources and services is the HCCS library web page at <http://library.hccs.edu>.

## Supplementary Instruction

Supplemental Instruction is an academic enrichment and support program that uses peer-assisted study sessions to improve student retention and success in historically difficult courses. Peer Support is provided by students who have already succeeded in completion of the specified course, and who earned a grade of A or B. Find details at <http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/supplemental-instruction/>.

## Course Overview

ECON 2302 – Principles of Microeconomics presents an analysis of the behavior of individual economic agents, including consumer behavior and demand, producer behavior and supply, price and output decisions by firms under various market structures, factor markets, market failures, and international trade. This is a core curriculum course.

### Core Curriculum Objectives (CCOs)

ECON 2302 satisfies the social science requirement in the HCCS core curriculum and addresses the following core objectives which will be evaluated in this course through exams, homework assignments or written work.

1. Critical Thinking Skills (CT): To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
2. Communication Skills (COM): To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.
3. Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS): To include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.
4. Social Responsibility (SR): To include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities.

### Program Student Learning Outcomes (PSLOs)

Click here for [Program and Student Learning Outcomes](#).

### Course Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs)

Upon completion of ECON 2302, the student will be able to:

1. Explain the role of scarcity, specialization, opportunity cost and cost/benefit analysis in economic decision-making.
2. Identify the determinants of supply and demand; demonstrate the impact of shifts in both market supply and demand curves on equilibrium price and output.
3. Summarize the law of diminishing marginal utility; describe the process of utility maximization
4. Calculate supply and demand elasticities, identify the determinants of price elasticity of demand and supply, and demonstrate the relationship between elasticity and total revenue.

5. Describe the production function and the Law of Diminishing Marginal Productivity; calculate and graph short-run and long-run costs of production
6. Identify the four market structures by characteristics; calculate and graph the profit maximizing price and quantity in the output markets by use of marginal analysis.
7. Determine the profit maximizing price and quantity of resources in factor markets under perfect and imperfect competition by use of marginal analysis
8. Describe governmental efforts to address market failure such as monopoly power, externalities, and public goods

### **Learning Objectives**

Learning Objectives for each CSLO can be found at [Learning Objectives for ECON 2302](#)

### **Student Success**

Expect to spend a minimum of 6-8 hours per week outside of class studying the course content. Additional time will be required for projects, written or other assignments. The assignments provided will help you use your study hours wisely. Successful completion of this course requires a combination of the following:

- Reading the textbook
- Attending class in person and/or online
- Completing assignments
- Participating in class activities

There is no short cut for success in this course; it requires reading (and probably re-reading) and studying the material using the course objectives as your guide.

### **Instructor and Student Responsibilities**

As your Instructor, it is my responsibility to:

- Provide the grading scale and detailed grading formula explaining how student grades are to be derived
- Facilitate an effective learning environment through learner-centered instructional techniques
- Provide a description of any special projects or assignments
- Inform students of policies such as attendance, withdrawal, tardiness, and make up
- Provide the course outline and class calendar which will include a description of any special projects or assignments
- Arrange to meet with individual students before and after class as applicable

As a student, it is your responsibility to:

- Attend class in person and/or online. For online classes, students login time will be recorded.
- Participate actively by reviewing course material, interacting with classmates, and responding promptly in your communication with your instructor
- Read and comprehend the textbook
- Complete the required assignments and exams
- Ask for help when there is a question or problem
- Keep copies of all paperwork, including this syllabus, handouts, and all assignments
- Be aware of and comply with academic honesty policies in the [HCCS Student Handbook](#)

## Assignments, Exams, and Activities

### Exams

**Midterm Exams (60%)** – each exam contains anywhere between 40 and 60 questions of the following variety – short answer, fill-in-the-blank, numerical questions, calculation questions, multiple-choice, matching and multiple response questions where more than one answer may be correct. Each question varies in point value. All exams except the first midterm utilize Respondus LockDown Browser with Webcam and Monitor to minimize cheating and to verify the identify of the person taking the exam. While not all HCC professors use this tool it is software sanctioned by the college. This is mandatory and requires either a built-in camera on your computer or one connected to your computer which can be acquired for as little as \$10. The Respondus software is free. Since exams are scheduled on multiple days, makeups are not allowed. A zero will be recorded for missed exams. However, all students will have their lowest midterm score removed before calculating the midterm average.

### Final Exam

**Final exam (20%)** Students must take it at the prescribed times as stipulated inside Canvas. The format of the final is similar to that of the midterms. However, the final exam is not simply another unit exam. It can also cover any material included in the course since the beginning of the term even though a large chunk of questions will be from material since the third midterm.

[Link to the final exam calendar](#)

If students miss the final exam, it is their responsibility to contact their instructor within 24 hours via email and arrange a make up at the discretion of the instructor. The student must be assigned a course grade by the institutional deadline.

### Other Assignments

**Weekly chapter quizzes (10%)** You may choose to include in-class activities. If so, specify the types of activities student should expect, suc

**Weekly Wall Street Journal Quizzes (5%)** – this covers weekly articles that are assigned to students. Questions come directly from the articles and from nowhere else. The length of these quizzes may vary between five and ten multiple-choice questions. The articles to be read will be posted the week before the quiz over those same articles.

**Essay (5%)** – there is one 500 word essay that is required for this course and is due half way into the semester (four weeks in this particular course). It is graded on content, clarity, unity of presentation, grammar and mechanics as well as the soundness of your economic arguments. Sample essay prompts from past semesters will be made available in the course as well as a grading rubric. In order to receive credit you must submit a rough draft, written feedback from a HCC Upswing tutor and a final draft. There are no exceptions or partial credit for turning in less than three of these documents.

**MobLab Experiments (0%)** – while the MobLab experiments do not count as a grade there will be questions on examinations that will come directly from the experiments. Students who repeatedly miss the experiments do so at their own peril.

### Grading Formula

Assignments	Points	Percentage
Midterm Exams		60% (3)
Chapter Quizzes		10% (16)
Wall Street Journal Quizzes		5% (6)
Essay		5% (1)
Final Exam		20% (1)
Total		100%

HCC Grading Scale can be found on this site under Academic Information:  
<http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/student-handbook/>

### Course Calendar

Week	Dates	Topic/What's due
1	1/14/19 – 1/20/19	Chapters 1 and 2 along with quizzes Welcome to Economics! Choice in a World of Scarcity
2	1/21/19 – 1/27/19	Chapters 3 and 4 along with quizzes Demand and Supply Labor and Financial Markets Wall Street Journal Quiz #1 <b>Midterm Exam #1</b> (covers ch. 1 – 4)
3	1/28/19 – 2/03/19	Chapters 5 and 6 along with quizzes Elasticity Consumer Choice Wall Street Journal Quiz #2
4	2/04/19 – 2/10/19	Chapters 7 and 8 along with quizzes Production, Cost and Industry Structure Perfect Competition Wall Street Journal Quiz #3 <b>Midterm Exam #2</b> (covers ch. 5 – 8) <b>Essay Due</b>
5	2/11/19 – 2/17/19	Chapter 9 and 10 along with quizzes Monopoly Monopolistic Competition and Oligopoly Wall Street Journal Quiz #4
6	2/18/19 – 2/24/19	Chapters 11 and 12 along with quizzes Monopoly and Antitrust Policy Environmental Protection and Pub.Goods

		Wall Street Journal Quiz #5 <b>Midterm Exam #3</b> (covers ch. 9 – 12)
7	2/25/19 – 3/03/19	Chapters 13 and 14 along with quizzes Positive Externalities and Public Goods Labor Markets and Income Wall Street Journal Quiz #6
8	3/04/19 – 3/10/19	Chapters 16 and 17 (ch. 15 not covered) Along with quizzes <b>Final Exam</b> (covers chapters 13, 14, 16 and 17 as well as material since the first exam) – <b>Special note</b> – most of the weighting of the exam comes from the end of the course.

### Syllabus Modifications

The instructor reserves the right to modify the syllabus at any time during the semester and will promptly notify students in writing, typically by e-mail, of any such changes.

## Instructor’s Practices and Procedures

### Missed Assignments

**Makeups** – There are no makeups for any missed work. However, if a student misses one of the midterms, the zero will not count as all students will have their midterm exam average determined by the highest two midterm exam scores. The lowest score will be thrown out regardless of a poor grade or a zero for having missed one. This also applies to chapter quizzes and Wall Street Journal quizzes. Any student that misses two exams may be withdrawn by the instructor. Since there is only one essay, failing to turn it in results in a zero. NO EXCEPTIONS.

### Academic Integrity

**Academic Honesty** - As college students I expect everyone to turn in their own work and to take examinations without cheating or violating any of the codes of conduct of the college.

#### Violation of Academic Scholastic Dishonesty and Grievance

Possible punishments for academic dishonesty may include a grade of “0” or “F” on the particular assignment, failure in the course, and/or referral to the Dean of Student Services for further disciplinary action.

**Optional Academic Honesty Pledge – Students are required to sign and return the pledge on the last page of the syllabus.**

**Students who wish to appeal a grade penalty should refer to the [Grade Appeal Process](#).**

Here’s the link to the HCC information about academic integrity (Scholastic Dishonesty and Violation of Academic Scholastic Dishonesty and Grievance):



<http://www.hccs.edu/about-hcc/procedures/student-rights-policies--procedures/student-procedures/>

## Attendance Procedures

If a student does not attend class by the Official Day of Record, they will be dropped automatically by the registrar for non attendance.

For online students, participation (as defined by your instructor) is necessary to show attendance. In my case participation refers to regularly logging in each day, viewing the course material, watching the assigned videos and doing the assigned work. A student who fails to complete two assignments or more including a Wall Street Journal quiz, a chapter quiz, a midterm exam or the class essay is subject to withdrawal.

Class attendance is monitored weekly. Although it is your responsibility to drop a course, the instructor has the authority to drop you for excessive absences. You may be dropped from a course after accumulating absences in excess of 12.5 percent of the total hours of instruction (lecture and lab). For example:

For a 3 credit-hour lecture class meeting 3 hours per week (48 hours of instruction), you can be dropped after 6 hours of absence.

Administrative drops are at the discretion of the instructor.

Failure to withdraw officially can result in a grade of "F" or "Fx" in the course.

**Attendance policy** – see attendance procedures above.

If a student is dropped by the registrar for non-attendance, your instructor will not reinstate the student.

## Student Conduct

## Instructor's Course-Specific Information (As Needed)

**<< Modify Section & Delete Placeholder Text >>** Insert additional information on how you manage your course. For example, include your grading policy describing when students can expect grades and feedback after they submit coursework.

## Electronic Devices

Obviously, since this is an online course students are not only encouraged to use electronic devices but actually must have access to a serviceable computer or laptop with an up-to-date browser and a word processing program including a computer camera and speakers.

## Economics Program Information

Click here for more information about the [Economics Program](#)

## HCC Policies

Here's the link to the HCC Student Handbook <http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/student-handbook/> In it you will find information about the following:

Academic Information	Incomplete Grades
Academic Support	International Student Services
Attendance, Repeating Courses, and Withdrawal	Health Awareness
Career Planning and Job Search	Libraries/Bookstore
Childcare	Police Services & Campus Safety
disAbility Support Services	Student Life at HCC
Electronic Devices	Student Rights and Responsibilities
Equal Educational Opportunity	Student Services
Financial Aid TV (FATV)	Testing
General Student Complaints	Transfer Planning
Grade of FX	Veteran Services

## EGLS<sup>3</sup>

The EGLS<sup>3</sup> ([Evaluation for Greater Learning Student Survey System](#)) will be available for most courses near the end of the term until finals start. This brief survey will give invaluable information to your faculty about their teaching. Results are anonymous and will be available to faculty and division chairs after the end of the term. EGLS<sup>3</sup> surveys are only available for the Fall and Spring semesters. -EGLS3 surveys are not offered during the Summer semester due to logistical constraints.

<http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/egls3-evaluate-your-professors/>

## Campus Carry Link

Here's the link to the HCC information about Campus Carry:

<http://www.hccs.edu/departments/police/campus-carry/>

## HCC Email Policy

When communicating via email, HCC requires students to communicate only through the HCC email system to protect your privacy. If you have not activated your HCC student email account, you can go [to HCC Eagle ID](#) and activate it now. You may also use Canvas Inbox to communicate.

## Housing and Food Assistance for Students

Any student who faces challenges securing their foods or housing and believes this may affect their performance in the course is urged to contact the Dean of Students at their college for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so.

This will enable HCC to provide any resources that HCC may possess.

## Office of Institutional Equity

Use the link below to access the HCC Office of Institutional Equity, Inclusion, and Engagement (<http://www.hccs.edu/departments/institutional-equity/>)

### **disAbility Services**

HCC strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please meet with a campus Abilities Counselor as soon as possible in order to establish reasonable accommodations. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between you, your instructor(s) and Ability Services. It is the policy and practice of HCC to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law. For more information, please go to <http://www.hccs.edu/support-services/disability-services/>

### **Title IX**

Houston Community College is committed to cultivating an environment free from inappropriate conduct of a sexual or gender-based nature including sex discrimination, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and sexual violence. Sex discrimination includes all forms of sexual and gender-based misconduct and violates an individual's fundamental rights and personal dignity. Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex-including pregnancy and parental status in educational programs and activities. If you require an accommodation due to pregnancy please contact an Abilities Services Counselor. The Director of EEO/Compliance is designated as the Title IX Coordinator and Section 504 Coordinator. All inquiries concerning HCC policies, compliance with applicable laws, statutes, and regulations (such as Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504), and complaints may be directed to:

David Cross  
Director EEO/Compliance  
Office of Institutional Equity & Diversity  
3100 Main  
(713) 718-8271  
Houston, TX 77266-7517 or [Institutional.Equity@hccs.edu](mailto:Institutional.Equity@hccs.edu)  
<http://www.hccs.edu/departments/institutional-equity/title-ix-know-your-rights/>

### **Department Chair Contact Information**

Department Chair: Sophie Haci  
Email: [sophie.haci@hccs.edu](mailto:sophie.haci@hccs.edu)  
Phone: 713-718-5819

Administrative Assistant: M. Conchita Olivares  
Email: [maria.olivares@hccs.edu](mailto:maria.olivares@hccs.edu)  
Phone: 713-718-6698

**Academic Honesty Pledge – Sign, date and return to your instructor**

I understand that academic honesty is required in this course and that I am expected to work independently on all assignments, quizzes, and exams (except for team or group assignments.) I affirm that all of the work that I submit will be my own. I will not work with other students on quizzes and exams. I will not copy or paraphrase print or electronic sources when completing written assignments. I will not use electronic sources other than those for which links are provided in this course to answer questions on quizzes or exams. I will not use instructor resources that are not intended for use by students such as test banks or instructor's manuals. I understand that my instructor may require me to meet with her or to submit evidence at any time for the purpose of verifying that an assignment, quiz, or exam is my own work. I understand that any violation of this statement may result in a failing grade on an assignment, quiz, or exam. It may also result in course failure and disciplinary action by Houston Community College.

**Student Signature**

Student Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_