

ECON 110
Principles of Economics
Spring 2022

Instructor
Prof. Ayça Tekin-Koru

Teaching Assistant
Sevdenur Tural

Office	D205	F225
Office Hours	R 14:00-16:00	Th 14:00-16:00
Office Phone	+90.312.585.0034	+90 (312) 585 0309
E-mail	ayca.tekinkoru@tedu.edu.tr	sevdenur.tural@tedu.edu.tr

GENERAL INFORMATION

Course Description:

Basic tools for economic thinking. Framework to evaluate key microeconomic and macroeconomic topics. The nature of economics. A general view of price system. Markets and pricing. The determination and the control of national income. Fiscal policy. Money, banking and monetary policy. International trade and finance. Economic growth and development.

Course Objective:

The core learning objectives for the course are to demonstrate understanding of the fundamental economics concepts. The aim of this course is to introduce the concept of a market economy and to investigate how scarce resources are allocated under a price mechanism. At the end of the course students will be able to critically analyze and interpret economic data; apply economic reasoning to analysis of current events and case readings.

Credits: (3+0+0) 3 TEDU Credits, 5.0 ECTS Credits

Prerequisites/Corequisites: Good command of English and basic algebra knowledge will be enough to follow the course.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to

1. apply knowledge of basic economic concepts such as scarcity, opportunity cost, elasticity, economic profit and marginal analysis.
2. demonstrate their understanding of how markets clear through the interaction of supply and demand.
3. show graphically and algebraically how firms respond to changing demand and costs.
4. demonstrate their understanding of the welfare properties of perfectly competitive markets and the consequences of market imperfections on output and welfare.
5. measure key macroeconomic variables
6. Demonstrate their knowledge of the major macroeconomic issues, policy objectives and national accounts.

7. find out basic relationships between the variables such as national income, unemployment, budget deficit, money supply, interest rate, inflation rate, exchange rate, and trade deficit.
8. Demonstrate their understanding of the extended Keynesian income-expenditure model algebraically and diagrammatically
9. Understand the creation and role of the Money in the economy.
10. Use the model to analyze a variety of fiscal and monetary policy choices.

COURSE READINGS

Required Text:

Hubbard, R. G. and A. O'Brien, Economics. 6th Edition, Pearson Prentice Hall Press, New York, 2017.

Supplementary Material:

Current events and applications will be discussed with the aid of supplementary readings. In order to get the most out of this course, I urge you to keep up with current events in economics by reading relevant articles in publications such as The Economist, Business Week, The Wall Street Journal or daily newspapers. In addition, more and more information is available on the Internet, although not all sources of information are equally reliable.

Practice Questions:

Problem sets will be posted on the Moodle for you to practice. They are crucial in helping you to understand the material taught in class, but they will also ask you to apply concepts from class to a variety of real world issues to develop your critical thinking skills. In addition, they help you in preparing for the exams.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

Participation, In-Class Activities:

This course adopts interactive learning methods, which require class attendance and active participation in the class discussions.

Attendance is required and will be taken at the beginning of the class meetings. Being in attendance is defined as being present for the entire class period. If you leave early or come late your attendance will be marked as absent. A student with less than 50 per cent attendance will not be allowed to sit the final examination and be assigned a grade of FX.

Pop Quizzes:

There will be several 20-minute pop-quizzes throughout the semester. One lowest grade will be dropped.

Midterm Exam:

There will be one mid-term exam covering all the material from the beginning of the term.

Final Exam:

There will be a final exam covering all the material since the second mid-term exam.

GRADING

The course grade will be based on the following:

	<u>Weight</u>
In-Class Activities and Attendance	10%
Pop-Quizzes	30%
Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	30%

Grade Evaluation Scale:

Grades for this course are assigned according to the following criteria. Letter grades will be determined via curving in each grade range when necessary.

AA: 90-100; BA: 85-89; BB: 80-84; CB: 75-79; CC: 70-74; DC: 60-69; DD: 50-59; F: 0-49

TEACHING and LEARNING

Planned Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Telling/Explaining, Discussions/Debates, Questioning, Reading, Problem Solving, Case Study/Scenario Analysis, Video Presentations, Oral Presentations/Reports.

Student Workload:

Lectures 42 hrs, Quizzes/Homework 40 hrs, Midterm Exam 16 hrs, Final Exam 16 hrs, Research Review 36 hrs. -- Total workload is 150 hours.

Computer Usage:

Students will use MS Office applications (Word, Excel, Access) to work on their weekly assignments about 2 hours a week.

How to Get the Best out of This Course:

1. COME TO CLASS. In the past, the single best predictor of final grades has been class attendance. Every year, some portion of my students stop showing up as the term wears on. These people consistently get C's and worse.
2. TAKE NOTES. Getting notes from your friends or downloading the lecture slides are poor substitutes, even if those notes are of high quality. Why? Because most of the learning you will do actually takes place in the process of hearing and seeing the material from the professor and peers, transcribing it into your notes and engaging in discussions with your peers in the classroom.
3. READ THE TEXT. Be disciplined about keeping up with the material. Read the text before class in order to familiarize yourself with the models that we will be discussing.
4. PARTICIPATE. Finally, get involved in your own and your peers' learning by being active participants in class discussions, spending the necessary time on assignments and studying together outside the classroom if that helps.

COURSE POLICIES

Lectures:

1. Come to class on time, be seated and ready to begin class. Latecomers miss announcements, handouts, the initial thrust of the class, and disturb other students.
2. I will not allow laptops to be used in class, as they are too much of a distraction from the discussion, and are generally not as good as a pen for taking notes. If a student has a particular need to use a laptop, please ask me and I will be willing to consider its use.
3. Cell phones must be put away during lectures and exams.

Pop-Quizzes:

1. You need to be present for the entire lecture to have access to the pop-quiz.

Make-up:

1. If you have a legitimate and documented excuse and miss the mid-term exam for some dire reason, you will be given a written makeup exam. In case of serious illness, a verifying report from a physician is necessary and it has to be approved by the University Health Centre.

Re-grading:

1. POP-QUIZZES: No re-grade requests will be accepted.
2. EXAMS: I am willing to entertain re-grade requests, subject to the following rules:
 - a. Re-grade requests will be accepted within one week of seeing your exam. After that point, they will not be accepted.
 - b. Requests must be written. You should explain clearly why you claim you deserve more points. Note that "My answer looks just like the key" is not a reason.
 - c. I re-grade the entire exam, not just the question you have highlighted. Since errors in grading go both ways, and a re-grade request is an assertion that errors have occurred, I want to make certain to eliminate all errors. This means that your grade can go up and it can go down.
 - d. I will answer the re-grade request within a week, in writing. At that point, the grade is final and not subject to further discussion.

STUDENT CONDUCT

Academic Integrity:

Academic dishonesty in assignments, examinations, or other academic performance is prohibited and considered a violation of the Student Conduct Regulations. It includes 'cheating' (the intentional use or attempted use of unauthorized materials, information or study aids); 'fabrication' (the intentional falsification or invention of any information); 'assisting in dishonesty or tampering' (intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another commit an act of dishonesty or tampering with evaluation instruments and documents); and 'plagiarism' (intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another person as one's own). Penalties for academic dishonesty may result in receiving an 'F' in the course, or referral to the Dean of the Faculty in which you are enrolled for further action.

Disruptive Behavior:

Behaviors that are disruptive to teaching and learning will not be tolerated, and will be referred to the Rector's Office for disciplinary action. Behaviors that create a hostile, offensive or intimidating environment based on gender, race, ethnicity, color, religion, age, disability, marital status or sexual orientation will be referred to the Rector's Office.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Week	Topic
1	Syllabus and Introduction (Chapter 1)
2	Trade-Offs, Comparative Advantage and the Market System (Chapter 2)
3	Where Prices Come From: The Interaction of Demand and Supply (Chapter 3)
4	Economic Efficiency, Government Price Setting, and Taxes (Chapter 4)
5	Economic Efficiency, Government Price Setting, and Taxes (Chapter 4)
6	Externalities, Environmental Policy and Public Goods (Chapter 5)
7	Comparative Advantage and the Gains from International Trade (Chapter 9)
8	Midterm Exam
9	GDP: Measuring Total Production and Income (Chapter 19)
10	Unemployment and Inflation (Chapter 20)
11	Long Run Economic Growth: sources and Policies (Ch22)
12	Aggregate Output and Expenditure in the Short Run (Chapter 23)
13	Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply Analysis (Chapter 24)
14	Money, Banks and Central Banking (Chapter 25)
15	Monetary and Fiscal Policy (Chapters 26 &27)

Note: We cover a large number of topics in ECON 110. There is not enough time to do justice to all of them. We will, however, cover the most important parts of the chapters given above. **In short, it is important that you attend the classes to gain first-hand access to what parts of the chapters are discussed in depth and what parts are skipped.**