

University of Guelph  
Department of Economics and Finance  
College of Management and Economics

**ECON\*1050 (01, 02, 03) Introductory Microeconomics**

**Fall 2012**

E. Adomait (Section 1 T Th 4:00 to 5:20 RozH 101)  
(Section 3 T Th 7:00 to 8:20 RozH 101)

Email: [eadomait@uoguelph.ca](mailto:eadomait@uoguelph.ca)

MacKinnon 728, Ext. 56343

Office Hours : Tues., Thurs., 10:00-12 :00

J. Livernois (Section 2 MWF 9:30 to 10:20 WMH)

Email : [live@uoguelph.ca](mailto:live@uoguelph.ca)

Office : UC 437

Office Hours : By appointment.

It is your responsibility as a student to be aware of and to abide by the University's policies regarding academic misconduct, e-mail communication, maintaining copies of out-of class assignments, what to do when you cannot meet a course requirement and the drop date for this semester. To better understand these policies, visit:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/economics/node/1115>

## COURSE OUTLINE

### Synopsis

Market economies primarily rely upon the price system as a means of allocating resources. The objective of Introductory Microeconomics is to develop in students an understanding and appreciation of this price system. The course will survey the strengths and weaknesses of the market economy, as well as the successes and failures of government intervention in the market. Much of the course content is theoretical in nature. Once students have acquired facility in handling these analytical tools, attention will turn towards issues of public policy such as marketing boards, competition policy, environmental policy, and trade policy.

### Required Textbook:

Michael Parkin and Robin Bade, *Microeconomics, Canada in the Global Environment*, 8<sup>th</sup> Ed. Purchased new, the textbook is bundled with an access code for **MyEconLab (MEL)** and **MyCanadianComplab (MCCL)**.

If you purchase a used textbook, you will have to purchase a stand-alone access code for **MyEconLab**. Note that an access code provides you an electronic copy of the textbook. You will also need an access code for **Peer Scholar** as it is required for the writing assignments. As part of the **MEL and Peer Scholar package** you will also access

**MyCanadianCompLab** as a writing resource. You will use this resource as a check for plagiarism (**sourcecheck**) before you submit your written assignments to **PeerScholar**.

Eveline Adomait and Richard Maranta, *Cocktail Party Economics: The Big Ideas and Scintillating Small Talk about Markets*

## Evaluation:

### Midterm Test (25 percent)

- **Saturday October 20<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 3:00 pm.** The test will consist of multiple-choice questions.

### In-class Quizzes (15 percent)

- There are two quizzes (short answer questions) worth 7.5% each held in-class on either October 4<sup>th</sup> (Adomait's class) and 5<sup>th</sup> (Livernois' class) and November 15<sup>th</sup> (Adomait's class) or 16<sup>th</sup> (Livernois' class).

### Final Exam (40 percent)

- ❖ December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11:30 to 1:30 pm. The multiple choice final exam will cover the entire course but more weight will be given to the material covered after the midterm test.

### MyEconLab (MEL) Assignments (10 percent)

- There is one assignment per week, for a total of 12. Only the top 10 will count. Assignments will be completed on-line using MEL software. There are 10 questions per assignment.
- Each assignment **MUST** be completed by its due date. Due dates are indicated in MEL and in CourseLink.
- You are allowed unlimited attempts per assignment and your grade is the highest of your attempts. Thus, you should try to get perfect on these assignments to be adequately prepared for exams.
- All assignments are to be done individually. Please allow 24 hours for servicing of technical difficulties. Contact **Pearson** with any **technical** problems.
- Refer to CourseLink for instructions about using MEL.

### Peer Scholar (PS) Writing Assignments with MyCanadianCompLab (MMCL) (10 percent)

- You will be required to complete 2 online writing assignments worth 5% each.
- These assignments include an initial writing piece (approximately 600 words), a peer assessment of 5 other assignments (approximately 70 words for each peer assessment) and your reflection on peer assessments of your work (approximately 50 words for each peer review).
- Your grade will be a combination of the Peer Review grade (3/5) and your usefulness rating (2/5) as a reviewer.
- Each assignment must be completed by the due date. Note you must submit with your composition into PS with your Sourcecheck report from MCCL attached. Please be aware that MCCL needs 24 hours to send you back the report once you submit it to them. You will receive a time stamped email indicating that they have received your submission.
- Due dates are indicated in Courselink and on this outline. Contact the TA (not the instructors) if you have **timing problems** with either MEL, MMCL or PS.

- MCCL also has writing and free editorial services (3 times) you can use to complete these assignments but it is not mandatory to use them.
- **Peer Scholar Assignments are based on Cocktail Party Economics**  
Assignment 1: Write a Gossip Column (in keeping with the tone and style of the gossip columns in the book) on the life of either John Stuart Mill or Joan Robinson. You must check for plagiarism before you submit (see MCCL). Be sure to reference your sources with endnotes.  
Assignment 2: Write a book review of *Cocktail Party Economics* for **The Economist**.  
<http://www.economist.com/topics/book-reviews>. Do check for plagiarism.

### Administrative Issues

- **Final Exam Conflicts:** Any student who has a time conflict with the final examination may **not** register in this course.
- Use of pocket calculators, electronic or paper dictionaries and translators is prohibited in all tests and examinations for this course. If you do not understand the meaning of a word on a test or examination, please ask.
- Bring lead pencils and your student photo ID to the test and final examination.
- Midterm results and answer keys will be posted on Courselink.
- There will be a make up test for students who have documented medical or compassionate reasons (this includes emails from varsity coaches) for missing the midterm. Please check Courselink for details. There are no make-up MEL assignments (remember 2 can be dropped without penalty). For any missed in-class quizzes, there will be a make up quiz in the week following the second quiz. If you miss both quizzes you will be given enough time to write both make up quizzes.

*Note: The Government of Ontario requires that students be provided a no-extra-cost option for obtaining a course credit. Therefore, if you do not wish to purchase the textbooks, you can use the textbooks on reserve in the library. If you do not wish to purchase a MEL--Peer Scholar access codes, you will not be able to do the on-line assignments and you must **request of your instructors in writing (email) no later than September 17** to have the 20% weight assigned as follows: 10% (MEL) shifted to the final exam and 10% (PeerScholar) to a 4000 word essay due November 22<sup>nd</sup> by 4:30 pm. For the PeerScholar replacement, you will write chapter 13 for *Cocktail Party Economics—Labour Markets in the style and tone of book*. Please note that if you opt out of one online assessment you must opt out of the other.*

### Course Outline, Required Textbook Reading and MyEconLab due dates:

We will cover Chapters 1--17 (excluding chapter 9) of the textbook. The schedule for the course is posted on Courselink under "Content". There you will find, for each week, the chapters you must read.

**Important Dates**

Assignments, Tests and Quizzes	
MEL 1 (Ch 1 + 2)	Due Sept 14 at 9 pm
MEL 2 (Ch 3)	Due Sept 17 at 9 pm
MEL 3 (Ch 4)	Due Sept 24 at 9 pm
MCCL sourcecheck	Due Sept 25 at 9 pm
PS 1 part 1 (Compose— written assignment)	Due Sept 26 at 9 pm
MEL 4 (Ch 5)	Due Oct 1 at 9 pm
Quiz 1	Oct 4 <sup>th</sup> or 5 <sup>th</sup> in class
MEL 5 (Ch 6)	Due Oct 8 at 9 pm
PS 1 part 2 (assess— peer reviews)	Due Oct 8 at 9 pm
PS 1 part 3 (reflect on own writing and peer reviews)	Due Oct 10 <sup>th</sup> at 9 pm
MEL 6 (Ch 7)	Due Oct 15 at 10 pm
Midterm Test (Ch 1-7)	Saturday October 20: 1 to 3 pm (Location on Courselink)
MEL 7 (Ch 8)	Due Oct 22 at 9 pm
MEL 8 (Ch 10 + 11)	Due Oct 29 at 9 pm
MCCL sourcecheck	Due Oct 30 at 9 pm
PS 2 part 1 (compose)	Due Oct 31 at 9 pm
MEL 9 (Ch 12)	Due Nov 5 at 9 pm
PS 2 part 2 (assess)	Due Nov 5 at 9 pm
PS 2 part 3 (reflect)	Due Nov 7 at 9 pm
MEL 10 (Ch 13)	Due Nov 12 at 9 pm
Quiz 2	Nov 15 <sup>th</sup> or 16 <sup>th</sup> in class
MEL 11 (Ch 14 + 15)	Due Nov 19 at 9 pm
MEL 12 (Ch 16 + 17)	Due Nov 26 at 9 pm
Final Exam	Dec 3 11:30-1:30 pm (Location TBA)

**Note:** MEL Assignments must be submitted by 9 pm sharp on the Monday following the week in which the topics are covered as shown in the table above. Experience shows that technical problems seem to happen primarily to people who are trying to submit an assignment at the last minute! Technical problems occurring in the 4 hours preceding the deadline will not be accepted as an excuse for not submitting an assignment.

You will be asked to complete an evaluation for this course sometime during the last two weeks of classes. The Department of Economics policy regarding the conduct and use of these evaluations can be found at:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/economics/academics/courses/course-evaluation>