ECON 101: Introduction to Economics I Bilkent University Fall 2020

Last updated: September 16, 2020

Instructors

Sections 1 - 7: Sections 8 - 14:

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or by appointment or by appointment

Lectures

Each week, we have 4-hour lectures and a 2-hour discussion meeting. The lectures will be conducted in large groups (which contains seven sections and approximately 140 students each), but each section has its own discussion hours (approximately 20 students). Until October 1, we will our lectures and discussion hours online through Zoom. Here is the address you can check regarding the logistics: https://web4.bilkent.edu.tr/zoom/.

Below we give the discussion hours (seen as Lab hours in STARS) and the rooms. Please note that the course schedules will change after October 1, when we make our transition to hybrid teaching mode. Do not forget to regularly check the active schedule displayed on SRS.

Section	Lecture Hours and Room	Lab Hours and Room
1	Monday 8:00-9:50, Wednesday 15:30-17:20 (V-02)	Tuesday 12:30-14:20 (B-103)
2	Monday 8:00-9:50, Wednesday 15:30-17:20 (V-02)	Tuesday 12:30-14:20 (B-104)
3	Monday 8:00-9:50, Wednesday 15:30-17:20 (V-02)	Tuesday 12:30-14:20 (B-109)
4	Monday 8:00-9:50, Wednesday 15:30-17:20 (V-02)	Tuesday 12:30-14:20 (B-110)
5	Monday 8:00-9:50, Wednesday 15:30-17:20 (V-02)	Thursday 12:30-14:20 (B-103)
6	Monday 8:00-9:50, Wednesday 15:30-17:20 (V-02)	Thursday 12:30-14:20 (B-104)
7	Monday 8:00-9:50, Wednesday 15:30-17:20 (V-02)	Thursday 12:30-14:20 (B-109)
8	Tuesday 8:00-9:50, Thursday 15:30-17:20 (V-02)	Monday 12:30-14:20 (B-103)
9	Tuesday 8:00-9:50, Thursday 15:30-17:20 (V-02)	Monday 12:30-14:20 (B-104)
10	Tuesday 8:00-9:50, Thursday 15:30-17:20 (V-02)	Monday 12:30-14:20 (B-110)
11	Tuesday 8:00-9:50, Thursday 15:30-17:20 (V-02)	Monday 12:30-14:20 (B-109)
12	Tuesday 8:00-9:50, Thursday 15:30-17:20 (V-02)	Friday 12:30-14:20 (B-103)
13	Tuesday 8:00-9:50, Thursday 15:30-17:20 (V-02)	Friday 12:30-14:20 (B-109)
14	Tuesday 8:00-9:50, Thursday 15:30-17:20 (V-02)	Friday 12:30-14:20 (B-110)

You should attend the discussion section that you are registered to. If you attend a different section you will not receive any discussion participation grade. Thus, check your registration records (via SRS) and make sure that you attend the discussion meetings of the correct section.

Textbook

"Economics" by R. Glenn Hubbard and Anthony Patrick O'Brien, Sixth Edition.

We will intermittently post lecture notes and supplementary readings to Moodle. But taking your own notes during class is always a good idea.

Course Objectives

The goal of this course is to introduce you to the tools necessary for economic thinking and communication. Throughout this term we will study the decisions of individuals and firms, and analyze the outcomes due to the interaction of these decisions. More importantly, the course will allow you to develop the skills necessary to question and analyze the choices made by "economic agents".

Topics to be covered:

- Theory of the consumer (Chapter 10 and the appendix of Chapter 10).
- Theory of the firm (Chapter 11).
- Firms in a perfectly competitive market (Chapter 12).
- Demand, supply and the market (Chapter 3).
- Elasticity (Chapter 6).
- Economic efficiency and government policies (Chapter 5 and the appendix of Chapter 4).
- Externalities and government policies (Chapter 5).
- Public goods and common goods (Chapter 5).
- General equilibrium and welfare.
- Monopoly (Chapter 15).
- Monopolistic Competition (Chapter 14).
- Oligopoly (Chapter 14).
- The markets for labor and other factors of production (Chapter 17).

Grading

Exams: You will have a midterm and a final exam. The exams will be in person and centrally scheduled, so we cannot give an exact date yet.

Homework assignments: There will be a homework assignment almost every week. For homework assignments, you will be working in groups of four people. The groups are going to be randomly assigned, and only one member of the group will need to submit the homework assignment. Each group member will receive the same grade. In the middle of the semester, we will reshuffle groups, so you will have different groups to work with.

Participation: You will also be graded on your participation to the discussions and your work during the discussion hours. You cannot attend the discussion hour of another section.

Your overall grade will be determined by your grades from the midterm, homework assignments, participation grades from discussion hours, and the final exam. The weights of these in determining your overall grade is as follows:

 $\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{Midterm:} & 30\% \\ \mbox{Final Exam:} & 40\% \\ \mbox{Homework Assignments:} & 20\% \\ \mbox{Discussion participation and activities:} & 10\% \end{array}$

One of the lowest homework assignment grade and one of the lowest discussion hour grade will be dropped when calculating your total homework assignment grade and total discussion hour grade.

Only those with documented and approved medical or other emergencies may take a make-up exam. Please see http://w3.bilkent.edu.tr/bilkent/student-medical-report-guidelines/ for the Bilkent's guidelines regarding medical reports.

Regarding the FZ grade: In this course we will not give any FZ grades.

Academic Integrity

There is zero tolerance for any kind of cheating. Needless to say, being punctual, respecting others' rights to listen to class during the lectures, turning off your cell phones during class, are among the list of "proper behavior" and we expect no less from each of you. Since a majority of lectures will be delivered through Zoom, we expect your kind behavior to be carried over to online environments as well. Here is a short link on the "Zoom etiquette": https://education.depaul.edu/covid-19-resources/Pages/zoom-etiquette-for-students.aspx