

Staff

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Office:	Esther Lee Building (ELB), Room 1001	Off. Hours:	Thursday 11:00-12:00 or by appointment
Phone:	394-38002	Classroom:	Zoom (online platform) / YIA LT1 (campus)
Time:	Thursday 14:30-17:15 (H07-09)		
Tutor:	Email:	Office / Phone:	Office Hours:

This course is an overview of the nature of the economic problem. It introduces that how society and man deal with the economic problem. The course is designed for students with no previous knowledge or training in economics. If you want to study specific and technical details should consider other advanced courses in the faculty.

Learning Outcome

Students will learn the meaning of terms and concepts that will help them understand current social, political and economic events. They can apply the knowledge in their everyday lives. Students are expected to be able to analyze and explain to others various economic phenomena.

Main References

Book: Mankiw, N. Gregory, *Principles of Economics* (8th edition), Cengage Learning 2018 (Main textbook)

Online Material: Students who are enrolled in the course can get access to our university eLearning system, Blackboard Learn. You may download reading material such as the lecture handouts, links of current news and comments. You can also check the course announcements, and exercises. Some statistics and opinion from news-clip or articles about Hong Kong economy and global economy can also be obtained on various websites which will be introduced at appropriate moment.

Assessment

We have an in-class 90-minute test (30%) with T/F, multiple-choice, & short questions from **14:45 to 16:15** on **Nov. 5th 2020**. Final 120-minute examination (40%) is arranged by the University, please note carefully the date and venue. Tentatively, class-activity (30%) will be in the format of group assignments or discussions among students.

Grade Descriptors

A	Excellent performance on all learning outcomes. Brilliant and thorough understanding of knowledge and tools acquired from the course. Outstanding ability to coherently and critically analyze and apply concepts and theories to issues, possibly with appropriate examples used and in different aspects. Extraordinary high ability in expressing ideas and arguments.
B	Good performance on all learning outcomes. Substantial understanding of concepts, theories and tools acquired from the course. Sufficient applications and analysis in the domain of economics. High ability to show ideas and arguments with clarity.
C	Satisfactory performance on the majority of learning outcomes. Fair understanding of concepts and theories with some applications and analysis and limited reflection.
D	Performance is merely satisfactory on a few of learning outcomes. Modest understanding of concepts and theories with insufficient and inappropriate applications and analysis..
F	Poor performance on the learning outcomes. Failure to show understanding of basic concepts and ideas of the course. OR Failure to meet the requirements of specified assessments.

Tentative Teaching Schedule and Suggested Readings:

General teaching mode is online and distant learning. All class meetings are to be conducted online. [Link will be available in late August.](#)

Back-up plan: Face-to-face (**classroom** in campus) teaching and assessment may be resumed when the pandemic stabilizes. There may be other arrangement if there is any sudden change of university policy due to the socio-environmental instability.

The course follows approximately the schedule:

Week	Date	Topic (refers to the main textbook)
1	Sep.10	Introduction / Economic Way of Thinking (M. Ch.1, 2, 3)
2	Sep.17	Demand & Supply / Elasticity (M.Ch. 4, 5)
3	Sep.24	Equilibrium / Efficiency / Public Policies (M.Ch. 6, 7, 8)
4	Oct.01	■ Holiday (No Class)
5	Oct.08	Cost of Production (M. Ch.13) / Discussion and Revision
6	Oct.15	Market Structure (M. Ch. 14, 15, 16, 17)
7	Oct.22	Market Structure (M. Ch. 14, 15, 16, 17)
8	Oct.29	Externalities / Public Goods (M. Ch. 10, 11) / Discussion and Revision
9	Nov.05	Mid-term Test / GDP, Inflation (M. Ch. 23, 24)
10	Nov.12	Productivity and Growth & Financial Sector (M. Ch. 25, 26)
11	Nov.19	Financial Sector (M. Ch. 26) / Money (M. Ch. 29, 30) / Discussion and Revision
12	Nov.26	Money (M. Ch. 29, 30) / Labour Market and Unemployment (M. Ch. 28)
13	Dec.03	Labour Market and Unemployment (M. Ch. 28) / Discussion and Revision

- Remarks:
1. Some contents will be announced if they are not discussed and tested.
 2. Supplementary notes may be distributed in class.
 3. You may use other books for your self-revision but notations may be different.

Academic Honesty

Any student who commits plagiarism or cheating, which is a disciplinary offence, is liable to disciplinary action. Please refer to the site <<http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty>> on “Honesty in Academic Work: A guide for Students and Teachers”.

Notes: There is **NO MAKE-UP** examination (unless the University approved reasons).
There is **NO TUTORIAL** but you may contact teaching assistants if you have any academic problem about this course.