Dr. Adrian Austin  
1315 Miller Hall  
Phone: (678) 839-4773  
E-mail: Use CourseDen  
Office Hours: TTh 8:30 – 9:30 & 3:30 - 6:30

Note: All official school communication goes to your school email account.

Course Website: Main page is on CourseDen (where you can find the instructions for MyEconLab)

Course Description:

This course seeks to help you develop the tools necessary to analyze and investigate various economic problems.

For every economic problem, we initially look at the simplest case containing the fundamental issues. Second we construct a model (using graphical and algebraic tools) to represent the fundamental issues. Then we solve the model to see what economic intuition we can derive from it. Finally we expand the model to make it look more like the "real world." The goal is for the models to provide us with an intuitive explanation (and predictions) of the choices made by economic agents (consumers, producers, governments etc).

Texts (Required):  

Textbook/MyEconLab

We will use “MyEconLab” for this course. This is an interactive site that has an electronic version of the study guide and many other tools for use in the course. Registration for the site is included with the purchase of a new book. I will post ungraded homework assignments that will be helpful to you if you choose to do them. MyEconLab is not mandatory, but strongly recommended.
There are two options for buying your book this semester

1) **Hardcopy:** You may buy a NEW book at the bookstore (or amazon.com or …). The book will include a code that allows you to register for MyEconLab. A used Code will not work. (If you buy a used book you will still have to purchase online access separately.)

2) **Purchase Access Online:** If you do not want a hardcopy of the text, you may choose the option to have an electronic copy when you register at My EconLab.

The instructions for registering for our class on MyEconLab can be found on CourseDen

**Recommended Reading:**
- The Economics of Public Issues
- The Wall Street Journal

**Expected Learning Objectives:**

The overall objective of this course is for you to learn basic economic concepts and more about the economic system in which we live. To this end, upon completion of the course a student will be able to:

1) describe basic economic concepts such as scarcity and opportunity costs (LG4 and LG 7)
2) summarize in writing the key microeconomic concepts contained in an article from a business periodical, e.g., the Wall Street Journal (LG1, LG 4, LG 7 and LG 9),
3) demonstrate a basic knowledge of microeconomics including concepts such as utility maximization, elasticity costs, market structure and labor markets (LG 4, LG9),
4) demonstrate a basic knowledge of international economics including concepts such as comparative advantage, specialization and gains to trade (LG4, LG5, LG7 and LG10),
5) recognize ethical and economic dimensions of government involvement in markets including regulation and the provision of public goods (LG4, LG5, LG 11), and
6) analyze current events using economic models such as supply and demand (LG4, LG 7, LG9, LG10, LG11)

Note. A complete list of expected learning outcomes (LG) for the Economics Department can be found at the department web site ([www.westga.edu/~econ/lg_assessments.htm](http://www.westga.edu/~econ/lg_assessments.htm)).
Structure:

I. Introduction & Market Analysis I
   Chapters 1, 2, & 3
II. A Closer Look at Markets
    Chapters 4 & 5
III. Government Influence I
     Chapter 6
IV International Trade
     Chapter 7
V. Firm Theory
     Chapters 10 & 11
VI. Market Analysis II (The Extremes: Perfect Competition & Monopoly)
    Chapters 12 & 13
VII. Market Analysis III (The Middle: Monopolistic Competition & Oligopoly)
     Chapter 14 & 15
VIII. Various Topics as Time Permits.

Exams/Quizzes/Homework:

Exams: There are three in-class midterms and a final exam. The midterms are worth 25% each. The lowest score on the midterms will be dropped. The final exam is cumulative, worth 25%, and will not be dropped. There are NO makeup exams. You may use a standard calculator for all exams. You may not use your cell phone as a calculator.

EXAM 01 Thursday, September 18, 2014
EXAM 02 Thursday, October 16, 2014
EXAM 03 Thursday, November 13, 2014
FINAL EXAM – Section 03 Thursday, December 11, 2014 @ 8:00 – 10:30
FINAL EXAM – Section 04 Tuesday, December 09, 2014 @ 11:00 – 01:30

Homework: Your homework for each week is to watch the assigned lecture videos in preparation for the following week¹. I expect you to watch these videos and will proceed accordingly in class.

Classwork: The last 25% of your grade will come from classwork. You can count on some form of graded work in every class. Some of these exercises you will do in collaboration with others and some on your own. Your scores for each day will be averaged to give your day score. At the end of the semester I will drop the 5 lowest day scores. The average of the remaining day scores will be your classwork grade.

¹ Except for the first week - please watch the Week 01 lectures before Thursday’s class.
Attendance:

Attendance is not mandatory, but highly recommended. You are old enough to make your own informed decisions (and face the consequences). I will take roll for the attendance bonus calculated at the end of the semester.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendance</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More than five absences</td>
<td>No bonus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Five absences</td>
<td>+1 added to your course grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four absences</td>
<td>+2 added to your course grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three or fewer absences</td>
<td>+3 added to your course grade</td>
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To be counted present, you must be on time and stay for the entire class. There are no excused absences for the bonus.

Your course score will be calculated in the following manner:

\[
0.25 \times \text{Best Midterm} + 0.25 \times 2^{nd} \text{Best Midterm} + 0.25 \times \text{Final} + 0.25 \times \text{Classwork} + \text{Any Bonus Points}
\]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Score (rounded to the nearest digit)</th>
<th>Course Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90 – 100</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>80 – 89</td>
<td>B</td>
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<td>70 – 79</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>60 – 69</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 60</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Some Basic Rules:

- **CELL PHONES ARE TO BE TURNED OFF/SILENT DURING CLASS SESSIONS.**
- **FOOD AND DRINK ARE NOT ALLOWED IN ANY OF THE CLASSROOMS.**
- **NO CALCULATORS WITH TEXT CAPABILITY ARE ALLOWED DURING EXAMS. THIS INCLUDES, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO CELL PHONES.**

Common Language for Course Syllabi

Updated June 21, 2013:

Students should review the following information each semester, because these statements are updated as federal, state, university, and accreditation standards change. A current version can always be found at
Americans with Disabilities Act
Students with a documented disability may work with UWG Accessibility Services to receive essential services specific to their disability. All entitlements to accommodations are based on documentation and USG Board of Regents standards. If a student needs course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability or chronic illness, or if he/she needs to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, the student should notify his/her instructor in writing and provide a copy of his/her Student Accommodations Report (SAR), which is available only from Accessibility Services. Faculty cannot offer accommodations without timely receipt of the SAR; further, no retroactive accommodations will be given.

UWG Email Policy
University of West Georgia students are provided a MyUWG e-mail account. The University considers this account to be an official means of communication between the University and the student. The purpose of the official use of the student e-mail account is to provide an effective means of communicating important university related information to UWG students in a timely manner. It is the student’s responsibility to check his or her e-mail.

Credit Hour Policy
The University of West Georgia grants one semester hour of credit for work equivalent to a minimum of one hour (50 minutes) of in-class or other direct faculty instruction AND two hours of student work outside of class per week for approximately fifteen weeks. For each course, the course syllabus will document the amount of in-class (or other direct faculty instruction) and out-of-class work required to earn the credit hour(s) assigned to the course. Out-of-class work will include all forms of credit-bearing activity, including but not limited to assignments, readings, observations, and musical practice. Where available, the university grants academic credit for students who verify via competency-based testing, that they have accomplished the learning outcomes associated with a course that would normally meet the requirements outlined above (e.g. AP credit, CLEP, and departmental exams).

University of West Georgia Honor Code
At the University of West Georgia, we believe that academic and personal integrity are based upon honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Students at West Georgia assume responsibility for upholding the honor code. West Georgia students pledge to refrain from engaging in acts that do not maintain academic and personal integrity. These include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, aid of academic dishonesty, lying, bribery or threats, and stealing.
The University of West Georgia maintains and monitors a confidential Academic Dishonesty Tracking System. This database collects and reports patterns of repeated student violations across all the Colleges, the Ingram Library, and the School of Nursing. Each incidence of academic dishonesty is subject to review and consideration by the instructor, and is subject to a range of academic penalties including, but not limited to, failing the assignment and/or failing the course. Student conduct sanctions range from verbal warning to suspension or expulsion depending on the magnitude of the offense and/or number of offenses. The incident becomes part of the student’s conduct record at UWG.

Additionally the student is responsible for safeguarding his/her computer account. The student’s account and network connection are for his/her individual use. A computer account is to be used only by the person to whom it has been issued. The student is responsible for all actions originating through his/her account or network connection. Students must not impersonate others or misrepresent or conceal their identities in electronic messages and actions.