



Economics 130-Principles of Microeconomics, CRN 62027

Spring 2024 Semester

CLASS INFORMATION

This is a HYBRID course.

WEBSITE: laulima.hawaii.edu/CRN

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Paul Briggs

Office: Naauao 126

Office Hours: via email, I will respond within 24 hours of your email.

E-mail: via Laulima email

Phone: 808-236-9218

ABOUT YOUR INSTRUCTOR

My name is Paul Briggs and I do love Economics and especially teaching this subject. I was born and raised in Southern and Northern California and moved to Hawaii in 1992. I love hiking, tennis and cycling and of course, spending time with my wife of 25 years (Liane).



About This Course

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: Study of how individuals make decisions which affect their income and wealth; how firms make decisions which affect profits and production. Relationship to demand, supply and prices of goods and natural resources.

Course Learning Outcomes

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to:

1. Translate important microeconomic terms and theories into various forms.
2. Explain the basic underpinnings of consumer and producer behavior.

Course Format

This is a 16 week hybrid course. This course is designed to teach you the basic underpinnings of markets in terms of consumer and producer behavior. The course will be set up in weekly units generally covering a chapter per week. There will be regular forum assignments that will ask you to address discussion points regarding the chapter as well as selected current events. I will also require you to write two papers about consumer and producer behavior (via an interview). There will also be two midterms and a final exam. All of these assignments will be explained in the Course Tasks and Requirements section of this syllabus. Announcements will be sent out after I grade each assignment to you detailing how I graded the assignment along with other relevant information. All due dates will be based on Hawaiian Standard Time (HST).

What is Meant by a Hybrid Course

This is a hybrid course based on a [flipped classroom model](#). So, the course content (lecture) will be online and classroom time will be spent doing applied and engaging activities that will reinforce the course content. This course will be presented to you as mostly an online course with a once a week face to face meeting (Thursdays) in which we will do activities (usually fun) that will apply and reinforce the material for you. For this approach to be successful, you will need to not come into class cold. Rather, you need to acquaint yourself with the material ahead of class so that the class activities will be more meaningful for you. I will organize the class in such a way as to incentivize you to do exactly that.

Required Materials

- N. Gregory Mankiw (Required), *Principles of Microeconomics, Tenth Edition* (I will accept the Sixth through Ninth editions). Available at WCC Bookstore or Amazon.
- Economics 130 Handout from WCC Bookstore
- OTHER REQUIRED ITEMS: Access to the Internet (Laulima), UH Email Account (either as main email account or forwarded to another email account), Adobe Reader, MS Word or Google Docs.
- NOTE ON HANDOUT: This handout is organized by the chapters that we will cover in this course. It contains Powerpoint slides and Practice Questions for each chapter. It also contains review sheet information for the exams in this course as well as for the papers that are due in this class. This is the same handout that I give to the face to face class. While all of the relevant information will be available on the LAULIMA site, it will be a good idea for you to have this hard copy handout for your reference.

Hardware/software

- Daily access to a desktop or laptop computer (Using a smart phone or tablet is not sufficient.)
- Reliable high-speed Internet connection
- A recent version of the [Firefox](#) browser (free)

- A word-processing program, such as [Word](#) (free student version), [Pages](#) (free with Apple hardware) or web-based [Google Docs](#) (free with UH username)
- Presentation program, such as [Powerpoint](#) (free student version), [Keynote](#) (free with Apple hardware), or web-based [Google Slides](#) (free with UH username)
- [Zoom](#) video conferencing tool (free)
- [Adobe \(Acrobat\) Reader](#) (free)
- NOTE ON HANDOUT: This handout is organized by the chapters that we will cover in this course. It contains Powerpoint slides and Practice Questions for each chapter. It also contains review sheet information for the exams in this course as well as for the papers that are due in this class. This is the same handout that I give to the face to face class. While all of the relevant information will be available on the LAULIMA site, it will be a good idea for you to have this hard copy handout for your reference.

ALTERNATE CONTACT INFORMATION

If you are unable to contact the instructor, have questions that your instructor cannot answer, or for any other issues, please contact the Academic Affairs Office:

Location: Alakai 121

Phone: 808-235-7422

Email: wccaa@hawaii.edu

Course Policies

Participating in our Learning Community

There will be weekly discussions in which you will be able to communicate with each other as well. There will be two types of weekly discussions:

- Reading Checks-These will be chapter based with a focus on chapter summaries and response to discussion prompts. You will do one response to the class due on Mondays and Thursdays by 11 pm and one response to another student due on Saturdays by 11 pm.
- Discussion Forums- These will be discussions based on selected topics that have economic applications. You will do one response due the class due on Thursdays by 11 pm and two responses to other students due on Saturdays by 11 pm.

Discussion activity will help sharpen your critical thinking and written communication skills as you study microeconomic topics. From time to time, as current events unfold, additional discussion questions related to the course material may be posted to discussions. These questions should be answered as well.

The more interaction with one another in each discussion, the better. Substantive contributions are defined as those responses providing statements that enhance ongoing discussion of the forum's topics, thus enabling the discussion to build throughout the class. Responses should include demonstration of the forum's topical information as well as how to apply topics covered.

How can the student make substantive contributions?

1. **A student can agree** – providing additional substance to the conversation while building upon the previous students comments.
2. **A student can disagree** (in a professional nature of course) – stating why a different interpretation is better.

3. **Or, students can re-direct** the discussion towards another vantage point presenting additional factors. Many times, a discussion will be redirected or enhanced by someone bringing up a viewpoint that some had not considered before. Thus, the conversation continues.

Students must be interactive, not only with the instructor, but with other students. Expand or redirect discussions as they relate to class. Offer some real-world experience that supports theory or flies in the face of theory. Use critical thinking and possibly come up with new ideas.

Participation is defined as your well thought out responses to classmates and other contributions you make to the discussions. We can learn much from each other, but only if we put forth effort and share our discoveries as we move through the semester. Be sure to read the initial responses posted by your classmates.

Contacting the Instructor

Please email me through LAULIMA email, and I will get back to you within 24 hours if not sooner. You can also contact me via email at pbriggs@hawaii.edu.

Alternative Contact

You can also call me at my office 808-236-9218.

Assessment & Grading

LAULIMA READING CHECKS: (10% of your grade).

I require a reading check for each chapter to be done within a specified period of time on LAULIMA FORUMS AND READING CHECKS. These assignments will be worth 15 points each. There are three parts to this assignment.

PART A (Due Monday night at 11 pm). You will be required to write a summary of each chapter. Include the main points of the chapter along with anything you find interesting or confusing about the chapter. (25 word minimum). Each of you needs to address all of the prompts in PART A.

PART B (Due Thursday night at 11 pm). There will be a number of discussion questions (around 3-4 of these per week) that will provide a more in-depth exploration of the chapter in question. (50 word minimum)

PART C (Due Saturday night at 11 pm). You will respond to at least one other student summary. (25 words min per response).

LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

I will send a final announcement on Sunday for the Reading Check due the previous week. In that announcement, I will also give out answers to the practice questions in the handout for that week. While the practice questions will not be a graded assignment, it will be helpful for you to work on these problems as that will help you on future exams. I may also ask you about selected practice questions for the reading checks. This announcement will also serve as an introduction for the upcoming week.

LAULIMA DISCUSSION FORUMS: 10% of your grade.

On the weeks when there are no Reading Checks, there will be Forum Assignments. These journal assignments will ask your opinion and/or understanding of some applied areas of economics that we will cover in the course. These journal assignments will be designed to encourage discussion via an Internet forum as there is often not time to cover these areas in class. To facilitate discussion, I will post articles and/or videos on a current event (i.e the Coronavirus).

There will be five of these assignments (An Introduction Forum and four Discussion Forums). Each assignment will be 20 points apiece, with 10 points for a thread posting (start new conversation) and 5 points each for responses to another student's thread posting (2 responses). Topic postings need to be at least 50 words in length and responses will be at least 25 words in length. The due time will be 11 pm on the specified due date (Thursdays for the summary and Saturdays for the response).

LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

QUIZZES: 10% of your grade.

There will be a short 10 question quiz on each chapter to be done in Lulima Tests and Quizzes. You will have 3 chances to do each quiz and I will count your highest score. Due date and time for the QUIZZES will be Saturday nights at 11 pm.

TESTS: 30% of the grade.

There will be TWO MIDTERMS each worth 100 points (15% of the grade) and a final exam worth 200 points (15% of the grade-cumulative). Tests may be in varying formats ranging from multiple choice to essay questions. Midterm exams will take 75 minutes and the Final exam will take 2 hours.

Your exams will be taken at home during the test taking period (typically one week) under strict time guidelines (75 minutes for midterms and 2 hours for the final). Exam questions will be generated randomly from a LAULIMA Question Pool so no two students will receive the same exam questions.

INTERVIEWS/PORTFOLIO: 30% of your grade.

I am going to require that you interview people in the community that play a particular role in the economy. It need not be anyone "special"; we all play a role in the economy, the most typical roles being consumer and producer. The two basic roles in any economy are consumer (demand) and producer (supply).

Your job is to interview two different people, with each person representing a different role in the economy (one person for demand, one person for supply). You will do these interviews at various times during the semester. Due dates will be on Fridays at 11 pm. Each interview will count for 100 points for a total of 200 points (20% of the total grade). You will also turn in a draft for each paper. These drafts will include the hypothesis and interview questions. Each draft will count for 10 points for a total of 20 points (10% of the total grade). The first role you will interview for will be a consumer (don't interview yourself, find a friend to interview!).

Due dates for papers and drafts will be on the Lulima course site.

Specific instructions are included in the handout (and the Lulima course site) for each interview that will contain possible interview questions as well as general guidelines for conducting interviews (in a couple of weeks).

Attendance: 5% of your grade.

I will be taking attendance at every class. Class activities for this hybrid course are the most important part of the course and what makes this course different from an online class. For each day that you are in class, you will receive 2 points, If you are late then one point, if you are not in class, then you will get zero points for the day.

Participation: 5% of the grade.

This portion is admittedly a subjective evaluation, but I will look for the following elements:

- Group assignments such as skits, group projects or [Kahoot](#) quizzes for the class.
- Asking questions that contribute to the class, not detract from it.
- When you are in class, you will demonstrate that you are awake, alive and alert. While we probably will use cell phones for class activities, if you receive a cell phone call please take the call outside of the classroom.

Evaluation and Feedback

I will attempt to evaluate your assignment promptly and through comments via the appropriate Lulima assessment tool. Once I have completed all of the evaluations for an assignment, I will send out an announcement to the entire class saying that I have done so along with any other relevant information.

Late Work and Missed Assessments

Reading Checks and Forums are always due on Thursdays and Saturdays at 11 pm. I will accept late entries (reduced credit) between Thursdays and Saturdays, but not after the Saturday due date as a general rule. I will accept late paper submissions after the due date, but for reduced credit. Remember that all work must be turned in via the appropriate Lulima assessment tool. Regarding examinations, I will give a window of one week in order to complete the exam via Lulima Tests and Quizzes. If you need to take the exam after the exam window, please let me know in advance.

Use of Artificial Intelligence(AI)

Students are not allowed to use advanced automated tools (artificial intelligence or machine learning tools such as ChatGPT or Dall-E 2) on any assignments in this course. Each student is expected to complete each assignment without substantive assistance from others, including automated tools.

Extra Credit

Generally, I provide extra credit on the reading checks/forums through doing the practice tests that are listed on that week's lesson page. These practice tests (and extra worksheets for some chapters) are an opportunity to practice your skills in Economics. The practice tests are pdf documents, you should submit them as marked documents. Here is my [video](#) showing you how to do this.

SUMMARY OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Item	Percentage of Total Grade (%)
Reading Checks	10
Quizzes	10
Discussion Forums	10
Midterms	15
Final	15
Interviews	20
Interview Drafts	10
Attendance	5
Participation	5
TOTAL	100%

Grading Curve

Percentages	Grade
90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
50-69	D
Below 50	F

I know the amount of work in this class may seem overwhelming to you right now, but I will structure the assignments in such a way that you will have plenty of chances to succeed in this course. My style is to have a lot of little assignments as opposed to a few large assignments that

consequently put a lot of pressure on your grade. I will always be around to help you complete the assignments in a timely and professional manner.

All of your assignments will be presented to you on Laulima, typically through the weekly lesson page. The lesson page will have an introduction to the chapter, videos and assignments for you to do. The lesson page will also have a checklist to make it easier for you to manage your assignments.

Here is a summary of the various assignments/ resources, their location and due dates/times.

ASSIGNMENT/RESOURCES	LOCATION	DUE DATES AND TIMES
EMAIL COMMUNICATION	MAILTOOL VIA LAULIMA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When appropriate
DISCUSSION FORUMS AND READING CHECKS	FORUMS TAB VIA LAULIMA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post Threads by Thursday at 11 pm Post Responses by Saturday at 11 pm
QUIZZES	LAULIMA TESTS AND QUIZZES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designated due date at 11 pm.
READING AND NARRATED LECTURE	APPROPRIATE WEEKLY LESSON PAGE.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Before you do the Problem Set.
PAPER (Interviews and Interview Drafts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UPLOAD VIA LAULIMA ASSIGNMENTS INSTRUCTIONS VIA LAULIMA ASSIGNMENTS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designated due date by 11 pm.
EXAMS	LAULIMA TESTS AND QUIZZES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designated due date by 11 pm..

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

HOW YOU SHOULD COMPLETE THIS COURSE:

1. On the Laulima course page, go to the appropriate week. Complete the checklist for that week.
2. Please read the chapter.
3. Watch the videos on the appropriate lessons page.
4. Do the READING CHECKS by their due dates.
5. Participate in our Thursday class meetings. Doing Reading Check A (due Mondays at 11 pm) will mean that you have at least read the chapter by Thursday.
6. Do the Chapter QUIZZES by the assigned due date.
7. Do the INTERVIEWS and the INTERVIEW DRAFTS by the assigned due date.
8. Please do the exams by the assigned date and time. You can take the exams at home, but be mindful that you have just one attempt and you must complete the exam in the allotted time.

GETTING STARTED WITH LAULIMA

(for online course material)

Logging on to Laulima

1. Go to the Laulima login page which is located at <http://laulima.hawaii.edu>



2. Log in using your UH ID name and password (of if you are not at UH, log in using the name and password you were provided).

Note: your server may look different from the ones pictured below, with other courses and perhaps other tools (the list on the left side). There are many tools that are available, depending on how your instructors have designed their courses.

You can set up your *My Workspace* by clicking on the *Preferences* tool. You can enter profile information (such as your name, contact information, picture and so on) by clicking on the *Profile* tool.

If a course does not appear click the Sites button.



This will show a complete list of courses. You may need to scroll down to find the course you need

Tentative Course Schedule

The following schedule is subject to change. Should changes occur, you will be notified by Announcement from LAULIMA.

RC-Reading Check, F-Forum, Q-Quiz, CI-Consumer Interview, PI-Producer Interview, ABC-Reading Check A, B, C

Reading Checks and Forums will be due on Monday, Thursday and Saturday of the indicated week. Consumer and Producer papers will be due on Friday of the indicated week. Quizzes will be due on Saturday of the indicated week. Specific dates are listed on the Google Calendar in the LAULIMA Course Site. All assignments are due by 11 pm on the due date.

Week 1, January 7-13: Introduction to the Course, Ch1-Main Ideas

1. Forum 0 and RC1 (B and C only) due on Thursday and Saturday.
2. Class Attendance and Participation on Thursday.
3. Q1 due on Saturday.

Week 2, January 14- 20: Ch2: Thinking Like An Economist

1. RC2 (ABC) due on Monday, Thursday and Saturday.
2. Class Attendance and Participation on Thursday.
3. Q2 due on Saturday.

Week 3 : January 21-January 27: Ch3-International Trade

1. RC3 (ABC) due on Monday, Thursday and Saturday.
2. Class Attendance and Participation on Thursday.
3. Q3 due on Saturday.

Week 4, January 28-February 3: Ch4-Demand and Supply

1. Class Attendance and Participation on Thursday.
2. F 1 due on Thursday and Saturday.

Week 5, February 4-10: Ch4-Demand and Supply Continued.

1. RC4 (ABC) due on Monday, Thursday and Saturday.
2. Class Attendance and Participation on Thursday.
3. Q4 due on Saturday.

Week 6, February 11-17: Ch10-Externalities

1. RC5 (ABC) due on Monday, Thursday and Saturday.
2. Class Attendance and Participation on Thursday.
3. Q5 due on Saturday.

Week 7, February 18-24: First Midterm (Ch1-4, and Externalities).

1. First Midterm to be taken during Week 7.

2. Class Attendance and Participation on Thursday.
3. Consumer Interview Draft due on Friday at 11 pm.

Week 8, February 25-March 2: Ch5-Elasticity

1. Class Attendance and Participation on Thursday.
2. F2 due on Thursday and Saturday.

Week 9, March 3-9: Ch5-Elasticity Continued

1. RC6 (ABC) due on Monday, Thursday and Saturday.
2. Class Attendance and Participation on Thursday.
3. CI due on Friday
4. Q6 due on Saturday.

Week 10, March 10-16: Ch13-Costs of Production (Ch14 in the 10th Edition)

1. RC7 (ABC) due on Monday, Thursday and Saturday.
2. Class Attendance and Participation on Thursday.
3. Q7 due on Saturday.

Spring Break, March 17-23

1. There is nothing due.

Week 11, March 24-March 30: Second Midterm (Ch5 and 13)

1. Second Midterm to be taken during Week 11
2. Class Attendance and Participation on Thursday.
3. F3 due on Thursday and Saturday.

Week 12, March 31-April 6: Ch14-Competitive Markets (Ch 15 in the 10th Edition)

1. RC8 (ABC) due on Monday, Thursday and Saturday.
2. Class Attendance and Participation on Thursday.
3. Q8 due on Saturday.

Week 13, April 7-13: Ch15-Monopoly (Ch16 in the 10th Edition)

1. RC9 (ABC) due on Thursday and Saturday.
2. Class Attendance and Participation on Thursday.
3. PI Draft due on Friday.
4. Q9 due on Saturday.

Week 14, April 14-20: Ch16-Monopolistic Competition (Ch17 in the 10th Edition)

1. F4 due on Thursday and Saturday.
2. Class Attendance and Participation on Thursday.

Week 15, April 21-27: Ch17-Oligopoly (Ch18 in the 10th Edition)

1. RC 10 (ABC) due on Thursday and Saturday.
2. Class Attendance and Participation on Thursday.

3. PI due on Friday.
4. Q10 (Ch16 and 17) due on Saturday.

Week 16, April 28-May 4: Review for Final

1. Class Attendance and Participation on Thursday.
2. RC11 due on Thursday and Saturday.

Week 17, May 5-11: Final Exam

1. Final Exam to be taken during this week.

Institutional Information

Student Right to Know-Consumer Information for Windward CC Students

Windward CC provides written consumer information to students as to what their rights and responsibilities are. For more information, please refer to: [Student Right to Know/Consumer Information](#)

Services:

Windward is known for being a very supportive college for students! Please don't be shy! Utilize all of the wonderful services that are available to help you succeed. For information on counseling/advising, careers and student employment, tutoring (including services such as the Writing Center, Math Lab, Speech Lab, test proctoring, etc.), HINET, peer mentors, childcare, and more please see: [Services For Students | Windward Community](#)

Syllabus Change Policy:

Information contained in the course syllabus may be subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor. Updates to the syllabus will be communicated via email.

Financial Aid

Students of course need money to finance their education. Please refer to this [link](#) for WCC Financial Aid.

WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

Windward Community College is committed to excellence in the liberal arts and career development; we support and challenge individuals to develop skills, fulfill their potential, enrich their lives, and become contributing, culturally aware members of our community.

WCC DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT

If you have a physical, sensory, health, cognitive, or mental health disability that could limit your ability to fully participate in this class, you are encouraged to contact the Disability Specialist Counselor (Ann Lemke) to discuss reasonable accommodations that will help you succeed in this class. Ann Lemke can be reached at 235-7448, lemke@hawaii.edu, or you may stop by her office (Akoakoa 213) for more information.

TITLE IX

Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance. Specifically, Title IX prohibits sex discrimination; sexual harassment and gender-based harassment, including harassment based on actual or perceived sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression; sexual assault; sexual exploitation; domestic violence; dating violence; and stalking. For more information regarding your rights under Title IX, please visit: https://windward.hawaii.edu/Title_IX/.

Windward Community College is committed to the pursuit of equal education. If you or someone you know has experienced sex discrimination or gender-based violence, WCC has resources to support you. To speak with someone confidentially, contact the Mental Health & Wellness Office at 808-235- 7393 or Kaahu Alo, Designated Confidential Advocate for Students, at 808-235-7354 or kaahualo@hawaii.edu. To make a formal report, contact the Title IX Coordinator, Karla K. Silva-Park, at 808-235-7468 or karlas@hawaii.edu.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

Students are expected to act with personal integrity, to respect other students' opinions and property, and to help create an academic environment in which discussion is encouraged. Students are expected not to engage or tolerate acts of plagiarism, cheating, copying, fabrication of citations, or other acts of academic dishonesty. Plagiarism is treated seriously in this course. If you are quoting someone verbatim, then you must use quotation marks and cite the source immediately after the quotation in parenthetical form, (author's last name, page number). If you are unsure whether or not you are citing sources correctly, please ask me. Ignorance is no excuse. Students charged with academic dishonesty face serious consequences that range from an F grade for the assignment to an F grade for the course.

