The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

This version produced 20 Dec 2007.
The current and official versions of the course specifications are available on the web at <http://www.usq.edu.au/coursespecification/current>.
Please consult the web for updates that may occur during the year.

Description: Microeconomics for Business and Government

<table>
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<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cat-nbr</th>
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Academic group: FOBUS
Academic org: FOB008
Student contribution band: 2
ASCED code: 091901

STAFFING
Examiner: Mafiz Rahman
Moderator: Khorshed Alam

REQUISITES
Pre-requisite: ECO1000

OTHER REQUISITES
Recommended Pre-requisite: POL2001. Students are required to have access to a personal computer, e-mail capabilities and Internet access to USQConnect. Current details of computer requirements can be found at http://www.usq.edu.au/business/aboutfob.htm

RATIONALE
Microeconomics is a study of people in the `ordinary business of life'. As economic welfare depends upon the choices of people regarding the allocation and use of resources, it is necessary that ordinary members of the community, and specialists in government, education and business, understand the account of these choices that is provided by microeconomic theory and are able to develop critiques of that theory. It is also necessary that they are able to appreciate, and undertake, microeconomic analysis of contemporary problems and policies. This course explores the theory of economic choice and its application to a range of resource-use questions.

SYNOPSIS
Microeconomics is part of the study of how the world works. It deals with business, household and government choices, the design and effects of policy and the efficiency and fairness of the way resources are used in a community. This course focuses upon a range of microeconomic principles, their use by economists in economic analysis and their relevance in the global economy. While drawing on the history of economic thought, it emphasises contemporary resource-use issues and the development of the skills of the professional economist.
OBJECTIVES

The course objectives define the student learning outcomes for a course. The assessment item/s that may be used to assess student achievement of an objective is/are shown in parentheses after each objective. On successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. identify and explain sources of microeconomic change in an economy (Assignment 1, Assignment 2, Examination)
2. demonstrate an understanding of the nature and method of micro-economics and of a set of selected microeconomic and theories (Assignment 1, Assignment 2, Examination)
3. apply microeconomic theory in the explanation of resource allocation patterns in an economy (Assignment 1, Assignment 2, Examination)
4. examine the role of government in the promotion and/or regulation of industry and markets to improve resource allocation (Assignment 1, Assignment 2, Examination)
5. undertake microeconomic analysis and develop strategic and policy advice (Assignment 1, Assignment 2, Examination)
6. critically appraise microeconomic theory and policy (Assignment 1, Assignment 2, Examination).

TOPICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Introduction to microeconomic analysis</td>
<td>4.00</td>
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<td>2. Economic choice-consumers and firms</td>
<td>27.00</td>
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<td>3. Competitive market analysis</td>
<td>26.00</td>
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<td>4. Non-competitive market analysis</td>
<td>27.00</td>
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<td>5. Factor market analysis</td>
<td>8.00</td>
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<td>6. Economic choice - time and risk</td>
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TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at http://bookshop.usq.edu.au click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

ECO2001 study package available from the USQ Bookshop.


REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.


Earl, P 1995, Microeconomics for business and marketing: lectures, cases and worked essays, E Elgar, Brookfield, Aldershot.


STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

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<th>ACTIVITY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lectures</td>
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<td>Private Study</td>
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ASSESSMENT DETAILS

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<th>Description</th>
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<th>Wtg(%)</th>
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<tr>
<td>ASSIGNMENT 1</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>17 Aug 2007</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASSIGNMENT 2</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>01 Oct 2007</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 HOUR EXAMINATION</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>70.00</td>
<td>END S2 (see note 1)</td>
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NOTES

1. The examination is scheduled to be held in the end-of-semester examination period. Students will be advised of the official examination date after the timetable has been finalised.
IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

1 Attendance requirements:
   It is the students' responsibility to attend and participate appropriately in all activities
   (such as lectures, tutorials, laboratories and practical work) scheduled for them, and to
   study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their
   chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related
   activities and administration.

2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
   To satisfactorily complete an individual assessment item a student must achieve at least
   50% of the marks. (Depending upon the requirements in Statement 4 below, students may
   not have to satisfactorily complete each assessment item to receive a passing grade in this
   course.)

3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
   If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval of the examiner,
   then a penalty of 5% of the total marks gained by the student for the assignment may apply
   for each working day late up to ten working days at which time a mark of zero may be
   recorded.

4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
   To be assured of receiving a passing grade a student must achieve at least 50% of the total
   weighted marks available for the course.

5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
   The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the aggregate of the weighted
   marks obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.

6 Examination information:
   This is a restricted examination. The only materials that candidates may use in the
   examination for this course are (i) writing materials: non-electronic and free from material
   which could give the student an unfair advantage in the examination; (ii) calculators which
   cannot hold textual information (students must indicate on their examination paper the
   make and model of any calculator(s) they use during the examination; (iii) translation
   dictionary: students whose first language is not English, may, with the Examiner's approval,
   take an appropriate non-electronic translation dictionary into the examination. Students
   who wish to use a translation dictionary MUST request and receive written approval from
   the Examiner at least one week before the examination date. Translation dictionaries will
   be subject to perusal and may be removed from the candidate's possession until appropriate
   disciplinary action is completed if found to contain material that could give the candidate
   an unfair advantage.

7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
   Any Deferred or Supplementary examinations for this course will be held during the next
   examination period.

8 University Regulations:
   Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6 Assessment, and 5.10 Student
   Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene
   university regulations. These regulations can be found at
   http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm. Students should also read
   the Faculty of Business Policies and Procedures which can be found at
ASSESSMENT NOTES

1 Assignments: (i) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must submit the assignment to the USQ. (ii) Students must retain a copy of each assignment submitted for assessment. This must be produced within 24 hours if required by the examiner. (iii) In accordance with university policy, the examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances. (iv) The examiner will not accept submission of assignments by facsimile. (v) In the event that a due date for an assignment falls on a local public holiday in their area, such as a show holiday, the due date for the assignment will be the next day. Students are to note on the assignment cover the date of the public holiday for the examiner's convenience.

2 Course weightings: Course weightings of topics should not be interpreted as applying to the number of marks allocated to questions testing those topics in an examination paper. The examination may test material already tested in assignments.

3 Deferred work: Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or to sit for an examination at the scheduled time may apply to defer an assessment in a course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. One of the following temporary grades may be awarded: IDS (Incomplete - Deferred Examination); IDM (Incomplete Deferred Make-up); IDB (Incomplete - Both Deferred Examination and Deferred Make-up).

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1 Learning resources: Prescribed texts and materials (see above); recommended reference materials (see above); printed Introductory Book* and Study Book/s*; and course Website accessible via USQConnect. *part of the study package available from the USQ Bookshop.