

ECON 3620 Course Syllabus

You are required to read the syllabus in its entirety. The syllabus outlines the course objectives, pedagogical methods, course components, assessments, grading scheme, and expectations and policies for this course. Please read the syllabus thoroughly to make sure you understand how the course work. **Make sure you have the [right technology set up](#) needed to participate in and complete the course.** If you have questions, feel free to contact me or post it in the [class forum](#).

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will introduce students on how economists use mathematics as a main tool in their analyses in order to understand, and sometimes apply, economic theory. It is intended to cover several important mathematical concepts that will be studied in the context of their applications to economics. Also, it is aimed to develop students' abilities to use mathematical techniques to solve problems in economics. At the end of this semester, students would be expected to understand basic mathematical techniques used in economics such as linear algebra, derivative, differential, optimization with and without constraints, and matrix algebra. However, students should be aware that the real use of mathematics in economics is far more advanced than what they will see in the class; therefore, the course is merely designed to be the first step for those who are interested in mathematical economics.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Student will be able to recognize components of functions.
2. Students will be able to integrate Math skills in solving Economics problems.
3. Students will be able to recognize how Math and previously learned theories integrate in academic journals or contemporary research.
4. Students will be able to build confidence in using Math skills to help complete advanced economic classes.
5. Students will be able to think about and develop strategies for learning Math, e.g., to solve problems, and develop good study habits and skills.

PREREQUISITE(S)

College Algebra, ECON 2010 and ECON 2020

TEXTBOOKS.

1. **(Required)** Edward T. Dowling. (2011). *Schaum's Outline of Introduction to Mathematical Economics*. 3rd Edition. Publisher: Mcgraw Hill.
2. (Optional) Michael Hoy, John Livernois, Chris McKenna, Ray Rees, Thanasis Stengos (2011). *Mathematics for Economics*. 3rd Edition. Publisher: The MIT Press

GRADING

There will be ONE Module assigned for each week in which the reading lists, videos and homework will be clarified. You are required to review the assigned reading, watch the videos and work on the assignments.

Assignments and Possible Points

Discussions (10%)

You are expected to participate in five discussions throughout the semester. Active participation and responses are highly encouraged. All comments must be related to the topic and show respect to your classmates.

Practice Problems (5%)

There will be weekly Practice problems to work on. The problems are from the textbooks, and the solutions will be provided (or else it would be indicated). I will assign a specific number of questions in each Module. There is no point assigned directly on the Practice Problems. However, after you finish the Practice Problems, you need to finish the Practice Problem Completion Check to confirm you did finish the Practice. The checklists overall contribute 5% to your total grade. Keep in mind that this is the most important exercise that could sharpen your expertise on this course's materials. The more you work on them, the more you would be better! The checklists will be due at the following **Monday NOON**.

Weekly Homework (10+15= 25%)

There are two components of Weekly Homework: Weekly Quizzes and Weekly TWO Math Problems. Weekly Quizzes, all in multiple choice questions, will be available on Canvas. Weekly TWO Math Problems' questions can be viewed/printed from Canvas on each Module. Students must work on paper or tablet and submit your work on Canvas.

Both types of homework are due at the following **Monday**. In addition, I will drop **Six** lowest scores out of calculation (three each).

Learning Plan (5%)

You will be assigned to draft a Learning Plan for this course at the beginning and review/adjust it in the middle of the course. The purpose of this assignment is to encourage you to take the ownership of your learning and think about how you are planning to work through the course. You will not be graded on what strategies you will be using. The Plan should supposedly guide you what activity you need to perform on each day in the week. This is because, I believe, work discipline is by all means the crucial element to succeed in any job including studying in the college.

Reflection (10%)

To understand your feeling and perspective towards the course are important for me to improve and adjust this course to meet our mutual goals. You will be asked to write a Reflection paper at the beginning, in the middle, and at the end of course.

Midterm (20%) and Final Exam (25%)

Students will need to take **two proctored exam in person (mid-term, and final exam). Both Exams are closed books/notes. Only a simple calculator is allowed.** Here is [the information on how to sign up for the proctored examinations \(Links to an external site.\) \(Links to an external site.\)Links to an external site.. \(Links to an external site.\)Links to an external site.](#) Use the "Schedule Exams" link in the course menu to register for your exam. Please make sure to sign up for the exams in advance so that you don't miss out exams as they take big proportion of the total points.

Midterm Exam period: Tue 2/27/2018 - Sat 3/3/2018

Final Exam Period: Tue 4/24/2018 - Sat 4/28/2018

Grading Scale (all assignments graded on a 0-100% scale)

93-100 = A 90-92.99 = A-
87-89.99= B+ 83-86.99= B 80-82.99= B-
77-79.99= C+ 73-76.99= C 70-72.99= C-
67-69.99= D+ 63-66.99= D 60-62.99= D-
Below 60= F

WITHDRAWAL DEADLINE

Students who wish to receive an incomplete in the course should refer to university policy on an incomplete: <http://www.admin.utah.edu/ppmanual/9/9-7R17.html>. Any other unique dilemmas regarding continuation of any class should be addressed with your academic support counselor.

INCOMPLETE GRADES

Incomplete grades may be granted, at the instructor's discretion.

The mark "I" (incomplete) are given incomplete work because of circumstances beyond the student's control. The grade of "I" is only for students who are passing the course and who have completed 80% or more of the course.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

“The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, (162 Union Building, Salt Lake City, Utah 84112; Phone/TDD: 801-581-5020). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations.” (<http://www.hr.utah.edu/oeo/ada/guide/faculty/>). Additionally, the University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the instructor and to the Center for Disability Services, <http://disability.utah.edu/> 162 Olpin Union Building, 801-581-5020 (V/TDD) to make arrangements for accommodations. This information is available in alternative formats with prior notification

FACULTY MEMBER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

According to Faculty Rules and Regulations, it is the faculty responsibility to enforce responsible classroom behaviors, beginning with verbal warnings and progressing to dismissal from class and a failing grade. Students have the right to appeal such action to the Student Behavior Committee. Additionally, “Faculty...must strive in the classroom to maintain a climate conducive to thinking and learning” (PPM 8-12.3, B). Also,

“Students have a right to support and assistance from the University in maintaining a climate conducive to thinking and learning” (PPM 8-10, II. A).

STUDENTS' RESPONSIBILITIES

All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the classroom setting, according to the Student Code, spelled out in the Student Handbook. Students have specific rights in the classroom as detailed in Article III of the Code. The Code also specifies proscribed conduct (Article XI) that involves cheating on tests, plagiarism, and/or collusion, as well as fraud, theft, etc. Students should read the Code carefully and know they are responsible for the content.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

It is an act of plagiarism to "borrow" ideas or quotes from former students' old papers and from the papers of students presently taking the course with you. Plagiarism also includes quoting or paraphrasing passages from any of your references without giving proper credit to the real authors (e.g., an APA-style citation), because doing so implies that this information came from you. Presenting the ideas of others as one's own is called plagiarism. Plagiarism, as defined by the University's Student Code, is a form of intellectual theft. It is an act of fraud; it is dishonest, deceitful, unethical, and can lead to serious and lasting negative consequences for your academic and professional career. In addition, please use only those sources that meet the course criteria for acceptable reference materials

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination against any participant in an educational program or activity that receives federal funds. The act is intended to eliminate sex discrimination in education. Title IX covers discrimination in programs, admissions, activities, and student-to-student sexual harassment. It is the policy of the University of Utah to maintain an academic and work environment free of sexual harassment for students, faculty, staff and participants. A claim under this policy may be brought by any faculty, staff member, student or participant based on the conduct of any University employee or student that is related to or in the course of University business. A claim may also be brought by an administrator acting on behalf of the University. The Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action (OEO/AA) will handle all alleged sexual harassment matters pursuant to the Procedures set forth in Policy 5-210.

Any student, staff, faculty member, or participant in university services or activities who believes that there is or has been sexual harassment should contact any of the following:

1. the immediate supervisor or director of the operational unit within which the conduct occurred
2. the Human Resources Division (Address: 420 Wakara Way, Suite 105, Salt Lake City, Utah 84108; Phone: 801-581-2169; TDD: 801-585-9070); or
3. the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action (201 South Presidents Circle, John Park Building, Room 135, Salt Lake City, Utah 84112; Phone/TDD: 801-581-8365).

Once informed, the supervisor, chair or dean shall consult with OEO/AA. Similarly, OEO/AA shall advise as appropriate the cognizant dean, staff director or administrator of any complaints of sexual harassment OEO/AA receives concerning a member of the faculty, staff or student body.