Econ 2120-501: Principles of Microeconomics
Fall 2025 Syllabus

Instructor:

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Office Hours (conducted on Zoom): Mondays from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM or by appointment

Required Course Material:

This course will utilize two on-line platforms:

1. UNM Canvas, and
2. Connect Access for **Principles of Microeconomics by Frank, Bernanke et al**
   Eighth Edition
   McGraw-Hill Education
   ISBN: 9781264250417
   This Connect 1-Semester Online Access for Principles of Microeconomics is available through MyShelf on Canvas.

Technology and Technical Skills Requirement:

You will need reliable access to a computer (desktop/laptop), high-speed internet, and the ability to upload and download files to access the online materials as needed. Software such as Adobe Reader, Microsoft Office Suite will also be used. A headset might come in handy when viewing videos and listening to podcasts and during Zoom conferencing for office hours, etc.

Course Schedule

This is a 16-week course that runs from **Monday, August 18, 2025, through Saturday, December 13, 2025**. All due dates and time referred to in this course will be in Mountain Time.

Course Description:

Economics is a way of thinking that can help you understand everything from the stock market to marriages, to child rearing, to crime, to elections, to the decisions you make every day in your lives. It's a study of choices. It tells us the kind of trade-offs that people/companies/countries are faced with and how they decide which alternative to choose.

Microeconomics is the study of how households and firms make decisions. In this course, we will focus on understanding the fundamentals of the important tools necessary to properly analyze microeconomic models and applying those tools to real world examples. You will leave this course with a better understanding of the economic way of thinking when approaching the difficult decisions that must be made every day. Most importantly, this course will present you with a method for understanding contemporary policy issues that will lead to clearer, more objective thinking.

Canvas Login Instructions:

For help on accessing Canvas see -- How do I log in to Canvas? More help documentation located in "Help"> "UNM Canvas Help Site" link on left course menu, and also at Online Student Documentation.

Connect Registration Instructions

Please go here for instructions on registering and accessing your textbook and other material on McGraw-Hill Connect. **I, as the professor, have chosen Inclusive Access (IA) to save money, and the price is less**

than buying directly from the publisher. Students should not shop for the required Connect access because the pathway to it is loaded into Canvas. The Connect access will be available through Canvas **on the first day of class** for all enrolled students.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

CL1. Explain the concept of opportunity cost.
CL2. Demonstrate knowledge of the laws of supply and demand and equilibrium.
CL3. Use supply and demand curves to analyze responses of markets to external events.
CL4. Use supply and demand analysis to examine the impact of government intervention.
CL5. Explain and calculate price elasticity of demand and other elasticities.
CL6. Demonstrate an understanding of producer choice, including cost and break-even analysis.
CL7. Compare and contrast the different market structures such as perfect competition and monopoly.

Expectations:

1. This is an online class. To succeed in an online class, you need to have the required level of computer skills, motivation, and a commitment to learn and work on your own. Online classes are good for self-starters, i.e., students who can take the initiative to complete coursework without the direct supervision of a professor.
2. Each week, you will be expected to:
    a. Review and complete all assigned readings,
    b. Complete and submit all homework assignments on Connect,
    c. Participate in class discussion (see discussion forum instructions below), and
    d. Complete Exams on the Connect platform

    No late work will be accepted.
3. Economics courses are more like mathematics courses in that keeping up with the material and doing practice problems are imperative to receiving a good grade. Each week, read and re-read the chapters and any associated study material that I post on Canvas. Read until you are confident in your understanding of the material and only then attempt the assigned homework and exams. Thinking, not memorizing, is the key to success – economics is a way of thinking, not a body of "facts".
4. If you have any questions or need additional clarifications about any aspect of the course, e-mail me sooner rather than later. If I do not respond to your e-mail within 36 hours, please resend it. If you'd like to make sure that I receive your e-mail, write it **professionally** and put the following keywords in the subject line: **Econ 2120 Online** followed by a couple words describing the subject matter of the e-mail. You can anticipate a 24 to 36-hours response time from me, Monday – Thursday. I will try and respond to all weekend (Friday afternoon to Sunday) emails by EOD on Monday.
5. UNM provides each student with a NetID and an associated email address. It is imperative to ensure "effective contact" that you check your UNM e-mail on a regular basis. Please do not send me e-mails from your personal e-mail accounts such as Gmail, Yahoo, MSN, etc. I might not receive those emails because they are flagged as spam by the UNM mail server. Here's UNM's policy on emails: https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2540.html
6. Important course announcements will be communicated via e-mail or the **Announcements tool on Canvas**. This will forward an email to your campus (registered) email address. Be sure to check the Announcements tab on the course home page regularly.
7. It is your responsibility as a student to communicate quickly with me any issue or emergency that will impact your involvement with or performance in the class. This includes, but is not limited to - getting "kicked off" of the system during tests or quizzes; - having trouble submitting assignments; - family emergencies etc.
8. Since we are dependent on the internet for this course, be mindful that problems with technology happen sometimes. To avoid missing a deadline, do not wait until the last minute to complete your assignments or

exams. **I will not accept your technical issues (with equipment, network connection, Canvas or Connect) as legitimate reason for missing work.** If you have difficulty using a tool on Canvas to complete work, use the "Support Services" link immediately and notify me as well. If you have a difficulty using Connect, contact Connect Tech Support immediately and notify me as well.

Attendance:

This is an online course, so it is your responsibility to attend class through Canvas and complete all work assigned. You CANNOT afford to get behind. Non completion of the course or failing will affect your grade and thus may affect any scholarships, grants, or financial aid, requiring payment back to the offering institution. For attendance purposes, you are required by 11:59 PM on Sunday of each week to complete all the work due for that week. Students who fail to complete this expectation for two consecutive weeks MAY be dropped from the course without any notice. DO NOT assume, however, that if you do not log into the class, you will be dropped. If you choose not to pursue the course, it is ultimately your responsibility to officially drop the course. Please make yourself aware of drop dates here.

Grading:

The following is the complete breakdown of each of the elements in your final grade:

Component	Weight
Week 1 Introduction post and responses on the discussion forum	1.50%
Week 1 Syllabus acceptance post on discussion forum	2.00%
13 Weekly Discussions on UNM Canvas	26.00%
3 Exams on UNM Canvas	48.00%
13 Weekly Homework Assignments on Connect	19.50%
3 Practice Exams on Connect	3.00%
Total	**100.00%**

Grading Scale		
A+ = 97% to 100%	A = 93% to 96%	A- = 90% to 92%
B+ = 87% to 89%	B = 83% to 86%	B- = 80% to 82%
C+ = 77% to 79%	C = 73% to 76%	C- = 70% to 72%
D+ = 67% to 69%	D = 63% to 66%	D- = 60% to 62%
Below 60% = F		

Office Hours:

I will be available for office hour every Monday from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM on Zoom/phone call. **Please e-mail me at least 24 hours in advance if you plan to utilize these office hours with a brief description of the issue you want to discuss so I'll be prepared for our meeting**. Please use the following link to access the Zoom Meeting:

Join Zoom meeting at
https://unm.zoom.us/j/99095095481?pwd=eDhJekxqRmFvRlAyb25xNWw0V2p3dz09

Meeting ID: 990 9509 5481
Passcode: Econ123

Week 1 orientation activities and requirements:

Below you will find a list of orientation activities to complete as a part of our first week module. These activities are designed to give you a chance to get to know our online environment, as well as your fellow classmates. You'll be asked to complete simple tasks using the tools that we'll be using throughout the semester.

- Course Tour (on Canvas) – Watch the "Course Tour" video to learn how to navigate this course on Canvas and on the Connect platform as well as to acquaint yourself better with the course.

- Syllabus Acceptance (on Canvas) – Please read the syllabus and post to the "Syllabus Acceptance" forum under the "Week 1: START HERE" module prior to **Wednesday, August 20.** Follow instructions provided in that forum description for your post. This deliverable is worth 2% of your final grade.

- Introduction discussion (on Canvas) – Your Introduction should be posted in the "Introductions" forum under the "Week 1: START HERE" module on the course homepage on Canvas by **Wednesday, August 20**. You are also required to make "reply" posts to at least two of your classmates' posts by **Friday, August 22** for you to receive full credit. You will need to create your introduction thread before you will be able to view other students' threads. This deliverable is worth 1% of your final grade.

- Chapter 1 (on Connect) – Read chapter 1 on Connect and complete the homework assignment for the chapter.

- Week 1 Discussion (on Canvas) – Follow the instructions and post an answer to the week 1 discussion forum by **Wednesday, August 20** and submit responses to two of your classmates' post by **Friday, August 22**.

Exams:

There will be three exams in this course, each worth 16% of your final grade. The exams will be available to you on Camvas and will be due at the end of weeks 5, 10, and 16, respectively. The following are the chapters that each of these exams will cover and their due dates:

Topics	Due Date
Exam 1 -- Chapters 1 - 4 (on UNM Canvas)	Sunday, September 21, 2025
Exam 2 -- Chapters 5 - 8 (on UNM Canvas)	Sunday, October 26, 2025
Exam 3 -- Chapters 9, 11 - 14 (on UNM Canvas)	Sunday, December 7, 2025

Practice Exams:

The Exams will be multiple choice questions. To prepare for these Exams, make sure to complete the Practice Exams on Connect BEFORE attempting the exams. The Practice Exams are each worth 1% of your final grade and will also be due at the end of weeks 5, 10, and 16, respectively.

Topics	Due Date
Practice Exam 1 (on Connect)	Sunday, September 21, 2025
Practice Exam 2 (on Connect)	Sunday, October 26, 2025
Practice Exam 3 (on Connect)	Sunday, December 7, 2025

Homework Assignments:

Each week, beginning week 2, on Tuesday you will have HW assignments due on Connect on the chapter(s) we cover the week before. Each homework assignment is worth 1.5% of your final grade. You will have unlimited attempts on these HW assignments up to the due date with a 5% penalty per failed attempt. You will be starting over on each new attempt.

I recommend that each week you read and re-read the chapters and any associated study material that I post on Connect until you are confident in your understanding of the material and only then attempt the assigned homework. **Don't forget, you can always contact me via e-mail if you need additional guidance!**

Topic	Due Date	Grade Weight
Chapter 1	Tuesday, August 26, 2025	1.50%
Chapter 2	Tuesday, September 2, 2025	1.50%
Chapter 3	Tuesday, September 9, 2025	1.50%
Chapter 4	Tuesday, September 16, 2025	1.50%
Chapter 5	Tuesday, September 30, 2025	1.50%
Chapter 6	Tuesday, October 7, 2025	1.50%
Chapter 7	Tuesday, October 14, 2025	1.50%
Chapter 8	Tuesday, October 21, 2025	1.50%
Chapter 9	Tuesday, November 4, 2025	1.50%
Chapter 11	Tuesday, November 11, 2025	1.50%
Chapter 12	Tuesday, November 18, 2025	1.50%
Chapter 13	Tuesday, November 25, 2025	1.50%
Chapter 14	Tuesday, December 2, 2025	1.50%

Discussion Board Posts:

Each week, except for the weeks when you have an exam due, you will be responsible for completing the discussion forum activities for that week. These deliverables will account for 19.5% of your final grade. You can access these forums under the respective week modules in the Canvas course. You are required to create a new thread with a response to the question(s) I post in the Forum Description. Once you create your thread, you will be able to view other threads in the forum by your classmates (as and when they are created). You are then required to go back and read your classmates' threads and create a response post to at least 2 of your classmates' threads.

Each student must make their initial thread to the forum by **11:59 PM on Wednesdays**. After you make your initial post, you must then post a reply to **at least two** other students' initial threads (a minimum of two reply posts) by **11:59 PM on Fridays**. You must also respond to ALL questions posed/ comments made by other students and/or me on your initial thread.[1] **NOTE: Canvas calendar will show that discussion post is due on Fridays, but your initial post will be due on Wednesdays and responses are due on Friday, regardless of what shows up on your Canvas calendar. If you miss the Wednesday deadline for initial post, you will not receive credit for discussions that week. No exceptions.**

Your posts must be coherent, demonstrate that you engaged with the material from previous course work/this class's texts, and reinforce important content. Your initial post should have **3 to 5 critical points relevant to the week's topic**.

[1] Weeks 8 and 15 are an exception, when your response posts are due by the Monday after the Fall Break and the Thanksgiving Holiday, respectively.

Initial posts must be a **minimum of 250 words** and your reply to posts must be a **minimum of 125 words** to receive an average score (C or C+/73-79). Posts beyond these numbers **AND** with substantial content will be considered for an above average score (B or A/80-100). Remember, long posts don't necessarily mean that you will earn a better grade. Strive for quality over quantity when it comes to word count.

Respond to others - You will individually comment—reply—to your fellow learners' posts. These responses are expected to **add to the discussion and even extend it**. **This should not be an "I agree or disagree" post**; rather, interject your own personal analysis of the originating student's posting. Please make each posting meaningful and on-point.

Please note that responding to others is a critical part of this discussion forum activity. Reading and engaging with other students' understanding of the subject matter gives depth to your understanding of the topic. **If you only make an initial post but don't complete your response posts, your work for this activity will be deemed incomplete and you will earn a score of zero for the week's discussion forum.**

Practice Quizzes:

For each chapter of the book that we cover, you will have a practice quiz on the Connect platform. These quizzes are NOT going to factor in your final grade but are good practice material for your exams. Please note that these Quizzes are different from the PRACTICE EXAMS referred to on Page 4. Those practice EXAMS are required and each account for 1% of your final grade.

Course Schedule

The following is the schedule that we'll be following. I will use the Announcements tool on Canvas to notify you of any changes that I might make to this schedule during the course.

Week	From	To	Topics
Week 1	8/18/2025	8/24/2025	Chapter 1 -- Thinking Like an Economist
Week 2	8/25/2025	8/31/2025	Chapter 2 -- Comparative Advantage
Week 3	9/1/2025	9/7/2025	Chapter 3 -- Supply and Demand
Week 4	9/8/2025	9/14/2025	Chapter 4 -- Elasticity
Week 5	**9/15/2025**	**9/21/2025**	**Practice Exam and Exam 1 -- Chapters 1 - 4**
Week 6	9/22/2025	9/28/2025	Chapter 5 -- Demand
Week 7	9/29/2025	10/5/2025	Chapter 6 -- Perfectly Competitive Supply
Week 8	10/6/2025	10/12/2025	Chapter 7 -- Efficiency and Exchange
Week 9	10/13/2025	10/19/2025	Chapter 8 -- Monopoly, Oligopoly, and Monopolistic Competition
Week 10	**10/20/2025**	**10/26/2025**	**Practice Exam and Exam 2 -- Chapters 5 - 8**
Week 11	10/27/2025	11/2/2025	Chapter 9 -- Games and Strategic Behavior
Week 12	11/3/2025	11/9/2025	Chapter 11 -- Externalities
Week 13	11/10/2025	11/16/2025	Chapter 12 -- Economics of Information
Week 14	11/17/2025	11/23/2025	Chapter 13 -- Labor Markets
Week 15	11/24/2025	11/30/2025	Chapter 14 -- Public goods
Week 16	**12/1/2025**	**12/7/2025**	**Practice Exam and Exam 3 -- Chapters 9, 11 - 14**

UNM Policies:

Accommodations:
UNM is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for students with documented disabilities. As your instructor, it is my objective to facilitate an inclusive classroom setting, in which students have full access and opportunity to participate. To engage in a confidential conversation about the process for requesting reasonable accommodations for this class and/or program, please contact the UNM-Valencia Equal Access Services (Sarah Clawson, Coordinator), at (505) 925-8840 or by email at sjclawson@unm.edu. Or the UNM-Albuquerque Accessibility Resource Center (https://arc.unm.edu/) at arcsrvs@unm.edu or by phone at 505-277-3506.

Title IX:
The University of New Mexico and its faculty are committed to supporting our students and providing an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. The University's programs and activities, including the classroom, should always provide a space of mutual respect, kindness, and support without fear of harassment, violence, or discrimination. Discrimination on the basis of sex includes discrimination on the basis of assigned sex at birth, sex characteristics, pregnancy and pregnancy related conditions, sexual orientation and gender identity. If you have encountered any form of discrimination on the basis of sex, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, domestic or dating violence, we encourage you to report this to the University. You can access the confidential resources available on campus at the LoboRESPECT Advocacy Center (https://loborespect.unm.edu), the Women's Resource Center (https://women.unm.edu), and the LGBTQ Resource Center (https://lgbtqrc.unm.edu). If you speak with an instructor (including a TA or a GA) regarding an incident connected to discrimination on the basis of sex, they must notify UNM's Title IX Coordinator that you shared an experience relating to Title IX, even if you ask the instructor not to disclose it. The Title IX Coordinator is available to assist you in understanding your options and in connecting you with all possible resources on and off campus. For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct and reporting, please see https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2740.html and CEEO's website.
If you are pregnant or experiencing a pregnancy-related condition, you may contact UNM's Office of Compliance, Ethics, and Equal Opportunity at ceeo@unm.edu. The CEEO staff will provide you with access to available resources and supportive measures and assist you in understanding your rights.

Student Support:

Confidential services for students are available at LoboRESPECT Advocacy Center, Women's Resource Center, and the LGBTQ Resource Center. The Women's Resource Center supports all students, including those who are pregnant or are parents. UNM-Valencia has lactation stations located in LRC 112 (Tomé campus) and in the Workforce Training Center.

Credit-hour Statement:
This is a three credit-hour course delivered in an entirely asynchronous online modality over 16 weeks during the Fall 2025 semester. Please plan for a minimum of 18 hours per week to learn course materials and complete assignments.

Student Support:

UNM-Valencia Learning Commons (Tutoring)

Tutoring is available to you in math, science, writing, and other subjects through the Learning Commons: Learning and STEM Centers and Writing Center. In person tutoring is in these centers in the LRC (the building that also has the library). Tutoring in Zoom and, for writing, through email, is also available.

Making use of tutoring is a fantastic way to use your resources and set yourself up to learn deeply and well in your courses.

To schedule an appointment, please go to: Learning Commons Bookings

If you are making an email appointment with the Writing Center, email your draft to tutor@unm.edu after you fill out the form above.

If you have difficulty with the scheduling link above, would like an appointment in a subject not listed at that link, or have a question, email tutor@unm.edu. You'll get answers during business hours Monday through Friday.

The webpage, with more details about available hours, is here: Learning Commons: Tutoring Services webpage

Resources to support study skills and time management are available through Student Learning Assistance at the Center for Teaching and Learning in Zimmerman Library or online.

Land Acknowledgement:
Founded in 1889, the University of New Mexico sits on the traditional homelands of the Pueblo of Sandia. The original peoples of New Mexico Pueblo, Navajo, and Apache since time immemorial, have deep connections to the land and have made significant contributions to the broader community statewide. We honor the land itself and those who remain stewards of this land throughout the generations and also acknowledge our committed relationship to Indigenous peoples. We gratefully recognize our history.
Resource: Division for Equity and Inclusion.

Citizenship and/or Immigration Status:
All students are welcome in this class regardless of citizenship, residency, or immigration status. Your professor will respect your privacy if you choose to disclose your status. As for all students in the class, family emergency-related absences are normally excused with reasonable notice to the professor, as noted in the attendance guidelines above. UNM as an institution has made a core commitment to the success of all our students, including members of our undocumented community. The Administration's welcome is found on our website: http://undocumented.unm.edu/.

Responsible Learning and Academic Honesty:
Cheating and plagiarism (academic dishonesty) are often driven by lack of time, desperation, or lack of knowledge about how to identify a source. Communicate with me and ask for help, even at the last minute, rather than risking your academic career by committing academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty involves presenting material as your own that has been generated on a website, in a publication, by an artificial intelligence algorithm (AI), by another person, or by otherwise breaking the rules of an assignment or exam. It is a Student Code of Conduct violation that can lead to a disciplinary procedure. When you use a resource (such as an AI, article, a friend's work, or a website) in work submitted for this class, document how you used it and distinguish between your original work and the material taken from the resource.

Connecting to Campus and Finding Support:
NM has many resources and centers to help you thrive, including opportunities to get involved in campus life, mental health resources, academic support such as tutoring, resource centers for people like you, free food at Valencia Campus Food Pantry, jobs on campus and financial capability support. Your advisor, staff at the resource centers and Academic Affairs Office, and I can help you find the right opportunities for you.

Respectful Conduct Expectations:
I am committed to building with you a positive classroom environment in which everyone can learn. I reserve the right to intervene and enforce standards of respectful behavior when classroom conduct is inconsistent

with university expectations [and/or classroom community agreements]. Interventions and enforcement may include but are not limited to required meetings to discuss classroom expectations, written notification of expectations, and/or removal from a class meeting. Removal from a class meeting will result in an unexcused absence. [Insert number] or more unexcused absences may result in permanent removal and a drop from the course (see attendance policy). The University of New Mexico ensures freedom of academic inquiry, free expression and open debate, and a respectful campus through adherence to the following policies: D75: Classroom Conduct, Student Code of Conduct, University Policy 2240 – Respectful Campus, University Policy 2210 – Campus Violence