INTRODUCTION
Welcome to Economic Analysis. In this class we will focus first on microeconomics and second on macroeconomics. This is a web-based course with no required face-to-face meetings. All contact between professor and students are via the computer.

You will be able to work at your own pace and you must manage your time accordingly. The design of this course is for you to achieve mastery over the various competencies and not to be graded as in more traditional courses. The expectation is that everyone has the opportunity to earn an A in the course by the ability to succeed in each of the modules before moving on. You can think of the design of this course as learn, test, relearn, re-test.

Some past student reviews of this course are online at http://gozips.uakron.edu/~myers/online. Please read them. You will discover your fellow students have cautioned you not to underestimate the amount of work in this course and the dangers of not sticking to the suggested completion schedule. (return to top)

CONTACTING YOUR PROFESSOR
Email me at myers@uakron.edu and always include “E244 Fall 2017” in the subject line. Be sure to sign your emails with your full name and your UAnetID.

Office hours
You may contact me by email for an appointment and we will either set up a physical meeting, likely at my office (CBA 323) or a virtual meeting by web conferencing. These will be by appointment. The virtual meetings
are electronic and use WebEx, a web-based conferencing program. You will be given a link when and if we need to use it.

There may be WebEx online sessions (and always optional) meetings a few times during the term. You will need speakers or headphones to participate and a mic if you intend to talk. You will receive email notice of these.

Professor response time
While it will be easy for you to think that your professor is available 24/7, this is not true. I will generally be online daily to check your progress when possible. Nevertheless, a 48 hour response from the professor will be considered timely. Therefore, you must plan for a day or two turn around between each module. Most of the time you will be advanced much faster. (return to top)

IMPORTANT DAYS

- First day of access to course: Tuesday August 29, 2017
- Last day to withdraw: Friday October 15, 2017. *Check with your advisor.*
- First writing assignment due Sunday October 15, 2017 11:59 pm. Every week late (after October 15) you will lose another point (see penalty schedule below).
- Second writing assignment due: Thursday December 14, 2017, 11:59 pm. Every day late (after December 14) you will lose points (see penalty schedule below).
- Last day to access the course: Saturday December 16, 2017, 11:59 pm.
- Grades recorded: on or before Tuesday December 19, 2017.
- Extensions of time: On an individual basis — contact Dr. Myers well before October 15. If after October 15 you will have to have made substantial progress and be well over half-done. (return to top)

DUE DATES

There are only two deadlines in this course, but I have a suggested completion schedule below to which I expect you to adhere.

Completion Schedule
Do not underestimate the time requirements for this distance learning class. **I strongly recommend that you complete both modules 1 and module 2 in the first week and complete module 3 by the end of the second week.**

Modules 1-10 are microeconomic topics and Modules 11-15 are macroeconomic topics. There is no modules 5 and modules 7A and 14A are writing assignments that are due after modules 7 and 15. The writing assignments have firm due dates (see below).
Self-paced, self-disciplined Design
It is impossible to complete this course in a few weeks! Students’ report that this course is as much or in some cases much more work than a regular face to face course. We will cover almost the entire book. Therefore, don’t expect to successfully finish the class if you wait until the last weeks of the term to start. While this is a self-paced course, you may still have to wait up to 2 days between modules. If you fall behind, there is no guarantee you will be able to complete the course on time. So pay attention to the suggested course completion schedule and stay on pace to finish as shown.

Deadlines with late penalties
There are two dates that everyone needs to hit. You must submit the first writing assignment on or before October 15 and the second writing assignment on or before December 14.

Last day to submit the first writing assignment without penalty: October 15, 2017
Last day to submit the Second writing assignment without penalty: December 14, 2017
GRADING POLICY
The final grade in the course will be based on 160 points: The sum of the scores on the 13 module quizzes (max 10 points each for 130 points), 10 points each for the two writing assignments, and 10 points for the final evaluation module to take place after module 15. These evaluation points are awarded here for completion of the forms, not for what is said on the form.

No scaling of the grades will happen. There is no extra credit.

The percentage grade is calculated as the sum of your points divided by the total amount possible of 140 points. Grade Scale will be A for 92-100 percent, A- for 90-91, B+ for 88-89, B for 82-87, B- for 80-81, C+ for 78-79, C for 72-77, C- for 70-71, D+ for 68-69, D for 62-67, D- for 60-61, F below 60 percent. [Note: 91.99 is still an A-, there is no rounding of scores up]. The class is not competitive with the other students and all will make the grade for which they are qualified.

ACADEMIC HONOR - IMPORTANT
Taking the quizzes for this course is NOT a “team” activity. The work should be entirely on your own and not done in consultation with classmates or others. Any violation of this policy including reference to any student work past or present will result in the grade of “F” for the course. You should be aware that brightspace tracks all activity that takes place within the program including which IP address you are using. Further quizzes are randomized so questions are rarely the same. (return to top)

TEXTBOOK AND COURSE SUPPORT
You will need three (3) texts, the good news is one is very cheap and the other two are free and online.

Textbook number 1 - Parkin

The primary historical book for this course is Michael Parkin, Economics 8th edition, Addison Wesley - Pearson Publishing; ISBN: #0321423011 (2008). The course was originally built on this edition and the module outline still follows the book’s outline. This book is not required in order to complete the course, but you may want to have a copy. Much of the content is in the supplied PowerPoints and Chapter outlines.

Do not worry whether MyEconLab or any supplement is included, we will not be using them. The book will not be used until Module 2B.

The testing is geared to the 8th edition learning objectives, but an outline in each module shows how the next text, by Greenlaw and Taylor covers the same topics. At the top of each module is a direct comparison between the texts. You are not being tested on current events or case studies in economics. You are expected to learn timeless principles of economics and to learn to solve problems with analysis and both texts will accomplish this.

Do I need to order this version of the Parkin text?
Students have asked before if they need to have the 8th edition or can they use another more recent text. In the past I have said you must have the 8th, but you are on your own to locate the right material to hook up to the learning objectives if you do.

I recognize that textbooks are expensive. The recommended price for the latest version of a Parkin is now $333 or more. One way for me to dramatically hold down your expense is for me to use a text that has been superseded by other editions which I have done now for a number of years.
Textbook number 2 - Taylor
The second and primary textbook is by Timothy Taylor and Steve Greenlaw and is FREE and Open Source. Please go to this link to acquire the FREE text in one of many online formats: https://openstaxcollege.org/textbooks/principles-of-economics.

Textbook number 3 - Hazlitt
The third book which we will use first is by Henry Hazlitt, Economics in One Lesson. You can FREELY download it at https://mises.org/library/economics-one-lesson.

The only assignment is that in module 2A: Read the first two chapters immediately and then read one additional chapter. I bet you get hooked and read more.

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HOW THE COURSE IS DESIGNED

- The course is organized into modules. They must be completed in order. You are to master each one before being permitted to move forward. You will be advanced after an acceptable score and three attempts on each module test, or if you get a perfect score you will be advanced and not have to take more attempts. The actual advance to the next module will be on the basis of you filling out a required Learning Assessment which is always the last link in each content module.

- Learning Assessments are forms that you are required to complete and submit. They arrive in Dr. Myers’ email and is the only required direct course contact we have. You complete them when you finish a module or have a question.

- Module 1 is introduction to the way the course is designed and you will have to open each item to advance through its three parts.

- Module 2A is introductory to the content of economics by first exploring the wisdom of Henry Hazlitt and his Economics in One Lesson.

- Each module (2B to 15) includes various files of helpful material to help you learn the material of the chapters.
  - (content) These include for each chapter a lecture outline, a PowerPoint presentation and a set of thinking questions (including answers). Enhancements include video and sound files to highlight important concepts.
  - (quiz) At the end of each module is the quiz of 10 questions based on the learning objectives for each chapter.
  - (Learning assessment) After you take the quiz (up to three times or until you get a 10) you must complete a learning assessment.
  - (advancing) While not a part of the content of the module, after completing the learning assessment you may proceed to the next module.
    - If you have scored a 10 or have taken three attempts the next module’s content will automatically open.
    - If you score a 10 you must complete the learning assessment and the next module’s quiz will be open and available to you.
If you have scored less than 10 and have taken all three allowed attempts then the next module’s quiz will not open until Dr. Myers reads your learning assessment and decides your fate. See acceptable and unacceptable progress below in this syllabus for more about that.

The graphics quiz in Module 2 and the pre-assessments in Module 1 and the Hazlitt discussion in Module 1 are not counted in your grades. They are there to provide an assessment of your skills and orient you to this course and economics.

With 5000-6000 questions in the test bank some figures and graphs may be missing or incorrect. There is an opportunity to receive compensation for errors in the test bank based on the policy at http://gozips.uakron.edu/~myers/FAQ/What_if_missing_graph.htm. This is the only extra points possible in the course and is available only to those who are allowed to enter the evaluation module. Over the years most of the ‘bad’ questions have been edited or eliminated.

A MASTERY-BASED COURSE DESIGN

“Rules of the Game”

Each module quiz will consist of 10 questions randomly drawn from the test bank within each learning objective announced for each chapter. You will have 15 minutes to complete the quiz and should wait at least one hour before you may take another quiz. The time is so that you will review your past quiz and discover your mistakes and correct them by studying before taking the next attempt. You are on your honor to review before just starting the next attempt.

“Warning” do not take quizzes back to back

If you ask for assistance and you have taken all three quizzes back to back without delay in between each attempt you should expect less sympathy and less help as you are telegraphing your lack of seriousness. In other words, if you do not score well on one attempt, what makes you think if you take it two more times without studying your mistakes that you will score higher?

Acceptable progress

The goal is that you reach mastery over the competencies in the material before you move on. A student who makes a perfect score (10) on a module quiz and completes the module evaluation will be permitted to begin the next module. Students who don’t attain a perfect score on the first module quiz will have two additional attempts to do so. After the third attempt, the content of the next module will be opened for you automatically. If you have scored at least a score of 8, you will advanced to the quiz by the instructor within 48 hours of receiving your learning assessment. A highest score on the three quizzes of a module that is less than 8 will require an intervention which is optional if you score a 7 and required if it is a 6 or less.

Unacceptable progress

Any student who receives a final score of 7 out of 10 for a module quiz will receive a warning. If you earn a score of 6 or less, you will receive a notice from Dr. Myers (or his assistant) requesting an online or face-to-face meeting. You will not be permitted to continue to the next module quiz without that meeting and a successful resolution of the problem that led to the score of 6 or less. In short, do what is necessary to avoid that score. (Note: A 6 of 10 is commiserate with a letter grade of D- and, therefore, indicates un-acceptable progress requiring intervention.)
Is advance Automatic or Manual?

Brightspace will automatically advance you to the content of the next module based on your actions. However, advancement to the quiz of the next module will only occur automatically if you score a 10 on one of the attempts. If your highest score after 3 attempts is still 9 or less then the advancement to the next module quiz is manually done by one of the instructors for the course within 48 hours. So you will never wait on us to proceed to the content of the next module, but may have to wait for the quiz to open. This allows us the time to review and respond to your learning assessment. While you are studying the materials of the next module, we are reviewing your last learning assessment. If you are even in doubt that something isn’t working for you, just contact us.  

COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS

In order to fully participate in the course, you need to have the following:

1. Students are required to use the class homepage at http://brightspace.uakron.edu.
2. You must do a system check by clicking in the ‘System Check’ menu item once in brightspace, or you can access it directly here: https://brightspace.uakron.edu/d2l/systemCheck.
3. Specific help in brightspace is available 24/7 at 877-325-7778.
4. Interested students can seek help for off-campus use in the basement of the library at the Technology Learning Support Center. Their phone numbers is (330) 972-6888, or email them at tlsc@uakron.edu. Hours are on the page listed in the next link.
5. The best URL for help is Zip Support at http://www.uakron.edu/support/.

COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. You must use your UAnet email account. When I communicate to your UAnet email account I will assume you will read it promptly. There is no exception to this.
2. **IMPORTANT:** When you email me always
   a. include your course number (and term) in the subject, for example E600 Fall 2017
   b. include your full name at the end of your message, not just a nick name
   c. include your UAnet id under your name if you are not using your UAnet account (see point 1).
3. We will be using the communication features of brightspace extensively in this class. I will respond to any email address you use, but when I am mailing to you I will email your UAnet address only.