

**ECONOMICS 2302**  
**PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS**  
**Course Syllabus**  
**FALL 2020**

**Note:** The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus and policies, as well as notify students of any changes, at any point during the semester.

**READ AND PRINT THIS DOCUMENT FOR YOUR REFERENCE ALL SEMESTER.**

**AFTER READING THIS SYLLABUS, YOU ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE A QUIZ**  
**OVER THE CONTENT OF THE SYLLABUS!**

(Syllabus Quiz is located in Module 1 Link)

**IF YOU FAIL TO TAKE THE SYLLABUS QUIZ IN BLACKBOARD BY THE DUE DATE,**  
**YOU WILL BE WITHDRAWN FROM THIS COURSE.**

- **Instructor**

- A. C. Dale Robison, B.S., M.S.

- B. Contact Information: Tel: 806-716-4678

- C. Email: [drobison@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:drobison@southplainscollege.edu)

- D. Office Location: Reese Campus, Building 2, Room 222

- E. Office Hours:

- Monday (Reese, Bldg 2, Room 222: 9:00-9:30am; 12:15-1:00pm; 2:15-4:00pm
    - Tuesday (Lubbock Center, Rm 120I): 9:00-9:30am
    - Wednesday (Reese, Bldg 2, Room 222: 9:00-9:30am; 12:15-1:00pm; 2:15-4:00pm
    - Thursday (VIRTUAL): 9:00-9:30am
    - Friday (Lubbock Center, Rm 128): 8:30-9:30am

- F. Student contact for internet courses: Use the “Messages” link in Blackboard

- **SPECIAL FASK MASK REQUIREMENTS FOR ON CAMPUS INSTRUCTION OR VISITS:**

It is the policy of South Plains College for the Fall 2020 semester that as a condition of oncampus enrollment, all students are required to engage in safe behaviors to avoid the spread of COVID-19 in the SPC community. Such behaviors specifically include the requirement that all students properly wear CDC-compliant face coverings while in SPC buildings including in classrooms, labs, hallways, and restrooms. Failure to comply with this policy may result in dismissal from the current class session. If the student refuses to leave the classroom or lab after being dismissed, the student may be referred to the Dean of Students on the Levelland

campus or the Dean/Director of external centers for Student Code of Conduct Violation.

- **Course Materials**

Good news: your textbook for this class is available for free online! If you prefer, you can also get a print version at a very low cost.

Your book is available in web view and PDF for free.

<https://openstax.org/details/books/principles-economics-2e>

You can also purchase on iBooks or get a print version, if you prefer, via the campus bookstore or from Amazon.com. You can use whichever format you want. Web view is recommended -- the responsive design works seamlessly on any device.

If you choose to purchase a print version, here is the title and isbn:

Principles of Economics (2e) from OpenStax,

*Hardcover:*

ISBN-10: 1-947172-36-0

ISBN-13: 978-1-947172-36-4

- **Course Description**

This course discusses theories of the firm, value and price determination, and functional distribution with the application of these theories to problems of particular firms, industries and markets.

- **Course Objectives:**

Upon successful completion of this course, each student will demonstrate, by examination, a satisfactory (minimum 70% accuracy) working knowledge of the following microeconomic principles and theories: Numerous terms necessary for concept attainment and understanding; opportunity cost and the production possibilities curve; the economic problem; market demand and supply; demand/supply curve shifters; price elasticity determinants of demand and supply; marginal and total utility; law of diminishing returns; in-depth production costs/returns content; perfectly competitive markets with comparison to a monopolistic firm; determinants of the demand/supply for labor; the effects and determinants of microeconomic policy issues and regulation.

## **GETTING STARTED**

1. Visit OpenStax.org and decide what format of the textbook you prefer and proceed with downloading or purchasing a copy. The name and isbn for the book is as follows:

Your book is available in web view and PDF for free.

<https://openstax.org/details/books/principles-economics-2e>

If you choose to purchase a print version, here is the title and isbn:  
Principles of Economics (2e) from OpenStax,

*Hardcover:*

ISBN-10: 1-947172-36-0

ISBN-13: 978-1-947172-36-4

2. Familiarize yourself with how to navigate the course in Blackboard. The link entitled “Course” will take you to the primary components of the course such as power point files, videos, and most importantly, exams.
3. Review and print the syllabus. The due dates for the exams are listed in the syllabus. Pay careful attention to due dates as there are no “make-up” exams in the course.
4. Access the Discussion Board link in the course and post to the required “Introduce Yourself” discussion board by the required due date. This is a required assignment of the course that will also allow you to earn 10 extra credit points for the course.
5. Begin reading the chapters in the textbook that correspond to the exam schedule in your syllabus. All exams are based on your ability to read and comprehend the concepts presented in each chapter. I suggest that you read the material more than once in order to increase your learning comprehension. Review Power Points, Notes, and Videos provided in the course tab.
6. Complete all activities by the due dates listed in your course schedule (located in Blackboard). All activities are due BEFORE 11:59pm on the due date.
7. **Discussion Boards:** To receive the full 9 points per discussion board, you must post an *original* thread to the board, and respond to two other posts. Failure to post and respond to two other posts will result in point deductions.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING TESTING PROCEDURES**

I have listed additional IMPORTANT points about taking the exams on line:

1. **DO NOT use your phone or tablet to complete exams, quizzes, etc.** These are not reliable devices for testing purposes and I have had students experience major problems using phones and tablets to complete their exams.
2. Once you click “Begin” on an exam, you must complete the entire exam before submitting. **You CANNOT stop the exam, close your browser, open an additional browser, or turn off your computer. DO NOT USE INTERNET EXPLORER!!**
3. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST FEW SECONDS** to click “Save and Submit” when you complete quizzes and exams. This could result in the system not accepting your work. Again, you must be prepared **BEFORE** you take the exam or you will run out of time. **You must submit BEFORE 11:59pm on the due date. If you submit at 11:59pm, the assignment will be late, you will receive a ZERO.** Click the “SAVE” button after you answer each question.
4. **MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A GOOD INTERNET CONNECTION BEFORE the due date!!** If you experience computer and/or internet malfunctions during an exam or quiz, it is considered an incomplete test.
5. You may take any exam anytime before the due date of that exam, however, **NO EXAM MAY BE TAKEN AFTER THE SCHEDULED DUE DATE!**

**BEST PIECE OF ADVICE I HAVE: PLAN AHEAD.....DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST DAY TO COMPLETE ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMS!!**

**GRADE DETERMINATION : Point allocations and Course Schedule will be available in BlackBoard**

## **COMMUNICATION and NETIQUETTE**

**Primary communication for this internet course will be the “Message” Link in Blackboard**

When you have questions, problems, or comments, you may email through **BLACKBOARD messages only!** There is a link in your course for Blackboard Messages. I will respond to your message within 48 hours if I receive your message between 8:00 AM Monday and 1:00 PM Friday (excluding holidays). Messages received

during the time period lasting from 1:00PM Friday to 8:00 AM Monday of the following week will receive a response within 48 hours after 8:00 AM on Monday.

*Netiquette* is proper behavior and communication in an online environment or application. When communicating in an online educational setting, please use the following rules and guidelines:

- Use complete sentences
- Use proper spelling and grammar
- Avoid slang and uncommon abbreviations
- Do not use obscene or threatening language

All communication must be polite, courteous and respectful. Do not use profanity under any circumstances. Failure to abide by this policy will result in the appropriate disciplinary actions. As a note of commonsense, you might want to remember the impact you will make if you choose to be disrespectful or use profanity towards any instructor or classmate.

### **IMPORTANT NOTES AND REMINDERS**

- It is the responsibility of the student to complete all exams BEFORE the due date of each exam. Failure to complete the exam before the due date will result in a ZERO for that exam. Computer and/or Internet problems or failures are **NOT** considered acceptable excuses for failure to complete the exams before the due dates.
- You must have access and the ability to competently use an appropriate computer. The computer and operating system that you use MUST be able to efficiently operate BLACKBOARD LEARN 9. Computer labs are available for student use on our Levelland, Reese Center, and Lubbock Campus. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the respective campus computer labs for days and times that the labs are open and available.
- Do not wait until the last minute to take your exams. Computer and Internet issues do occur. **It is your responsibility to find alternative computer resources if you experience problems with your current system.** Find working alternative computer resources BEFORE you take an exam.
- **SPC recommends using Firefox browser when taking exams rather than internet explorer. I have had students report success using Chrome as well.** □  
Close all windows on the computer and launch a new window to login into Blackboard. “Multi-tasking” on your computer while taking an exam in Blackboard will cause your program and your exam to freeze and lock down.
- Close all other applications before opening an exam.

- DO NOT navigate to other locations or applications in Blackboard after the test opens or the exam will lock down. Remember, if you do not “submit” the exam after you begin, you will receive a ZERO!
- Do NOT use any browser navigation buttons during the exam. □ *DO NOT CLICK “SAVE AND SUBMIT” UNTIL YOU HAVE COMPLETED YOUR EXAM!!!! THIS COULD RESULT IN YOUR SUBMISSION OF AN INCOMPLETE EXAM AND DRASTICALLY AFFECT YOUR EXAM SCORE!!!*

## **SOUTH PLAINS COLLEGE & CLASS POLICIES**

(Issued by the Office of Vice President for Academic Affairs)

### **Drops and Withdrawals:**

Dropping a course: Students should submit a Student Initiated Drop Form online. Students will not be required to obtain an instructor signature to drop, however, we do encourage students to communicate with instructors or advisors prior to dropping a course when they are able. There will be no charge for drops for the fall 2020 or spring 2021 semesters.

Withdrawing from all classes: If a student wishes to withdraw from all courses, they should initiate that process with the Advising Office. They can schedule an appointment with an advisor by visiting <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/admission-aid/advising/spcadvisors.php> or by calling 806-716-2366.

Students who stop attending a class should go through the procedure for dropping a course; otherwise they may be administratively withdrawn for lack of attendance and their record will show an “X” or “F” instead of a “W.” Failure to follow college policy by withdrawing according to this procedure will be reflected on a student’s transcript by the presence of “X” or “F” marks, as determined by the instructor. It is the student’s

responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through his or her student online account with Campus Connect.

A mark of “W” will be given for student-initiated drops or withdrawals that occur prior to and through “The Last Day to Drop” as indicated in the online academic calendar.

A student who quits attending class and is administratively withdrawn from class will receive a grade of “X” or “F” as determined by the instructor through “The Last Day to Drop” as indicated in the online academic calendar.

A student administratively dropped by the instructor may be reinstated, with the approval of the appropriate instructor. A student must initiate a request for reinstatement within seven (7) calendar days of the official date of drop by personally contacting the course instructor.”

**SPC Policy regarding “standard English”:** All written assignments should be presented using the conventions of Standard Written English. South Plains College requires all students to become proficient in "academic English," a form of English that is typically used in academic, professional, and business contexts. While slang, regional idioms, and informal kinds of self-expression are appropriate in some contexts, they are out of place in academic writing. Writing instructors and professors in courses across the campus expect all students to demonstrate proficiency in using the conventions of academic English in their written work, whether it is in-class exams or take-home essays.

**Blackboard Accessibility Standards:** Blackboard measures and evaluates accessibility levels using two sets of standards: Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act issued from the United States federal government and the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG 2.0) issued by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C). A third party conducts audits of our software releases to ensure the accessibility of the products. For Blackboard Learn 9.1's conformance with the accessibility standards under Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act using the Voluntary Product Accessibility Template® (VPAT®) tool, see the VPAT for Blackboard Learn Release 9.1. For Blackboard Learn 9.1 SP11 conformance statement for Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0, Level AA see Learn Accessibility Conformance Statement. To learn more about Blackboard's commitment to accessibility, see <http://www.blackboard.com/accessibility>. (These resources are available in English only.)

### **Student Privacy**

South Plains College is bound by the Texas Open Records Law and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. Information regarding these topics can be found in the South Plains College Catalog. As far as this class is concerned, I will NOT release or discuss your class performance, grades, averages, or attendance with anyone but you. This means that your parents, class counselors, principals, or any other interested party will not gain this information from me – if they need this sort of information they must ask you for it. This provision does not apply to student athletes or those for whom a grade check is part of their scholarship support.

All technological questions should be directed to the SPC technology center (their information is on the opening page of Blackboard). I do not solve technological/computer problems!

**Blackboard support and help:** *Blackboard tutorials* can be found on MySPC under Students>Distance Education. Once on the Distance Education page, click on Blackboard Learn 9 on menu to the right. Or access the tutorials at <http://ondemand.blackboard.com/students.htm>. When you log in to Blackboard there is a module (or box) that has help information on the My Blackboard Tab. You can also **learn more about Blackboard Learn through the On Demand Learning Center. The On Demand Learning Center includes short, interactive video lessons called Quick Tutorials and short documents, called Getting Started Guides, designed to get you familiar with a feature in 15 minutes.**

If you encounter technological problems *while you are taking a test*, YOU must contact Blackboard Technical Support [ashriver@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:ashriver@southplainscollege.edu) to report the problem. I cannot resolve grade disputes about computers not working, Blackboard not working, the internet not working UNLESS you have reported the problem when you encounter it.

For an email address that reaches everyone in the Instructional Technology department, please use [blackboard@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:blackboard@southplainscollege.edu).

**You may have had or will have trouble submitting your exams.** To prevent this or to solve it read the instructions below for clearing your browser if you are using Mozilla or Explorer.

**Mozilla Firefox – Clear Browsing History** While in Firefox, click on Tools located at the top of the screen in the menu bar.

1. From that menu, select Clear Recent History.
2. From the Time Range drop down menu, select Everything.
3. Make sure all boxes are checked – NOTE: this will delete any passwords saved by Firefox and all recent websites visited.
4. Click Delete 5. Close Firefox, reopen.

**Internet Explorer – Clear Browsing History**

1. While in Internet Explorer, click on Tools located at the top of the screen in the menu bar.
2. Select Internet Options at the bottom of the list.
3. In the middle of the pop up window under browsing history, click Delete.
4. Make sure all boxes are checked – NOTE: this will delete any passwords saved by IE and all recent websites visited. 5. Click Delete

Close Internet Explorer, reopen.



**South Plains College**  
**Common Course Syllabus: ECONOMICS 2302**

**Department:** Business Administration

**Discipline:** Economics

**Course Number:** ECON 2302

**Course Title:** Principles of Microeconomics

**Available Formats:** conventional, internet, hybrid

**Campuses:** Levelland, Reese, Plainview, Lubbock Center, Dual-Credit

**Course Description:** This course discusses theories of the firm, value and price determination, and functional distribution, with the application of these theories to problems of particular firms, industries, and markets.

**Prerequisite:** None. However, it's preferred that students have taken or are currently enrolled in MATH 1324.

**Credit:** 3    **Lecture:** 3    **Lab:** 0

**Textbook:** Principles of Economics 2E, from OpenStax, ISBN-13: 978-1-947172-36-4. An e-book is available free at <https://openstax.org/details/books/principles-economics-2e?Book%20details> A printed version is available at the SPC Campus Bookstore.

**This course partially satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement:**

Social and Behavioral Science Foundational Component Area (080)

**Core Curriculum Objectives addressed:**

- **Communications skills**—to include effective written, oral and visual communication
- **Critical thinking skills**—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Empirical and quantitative competency skills**—to manipulate and analyze numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- **Personal Responsibility**—to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.
- **Social Responsibility**—to include the demonstrated knowledge and competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. Explain the role of scarcity, specialization, opportunity cost and cost/benefit analysis in economic decision-making.
2. Identify the determinants of supply and demand; demonstrate the impact of shifts in both market supply and demand curves on equilibrium price and output.
3. Summarize the Law of Diminishing Marginal Utility; describe the process of utility maximization.
4. Calculate supply and demand elasticities, identify the determinants of price elasticity of demand and supply, and demonstrate the relationship between elasticity and total revenue.
5. Describe the production function and the Law of Diminishing Marginal Productivity; calculate and graph short-run and long-run costs of production.
6. Identify the four market structures by characteristics; calculate and graph the profit-maximizing price and quantity in the output markets by the use of marginal analysis.
7. Determine the profit-maximizing price and quantity of resources in factor markets under perfect and imperfect competition by use of marginal analysis.
8. Describe governmental efforts to address market failures such as monopoly power, externalities, and public goods.
9. Identify the benefits of free trade using the concept of comparative advantage.
10. Address issues, policies, public opinions, expectations, environmental, and cultural changes that affect industry, society, choices, and the current economic state.

**Student Learning Outcomes Assessment:** This will vary and is geared towards TaskStream and SACSCOC. This course will be assessed on an annual basis.

**Course Evaluation:** See the instructor's course information sheet for specific items used in evaluating student performance.

**Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.

When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first-class meeting.

Students who enroll in a course but have "Never Attended" by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of "X" or "F" as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student's responsibility to be aware of that policy.

It is the student's responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

**Plagiarism and Cheating:** Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, examinations, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy will result in an F for the assignment and can result in an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, or a mail-order term paper mill;
2. Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
3. Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
4. Missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
2. Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
3. Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, text messaging, internet, apps) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
4. Entering an office or building to obtain an unfair advantage;
5. Taking an examination for another;
6. Altering grade records;
7. Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
8. Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
9. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

**Student Code of Conduct Policy:** Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

**Diversity Statement:** In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is but also model society as it should and can be.

**Disability Statement:** Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class

should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

**Nondiscrimination Policy:** South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

**Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement** If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To [activate](#) accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, a notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact the Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or [email cgilster@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:cgilster@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

**Campus Concealed Carry:** Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations and Frequently Asked Questions, please refer to the Campus Carry page at <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/campuscarry.php> Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

**COVID-19 Face Covering Requirement:** It is the policy of South Plains College for the Fall 2020 semester that as a condition of on-campus enrollment, all students are required to engage in safe behaviors to avoid the spread of COVID-19 in the SPC community. Such behaviors specifically include the requirement that all students properly wear CDC-compliant face coverings while in SPC buildings including in classrooms, labs, hallways, and restrooms. Failure to comply with this policy may result in dismissal from the current class session. If the student refuses to leave the classroom or lab after being dismissed, the student may be referred to the Dean of Students on the Levelland campus or the Dean/Director of external centers for Student Code of Conduct Violation. For further information, please refer to the "Return to Campus Plan" at: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/emergency/SPCReturnToCampusPlans.pdf>

**Note:** The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus and policies, as well as notify students of any changes, at any point during the semester.