

Economics 101

A Basic Course in Economics

Welcome to Economics 101. You will find here some of the tools and graphics suitable for a first (or early) course in general economics. More specifically, this package contains handouts, quizzes, tests, exams, explanatory charts, work sheets, and a grade sheet originally targeted for 19-20 year olds (many foreign) attending a finishing school.

To make this available to the widest possible audience, we have packaged the materials to use with the most "generic" programs. That is, even though many of the handouts were developed with MacDraft, we have converted them to MacDraw PICT format so that MacDraw, MacDraft, PageMaker etc. can reference them easily. You may expect to use the following programs with the materials:

MacDraw PICT [MacDraft, PageMaker, etc.]
MacPaint [FullPaint, SuperPaint, etc.]
MacWrite [FullWrite, Word, etc.]
Excel

You may notice that some of the exams appear in three versions. This of course is to deal with those choosing to cheat. Since capital punishment is only slightly more effective than corporal punishment which is only slightly more effective than no punishment at all for those determined to cheat, the exams are designed to let the cheaters punish themselves. This has resulted in some sadly humorous situations after the exams. A key is provided for parts of the final exam.

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Reference Comments

Circular Flow of Wealth. This is a graphic page providing some insight into the flow of money for goods and services. Because this document contains bitmap images, it is s-l-o-w to print on a laserwriter (about a half hour for the first copy, only half a minute after that), so don't panic. The often "96% of original" rule for bitmap graphics on a laserwriter doesn't appear to affect this graphic.

Competition. Another graphic illustrating competition in America. There is also a corresponding quiz. Consider printing at 96% on a laserwriter. (But still looks good at 100%)

Decision Table. A work sheet for demonstrating the use of economic decision tables.

Economic Charts. Handout of pie charts, bar graphs, and so on.

Economic Systems. A view of communism vs socialism vs capitalism. We tried to be non-judgmental and especially non-political in the course and permit the students to reach their own conclusions. A partially- completed summary of the characteristics of economic systems appears at the bottom of the page for the students to add their own comments.

Final Essay. Essay questions for the final exam. Readily completed by those who didn't nap too often.

Final Extra. More essay questions for extra credit. Non-trivial.

Final Key. Since three versions of the exams were floating about, we have supplied the key to make life a little easier.

Final 2.1-3.3. These are multiple choice questions, three different versions of two pages each. The key is in Final Key. Don't copy in my class! Oh, yes, any given version may be identified by the date in the corner.

Grades 86. A grading sheet in Excel. Not terribly sophisticated since we are not Excelaholics, or rather I should say we are Excel naïfs. (Great package I think.) The live data was truncated to protect the not-so-innocent.

Match 1-3. Midterm tests. Again three versions to protect the smart from the unethical. Each version is identifiable by the date in the upper corner.

Org Chart. Organizational chart test page kept fairly simple. You may wish to simplify it even further. Bit map but decent at 100% on laserwriter.

Quiz I, II, III. First three quizzes for the course. We gave them on lectures 2, 3, and 5 of the course which brought forth howls of complaints. By lecture 4, the students were in fine shape. We offset the "surprise" of the first quiz by an offer to the students: If as a class they followed certain rules of conduct and excellence, we would drop their lowest grade. They did and we did.

Supply and Demand. Simple graphs depicting Supply, Demand, and Single Market.

Supply and Demand.PNT. Similiar to above but in MacPaint form and includes small circular flow of wealth chart.

Supply and Demand Test a, b. Pages a and b of test question on Supply and Demand.

Syllabus. The syllabus we designed for the course. Straight-forward. The curious number combinations you may spot are references to films we anticipated.