

# VALENCIA COLLEGE

Downtown Campus, Online Format

Fall 2023 Semester

M  
I  
C  
R  
O  
  
E  
C  
O  
N  
O  
M  
I  
C  
S



<i>Professor</i>	Jamie Byron Shipley
<i>Course Location</i>	Online conducted in Canvas
<i>Course Duration</i>	August 21, 2023-December 8, 2023
<i>Prefix &amp; Course</i>	ECO 2023-15961
<i>Online Office</i>	Canvas Course Page and Collaborate
<i>Office Hours</i>	Mon & Wed, 7:00 PM-8:00 PM
<i>Office Phone</i>	(321) 682-4910
<i>E-mail Address</i>	Inbox in Canvas or jshipley@valenciacollege.edu

◆ **Description:** This three-credit hour, online course discusses the topics of microeconomics: market structure, price determination, factors of production, distribution of income, and effects of monopoly and oligopoly on markets. There are no pre-requisites or co-requisites for this course.

◆ **Textbook:** [\*Principles of Economics\*](#), 2nd edition, by OpenStax College. Check your student email for textbook information that was sent prior to the start of the semester.

◆ **Examinations:** There are two regular exams and one cumulative final exam. Each exam is multiple-choice and given online. Each regular exam has 20 questions, each worth 5 points, and a time limit of 1.5 hours (90 minutes) The final exam has 40 questions, each worth 2.5 points, and a time limit of 2.5 hours. The total for each exam is 100 points. **All exams open at 10 AM and close at 10 PM.** The open and close dates for the exams are:

- Exam 1: Friday, September 22-Tuesday, September 26**
- Exam 2: Friday, October 27-Tuesday, October 31**
- Final Exam: Friday, December 1-Tuesday, December 8**

◆ **Taking Examinations:** You take the exams wherever you have a reliable internet connection, whether that be your home, workplace, or the library. You do NOT take the exams in the testing center.

◆ **Examination Scores:** If the class average on each exam is below 75 percent, a curve necessary to reach 75 percent will be given. If the class average exceeds 75 percent, no curve will be given.

◆ **Course Average:** Your average for the course is calculated in three ways:

- ◆ **METHOD 1:** Each regular exam is weighted 35 percent, and the final exam is weighted 30 percent.
- ◆ **METHOD 2:** The higher regular exam is weighted 50 percent, and the final exam is weighted 50 percent.
- ◆ **METHOD 3:** Each regular exam is weighted 15 percent, and the final exam is weighted 70 percent.

Your course average is determined by whichever method gives you the highest average. This procedure is done automatically and allows you to drop or miss one of the regular exams. Note that the **final exam is required**; if the final exam is not taken, then a score of zero will be calculated in the methods.

## Course Policies

✦ **Course Grading:** The grading scale for the course is:

<b>A</b>	89.50 to 100+	<b>B</b>	79.50 to 89.49	<b>C</b>	69.50 to 79.49
<b>D</b>	59.50 to 69.49	<b>F</b>	0.00 to 59.49	<b>W</b>	Before Oct 27

✦ **Make-Up Examinations:** A make-up exam is given only in college-approved instances, including, but not limited to, jury duty, maternity leave, official college event, military duty, hospitalizations, and death of an immediate family member.

✦ **Graded Work:** Your course grade is determined by your performance on exams. There are no graded quizzes, papers, projects, etc.

✦ **Withdrawal Deadline:** The withdrawal deadline (W) is Friday, October 21. You will not be permitted to withdraw after this date, except for certain medical situations. I do not withdraw students. **If you decide to withdraw, then you must withdraw through Atlas.** For Valencia's withdrawal policy, read [here](#).

✦ **Intellectual Freedom and Viewpoint Diversity:** Students may record video and/or audio of class lectures for their personal use. You may not record class discussions, student presentations, labs, group work, and private conversations. Further, you may not publish or share recordings without my written consent, nor may you provide recordings to classmates as a substitution for class participation and attendance.

✦ **Attendance:** There is no grade for attendance. It is your responsibility to access Canvas and prepare for the exams.

✦ **Students with Disabilities:** Students with disabilities who qualify for reasonable academic accommodations must provide a notification from the [Valencia Office for Students with Disabilities](#). This must be done before the first exam.

✦ **E-mail Access:** I will contact you through Canvas using Inbox. It is imperative that you check your e-mail regularly. Failure to check your e-mail does NOT absolve you of the consequences for not following the instructions or information in the e-mail.

✦ **Disclaimer:** It may be necessary during the semester to modify the syllabus, schedule, grading components, and/or examination date(s) and format. Sufficient notice will be given if a modification is warranted.

## Course Schedule

The Course Schedule provides the suggested dates for completing the learning modules. However, the exams will be available only on the dates listed. **Exam 1 covers only modules 1 through 4. Exam 2 covers only modules 5 through 8. Final Exam covers all modules.** *Note:* The textbook chapter(s) is/are in parentheses after each topic. A learning module number is **NOT** the textbook chapter.

<b>Week 1</b>	Aug 21-Aug 25	Module 1: Demand and Supply, Part I (Ch 1,3)
<b>Week 2</b>	Aug 28-Sep 01	Module 2: Demand and Supply, Part II (Ch 3)
<b>Week 3</b>	Sep 04	Labor Day
	Sep 05-Sep 08	Module 2: Demand and Supply, Part II (Ch 3)
<b>Week 4</b>	Sep 11-Sep 15	Module 3: Demand and Supply, Part III (Ch 3,33)
<b>Week 5</b>	Sep 18-Sep 21	Module 4: Consumer Behavior Theory (Ch 2,6)
	<b>Sep 22-Sep 23</b>	<b>Exam 1 (Modules 1, 2, 3, and 4)</b>
<b>Week 6</b>	<b>Sep 24-Sep 26</b>	
	Sep 27-Sep 29	Module 5: Elasticity of Demand (Ch 5)
<b>Week 7</b>	Oct 02-Oct 06	Module 6: Production & Costs (Ch 7)
<b>Week 8</b>	Oct 09-Oct 13	
<b>Week 9</b>	Oct 16-Oct 20	
<b>Week 10</b>	Oct 23-Oct 24	Module 7: Externalities (Ch 12,13)
	Oct 25-Oct 26	Module 8: Public Goods (Ch 13)
	<b>Oct 27-Oct 28</b>	<b>Exam 2 (Modules 5, 6, 7, and 8)</b>
<b>Week 11</b>	<b>Oct 30-Oct 31</b>	
	Nov 01-Nov 03	Module 9: Perfect Competition (Ch 8)
<b>Week 12</b>	Nov 06-Nov 09	
<b>Week 13</b>	Nov 13-Nov 17	Module 10: Monopoly (Ch 9)
<b>Week 14</b>	Nov 20-Nov 21	Module 11: Monopolistic Competition (Ch 10)
	Nov 23-Nov 26	Thanksgiving Break
<b>Week 15</b>	Nov 27-Nov 30	Module 12: Oligopoly (Ch 10)
<b>Week 16</b>	<b>Dec 01-Dec 02</b>	<b>Final Exam (All Modules)</b>
	<b>Dec 03-Dec 08</b>	

## First Day

On the first day of the semester, you will have access to Canvas.

✦ **To access:** For Valencia students: Go to [Valencia's Online Courses](#). Select the course from your list.

When you enter the course homepage, your first task is to complete the "Start Here" section. There you will find the welcome letter, a link to this syllabus, course calendar, and introduction assignment. The introduction assignment must be completed by the end of the first week. **Failure to complete this assignment will result in you being withdrawn from the course as a "No Show."**

1.) Upon login, click the **Start Here** button.

**Start Here!**

2.) At the Start Here page, access the **Welcome Letter, Syllabus, Calendar,** and other important information.

Access each of the following sections before beginning any of the course work.  
Be sure to complete the required Introduction Assignment (bottom right)!

The screenshot shows three columns of content. The first column is titled 'INSTRUCTOR BIO' and features a 'Biography' icon. The second column is titled 'TEXTBOOK INFO' and features an 'openstax' logo. The third column is titled 'WELCOME LETTER' and features a person icon. Below the 'WELCOME LETTER' section, there is a list of bullet points and a note about the course textbook.

### INTRODUCTION ASSIGNMENT

The college requires a participation activity during the first week of classes in order to determine "No Show" status. [This is to ensure that students who register for classes actually show up before fee payment processing and financial aid disbursements.]

[Click here to complete the Introduction Assignment.](#)

3.) Finally, complete the Introduction Assignment by clicking on the **Assignment** link. (It's at the bottom right of the Start Here page.)

## Course Content

The content for the course is arranged into Learning Modules. Each module corresponds to a topic. **Note:** A learning module does **NOT** correspond to the chapter in the textbook. The chapters are in parentheses in the course schedule of this syllabus.

A group of four Learning Modules occurs for each exam. In Canvas, the learning modules for each exam are all the same color (as demonstrated in the course schedule). Each learning module contains:

- Concept Guide for each topic
- PowerPoint slides
- Practice questions
- Quiz with explanations
- Video tutorials
- Previous Exams
- Discussion Boards

1.) Upon login, click the **Course Material** button.

**Course Material**

2.) The course content will be displayed. Access **Learning Modules**.

The screenshot shows a 'COURSE MATERIAL' section with a list of items. The 'LEARNING MODULES' item is circled in blue. Below the list, there are three rows of icons and text: 'LEARNING MODULES' (View the content for each topic), 'CONCEPT GUIDES' (Read an explanation of each topic), 'PRACTICE QUESTIONS' (Reinforce the topic(s) in each module), 'QUIZZES' (Apply the topic(s) in the module), 'PREVIOUS EXAMS' (Take exams from past semesters), and 'DISCUSSION BOARDS' (Post a question about a topic).

3.) The other **Course Materials** are included in each Learning Module but are also listed here individually for quick access.

## Canvas Tech Support



**Canvas Technical Support** is handled by [Valencia's Online Support Center](#). Valencia students must use this for any issues within Canvas. Access technical support by calling (407) 582-5600 or by clicking on the Help Icon at the bottom left while in Canvas..

For tutorials on using Canvas, visit Valencia's [Online Student Resources](#).

## Online Policies

Each student is required to comply with the college's policy on [Academic Honesty](#). Consequences for violations of these policies include a score of zero on an exam, withdrawal from or failure in the course, or referral for a disciplinary action. In addition, each student is required to follow proper online conduct as described in the college's [Student Code of Conduct](#). Briefly, please:

- 1 Log in to Canvas and complete the introduction assignment at the start of the semester.
- 2 Adhere to the suggested guidelines for progression through the course; that is, keep up with the work.
- 3 Remain courteous if responding to a post by one of your classmates. Sarcasm is difficult to distinguish from rudeness in online discussions.
- 4 **Complete the exams individually. While you may use your textbook, concept guides, etc., you are required to do the exams by yourself. Don't have someone assist you with the exams. Exams are **NOT** group projects.**
- 5 Complete the exams during the allotted time frame. Extensions will not be given. "My internet went out" is the online equivalent of the "My car ran out of gas" excuse.
- 6 **Don't disseminate, publish, or record to an electronic device any information about an exam in progress.**
- 7 Check in to Canvas each day. You are responsible for anything I post to the course page. Also, everything you do is recorded in Canvas— every sign in, every click on a learning module, every practice exam completed. I know who's working and who's not.
- 8 Don't ask me about technical issues with Canvas. For assistance with technical issues, see the above section.
- 9 If you are having difficulty with the material, do not wait to the last minute to seek my help. Notify me so that we can work together to improve your understanding of economics.

## Tutor Services

Having trouble with Microeconomics? Valencia provides tutoring services online and at its campus [Learning Resource Centers](#) by appointment or walk-in:



- [East Campus Academic Success Center](#): Bldg 4, 1st Floor Atrium, Room 101. (407) 582-2540
- [West Campus Learning Support Services](#): Bldg 7, Room 240. (407) 582-1633.
- [Osceola Campus Learning Center](#): Bldg 3, 1st Floor. (407) 582-4250
- [Downtown Campus Learning Support Center](#): DPAC Bldg, Room 330. (407) 235-3725

Valencia also provides online tutoring through Brainfuse, a free service that connects students to certified tutors. Access [Brainfuse through this link](#).

## Last Word

**Question 1:** "How do I do well in your course?" **Answer:** To do well in economics, you practice. There are many resources available to you in the course. Many students don't even bother with any of it. They skim the concept guide looking for answers during the exams. Of course, their grades are horrible. Since I don't give homework assignments or require discussion postings, some students believe that they don't have to study. If you do that, you will do poorly. I post the Learning Modules so that you will have plenty of time to complete the work. To do well, you need to read each concept guide, read the topic in a textbook, do the practice and quiz questions, complete the previous exams, and ask questions if there's something that you don't understand.

**Question 2:** These questions are asking for special treatment.

- ◇ "Can I have extra credit?"
- ◇ "I didn't know when the exam was. Can I take it later?"
- ◇ "I didn't know how to take the exam in Canvas. Can I do it again?"
- ◇ "I have an 88%. Can you give me two points so I can have an A?"
- ◇ "I need this class to graduate, but I'm failing. Can I write a paper?"

**Answers:** There is no extra credit. Just work extra hard during the remaining time in the course. Exam dates are listed in the syllabus and the course calendar. There is no redo on a messed up exam because of unfamiliarity with Canvas (that's one reason why I post my previous exams— it's practice taking exams online). There are no make-up exams, except in the college-approved instances. Drop a bad exam score and move on. There is no "bumping" to the next grade level. You didn't earn that grade level. There is no additional work because you "need" this class. All students need this class, or they wouldn't have enrolled.