Course Description:
Economics is a study of the use of scarce resources to satisfy unlimited human wants. Microeconomics is the branch of economics that studies how individuals, households, firms, and governments make decisions to allocate scarce resources, typically in markets where goods or services are bought and sold. In this course, we will examine how these decisions and behaviors affect the supply and demand for goods and services, and we will consider related public policy issues. Throughout the course, we will rely heavily on elementary algebra and graphical representation to support our study and analysis.

Learning Objectives:
• Understand and be able to use the language of Microeconomics;
• Learn the basic methodology and models used in the field and their application to real-world situations;
• Gain the ability and confidence to analyze hypothetical and real-world situations that occur in the economy by using these models.

Required text and supporting materials:
• *Principles of Microeconomics* by Mateer and Cppock (1st edition), W.W. Norton, 2013

The textbook is required for the course and I strongly recommend reading the chapters before they are covered in class. On-line homework will be assigned for each chapter covered in the course.
Exams:
There will be **three midterms, and one final exam** for this course. The three midterm exams will each count for 20% of your grade and the final will count for 30%. No make-up exams will be given.

Homework
Homework will be assigned on-line and will count 10% toward your final grade. The homework has a self grading capability, which you will find helpful. You will get credit for doing the homework on line, but homework problem scores will not be counted. However, you will be accountable for assigned homework problems on exams. You may use study groups to cooperate and collaborate on assigned homework, but you must individually complete assigned problems on-line to get credit.

Grading Policy
Your final grade will be calculated in the following manner:

- Homework: **10%**
- Midterm 1: **20%**
- Midterm 2: **20%**
- Midterm 3: **20%**
- Final: **30%**
- **TOTAL: 100%**

Attendance
I will not take attendance. However, you are accountable for the material covered in class and your grade may suffer if you are not in class to take the quizzes. Make every effort to attend the lectures as well as participate in class discussions. You are also responsible for any announcements that are made in class.

Academic Honesty
Simply put, cheating will not be tolerated. Any student caught cheating on any examination will be given a grade of zero for that exam, and will be reported to the University for other disciplinary action. Cooperation and collaboration on assigned homework via study groups is permissible and will not violate the academic honesty policy.
Website
We will use Laulima as our website and post relevant course information on the site. You should be able to access it through laulima.hawaii.edu after logging in.

Some Suggestions:

• The importance of reading the book during the course cannot be overemphasized. Do not fall behind on the reading, since many lectures in this course are based on the concepts learned in the previous lectures.

• You are encouraged to form study groups to go over homework and lecture notes as well as to study for the exams together. The only time you are not allowed to cooperate is during quizzes, midterms, and final exam.

• You are welcome to ask questions in class as well as to email me or schedule a time to see me.

• I am very open to suggestions and comments. Please email me or talk to me in person if you have any suggestions on how I can help you gain a better understanding of the principles of Microeconomics.

Syllabus Outline:
We will closely follow the textbook, but may not be able to cover all chapters.

Introduction
1) The Five Foundations of Economics
2) Model Building and Gains from Trade

The Role of Markets
3) The Market at Work: Supply and Demand
4) Elasticity
5) Price Controls

MIDTERM I (Date TBD)
6) The Efficiency of Markets and the Costs of Taxation
7) Market Inefficiencies: Externalities and Public Goods

The Theory of the Firm
8) Business Costs and Production
9) Firms in a Competitive Market

MIDTERM II (Date TBD)

10) Understanding Monopoly
11) Price Discrimination
12) Monopolistic Competition and Advertising
13) Oligopoly and Strategic Behavior

MIDTERM III (Date TBD)

Labor Markets and Earnings
14) The Demand and Supply of Resources
15) Income, Inequality, and Poverty

Special Topics in Microeconomics
16) Consumer Choice
17) Behavioral Economics and Risk Taking
18) Health Insurance and Health Care

FINAL EXAM