



SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

ECO1010F and ECO1110F

COURSE INFORMATION FIRST SEMESTER 2021

Ignorance of University and Department regulations will not be considered a valid excuse.

1. INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the **ECO1010.1110F** course. For convenience we have decided to combine the **ECO1010F** and **ECO1110F** class to ensure that both classes have access to all materials available for the course.

This course is designed to help you understand the core principles of microeconomics. This course is not a self-study course and we urge you to make use of the resources provided and to use the Q&A and forums on Vula to ask questions if you do not understand. Your lecturers and tutors are here to help you make a success of this course and it is important that you also **communicate with us if you are struggling**. We will try our best to assist you.

To maximise your chances of success, we suggest that you adhere to the following guidelines:

Stay up to date: there is a lecture schedule which outlines what is required each week. We are using Vula as the main form of communication with you. Make sure that you complete your 5 hours of economics “lessons” each week. In addition, you are required to spend approximately 5 hours on economics related activities such as tutorials, end of lesson quizzes, weekly workshop etc. It is important that set enough time aside each week to keep up to date with economics.

Ask questions: Do not be shy to ask questions. The ECO1010/ECO1110 team will have consultation hours each week on Vula. Make sure that you ask questions if you do not understand. Most students have similar questions as you, but may be too shy to ask. When you do ask questions, please do not send an email to your lecturer (unless they are personal or confidential questions), but rather ask them in the forum. Then other students can also benefit from your question and the answers that the lecturer provides.

Make use of the resources on Vula: Work through the resources even if they are not for marks. They have been designed to assist you with understanding core concepts in each chapter. Remember this course is the foundation course in economics and all economics courses that follow build on this foundation.

Make the best use of the tutorials and quizzes: Tutorials offer you the opportunity to practise the theoretical concepts. Learning is an active process; simply reading the material will not be enough to pass. You need to draw the diagrams and do the calculations yourself. Experience has shown that students who work diligently for tutorials tend to perform much better in tests and the exam compared to those who take a more casual approach.

Please note that ECO1010 and ECO1110 will NOT be offered in the winter term. Should you fail the course you will need to repeat it in the second semester (ECO1010S or ECO1110S).

2. TEACHING STRATEGY

2.1 LECTURES

Each unit will be uploaded on to the lessons page on Vula. Students will find this on the left-hand tab labelled Unit 1, Unit 3, Unit 4, Unit 6, Unit 7 and Unit 8. You are required to spend 2 weeks on each unit. Each unit will be released on the Monday in the week that it is being covered.

Unit	Release date
1	15 March
3	29 March
4	12 April
6	10 May
7 and 8: Part 1	24 may
7 and 8: Part 2	7 June

Short lecture videos will be created and uploaded for each unit. The lecture videos will address the challenging content in each chapter. Each lecturer will only upload a **maximum** of 8 videos for the 2 units they are teaching. Please do not ask for additional lecture videos.

2.2 TUTORIALS

Tutorial Sign-Up:

Tutorial sign-up will **open on Wednesday the 24th of March at 11am** and will **close on Friday the 26th of March at 1pm**. You may switch tutorial slots if you find you've made a mistake, but this will only be allowed if the slot is not full. After tutorial sign up has closed, you will not be able to join or switch tutorial slots. If by the time sign-up closes, you have not allocated yourself to a suitable slot, Onosima (for ECO1110F) and Tammy (for ECO1010F) will randomly allocate you to a tutorial group. If this results in a legitimate clash, you can get in contact with Tammy or Onosima, but make sure you provide proof and reasons as to the clash, as without this, we will not change your tutorial group. We will only be accepting requests for tutorial changes until **Wednesday the 31st of March at 1pm**, so please get in contact with us before then if any problems arise.

WhatsApp Tutorial Groups:

WhatsApp tutorial groups will be set up, as tutorials this semester will be conducted using this platform. Please make use of the sign-up link, which will be provided in an announcement on Friday 26th of March. You will be able to ask your tutor questions, as well as be able to go over Multiple-Choice Questions and technique on this group and be able to get a "real-time" response from both your tutor and peers. Your tutors will lay-down the various rules for these groups, however, you can expect your tutor to be active on the group for at least **1.5 hours per week**, with 45 minutes of this being during your allocated tutorial time. **These discussions are completely voluntary; however, attendance will be recorded during the first 10 minutes of each WhatsApp Tutorial. Thereafter,** in order to be given **attendance** for the tutorial, you will need to **actively participate and engage** in the session - you will be required to either **ask or answer a question and/or provide relevant content**. If you **participate in 10-12 tutorial sessions this semester, then you will be awarded a 4% BONUS MARK** (this is above and beyond the 100% Year Mark). Attendance will be updated each week and displayed in your Gradebook (please ensure that it reflects correctly).

The first WhatsApp tutorial will be conducted during Week 3 (29 March – 2 April).

Please note that WhatsApp Tutorials are aimed at consolidating your knowledge and not re-teaching content. With the new online-learning structure, we advise questions posed to be as specific and clear as possible to facilitate a more efficient learning process.

Tutorial Submissions:

This semester **there will be online tutorial submissions, under the Assignments tab (of the ECO1010.1110 Assessments Vula page) every second week.** It is important that students attempt these questions on their own. We are requesting all students to upload tutorials in **word format** so that you are able to get detailed feedback from the tutors. It creates consistency when everyone submits in the same format and allows the tutoring body to process marks much quicker than submissions in any other format. A shortcut you could try is to write out the formula/calculation parts by hand on paper, photograph it and paste into your word document for marking. However, the written stuff must be typed up. Unfortunately, **if students do not submit word docs then a 10% penalty will be levied on submissions.**

In total there will only be 5 tutorial hand-ins (1 per unit). These 5 tutorials will count **15% of your year mark.** These tutorials will be marked by your respective tutors and handed back online before the tutorial session. You will then go over these tutorial submissions during a workshop the following week.

The **first tutorial submission** is due in **Week 2 (Friday 26th March at 11am).**

Tutorial submissions must be submitted **by 11am on the day of submission.** Students who submit the tutorial submission **later than 11am will incur a late penalty of 15%.** Late submissions will only be accepted until 2pm on the date of the hand-in and submissions uploaded after that time will receive a mark of zero.

Tutorial submissions will be **released the week before they are due.**

Workshops:

Workshops will be held twice every week (on Microsoft Teams) and hosted by the tutors - you are not expected to sign-up for these and the sessions will be recorded and posted on Vula for those who are unable to attend. The purpose of the workshop is to provide the solutions to the tutorial. Tutorial solutions will not be released to students in any other format. Students may ask facilitators questions during the workshop if they are uncertain about any content covered in the tutorial.

3. METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

Tutorial submissions, tests, essay and examinations

3.1 TUTORIAL SUBMISSIONS

There are five tutorial submissions for the course, one for each unit. The submission questions will be released one week before they are due. Submissions must be uploaded to the Assessments tab in the **ECO1010.1110 Assessments** Vula site. All assessments must be uploaded at 11am.

Submission	Content	Release date	Submission Date
1	Unit 1	19 March	26 March
2	Unit 3	1 April	9 April
3	Unit 4	16 April	23 April
4	Unit 6	14 May	21 May
5	Unit 7 and 8	28 May	11 June

Failure to submit the tutorial submission:

- a) Student who submits the tutorial submission later than 11am will incur a late penalty of 15%.
 - a. Late submissions will only be accepted until 2pm on the date of the hand in.
 - b. Submissions uploaded after 2pm will receive a mark of zero.
- b) Students who do not submit the tutorial submission will receive a mark of zero.
- c) Students who are unable to submit the assessment due to illness must send a copy of the medical certificate to the course administrator (Pearl Zito) **and** the course convenor (Nisreen Narker).
 - a. Medical certificates must be handed in within 2 working days of the tutorial submission date.
 - b. Medical certificates will be accepted at the discretion of the course convenor.
 - c. If a medical certificate is accepted, you will be given an exemption for the tutorial and your tutorial mark will be reweighted.
 - i. Only one medical certificate will be accepted as an exemption for tutorial submissions. Additional medical certificates will be rejected, and students will receive zero for the submission.
 - d. If a medical certificate is rejected by the course convenor then you will receive zero for the submission.

The department undertakes random tests on the validity of medical certificates. If medical certificates are found to be either fraudulent or altered, they are referred to the university court.

3.2 TESTS

There are two tests for the course. Tests must be completed in the Test and Quizzes tab in the **ECO1010.1110 Assessments** Vula site.

Test	Content	Test date	Test weighting	Time	Venue
1	Units 1 and 3	21 April 2021	15%	8am – 8pm	Online
2	Units 4, 6, and of 7/8 (completed before the test date as per the lecture schedule).	7 June 2021	25%	8am – 8pm	Online

Failure to write the test:

- a) Students who do not write the test in the stipulated time frame will receive zero for the test.
- b) Students who are unable to complete the tests due to illness must send a copy of the medical certificate to the course administrator (Pearl Zito) **and** the course convenor (Nisreen Narker).
 - a. Medical certificates must be handed in within 2 working days of the test date.
 - b. Medical certificates will be accepted at the discretion of the course convenor.
 - c. If a medical certificate is accepted, your year mark will be reweighted.
 - d. If a medical certificate is rejected by the course convenor then you will receive zero for the test.
 - e. DP certificates will be refused to students who miss both tests (irrespective of whether you have legitimate reasons for not writing), since you are not sufficiently “part of the academic process”. You may only obtain a medical certificate or other concession for ONE test.

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3.3 ESSAY

The Essay is due on Monday 10 May 2021. Detail of the essay will be provided by the essay coordinator Tafadzwa Jani. Students will be given a chance to concentrate on their essay in Week 7, 26 – 30 April. Please use the resources available to work on your essay.

- a) Students who do not submit the essay in the stipulated time frame will receive late penalties (as stipulated in the essay handout) up until 12th May. Essays submitted after the 12th May will receive zero and students will not be awarded their DP.
- b) Students who are unable to submit the essay due to illness must send a copy of the medical certificate to the course administrator (Pearl Zito) **and** the course convenor (Nisreen Narker).
 - a. Medical certificates must be handed in within 2 working days of the essay date.
 - b. Medical certificates will be accepted at the discretion of the course convenor.
 - c. If a medical certificate is accepted, you will be given an alternative date to submit the essay. Students who do not submit the essay on the alternate date will receive zero and will not be awarded their DP.
 - d. If a medical certificate is rejected by the course convenor then you will receive zero and will not be awarded DP.

The department undertakes random tests on the validity of medical certificates. If medical certificates are found to be either fraudulent or altered, they are referred to the university court.

3.4 EXAMINATIONS and SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS

Examination will comprise of 40 MCQs and will cover Units 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8. The examination will be written on Vula. The date to be confirmed by the Exams Office.

A Student who receives a mark between 45% - 50% will be eligible to write a supplementary examination. The supplementary exam will comprise of 40 MCQs and will cover units 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8. ***The ECO1010F and ECO1110F supplementary/deferred exam will be scheduled during the last week of the mid-year vacation. If students do not write this exam they will be marked as AB and will have to retake the course.***

3.5 CALCULATION OF YEAR MARK

	% of final mark	Dates	length of paper (hours)
Test 1	15%	21 April	60 minutes
Test 2	25%	7 June	90 minutes
5 Tutorial submissions	15%	Every second Friday	
Essay	15%	10 May	1200 words
Exam	30%	June/July TBC	160 minutes
Final mark	100%		
Supplementary Exam		July 2021	160 Minutes

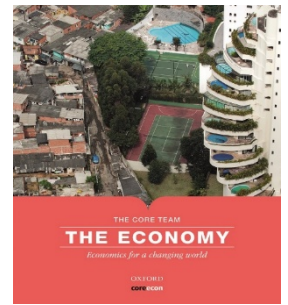
Please diarise these dates.

4. STUDY MATERIAL

4.1 Prescribed textbook

The prescribed textbook is *The Economy: Economics for a Changing World*, by The CORE team. The book is available free online at: <https://www.core-econ.org/>. You can download the APP on your device.

You do not have to buy the book.



4.2 Prescribed readings

Additional readings may be provided to you via Vula or through the CORE website.

5. DULY PERFORMED (DP) REQUIREMENTS

DP requirements:

- a) *Submit all 5 tutorial submissions* except in cases where an exception has been granted,
- b) *Write all class tests* except in cases where an exception has been granted,
- c) *submit the class essay.*

If an emergency beyond your control means that you cannot submit a tutorial submission or complete a test, it is imperative that you email supporting paperwork as soon as possible: e.g. a letter from your doctor indicating that you were hospitalized, a police docket with details of the accident you were in, etc.

6. STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

Academic Convenor ECO1010F and ECO1110F

Lecturer ECO1110F

Nisreen Narker nisreen.narker@uct.ac.za

Lecturers ECO1010F

Prof. Corne van Walbeek cwalbeek@gmail.com
(Weeks 1 – 4: units 1 and 3)

Robert Hill robert.hill@uct.ac.za
(Weeks 5 – 6 and 8 - 9: units 4 and 6)

Geraint van der Rede Geraint.vanderrede@uct.ac.za
(Weeks 10 – 13: units 7 and 8)

Course Administrator

Pearl Zito pearl.zito@uct.ac.za

Head Tutor for ECO1010F

Tammy Klette eco1010fheadtutor@gmail.com

Head Tutor for ECO1110F

Onosima Motlanthe eco1110.headtutor@gmail.com

Writing Co-ordinator:

Tafadzwa Jani tj.jani@uct.ac.za

Course email: eco1010.1110@uct.ac.za

The course email address will be used during tests.

If you need assistance, please feel free to contact us, we are here to assist you. Make sure that you contact the *correct person* and please **DO NOT EMAIL the entire team.**

7. GENERAL INFORMATION

7.1 Consultation & queries

- Academic: lecturers will be available on Vula using the Forum and Q&A to answer questions. Times will be posted each week. Alternatively, you may email the lecturers if you require further explanation.
- Tutorials: tutors will be available each week to assist with tutorial queries.
- Course related or concessions: email the course convenor.

7.2 Communication with students

Course announcements and information relating to this course will be emailed (by using your UCT student e-mail address) to all the students registered for the course using the Vula announcements feature – please check your e-mails regularly and ensure that your mailbox is not overfull. E-mails sent to the registered class list will be available on Vula. We will assume that you read your e-mails on a regular basis. Reading emails on your UCT account once a week is insufficient. **Publication of course information on the course VULA site will be deemed to be adequate notice.**

7.3 Some Ts and Cs for this course

When you engage with this course and it's material, please remember the following:

- All resources provided to you by the ECO1010F/ECO1110F team are for use by students in their personal capacity while registered for the course.
- Documents and videos provided may not be downloaded for third parties and may not be uploaded to any other social media platforms.
- There will be no slandering of lecturers, course staff or the course in general on social media. If you have an issue, then please contact the relevant lecturer/course convenor/HoD in order to attend to your complaint.
- All interactions on the ECO1010.1110F 2021 Vula site must be undertaken in a civil and polite manner. Students may not use slanderous or otherwise inappropriate language when engaging with this course and its participants.