

CCN Subcommittee Recommendation Report

CCN Economics

Subcommittee Members
Camille Soltau Nelson (OSU)
Derek Lougee (Clackamas)

Co-chairs Camille Soltau Nelson (OSU) and Derek Lougee (Clackamas)
June 10, 2024

Date of last meeting

June 10, 2024

Plans for next meeting

The subcommittee has completed its work related to the two Economics CCN courses requested by the Transfer Council. Follow-up meetings will be scheduled in the event that the Transfer Council asks for revisions or additional information.

Overview

For both EC-201Z and EC-202Z, the subcommittee began by reaching out to all of the public institutions of higher education in the State of Oregon. Institutions that were not represented on the subcommittee were assigned a Campus Buddy, who was responsible for reaching out to the institution for feedback and input. The data used by the committee reflects feedback from 21 of the 24 public institutions of higher education in the State of Oregon. There was no variation in the course numbers, minor variations in the course prefix and the number of credits—which the subcommittee recommends remain in place pending the Transfer Council’s decision on credit variation and the resulting policy language—and inconsequential variations in course titles. Course descriptions and learning outcomes were addressed separately for Microeconomics (EC-201Z) and Macroeconomics (EC-202Z), as is typical in economics education. Artificial intelligence was used to analyze themes in the learning outcomes and course descriptions collected from Oregon institutions. These themes were used to inform the drafting of course descriptions and learning outcomes. Draft course descriptions and learning outcomes were shared with institutions not represented on the subcommittee to elicit feedback, which was brought back to the subcommittee and helped inform the subcommittee’s work. This subcommittee has 12 members (6 from community colleges and 6 from public universities), so the requirement for voting (3/5’s) was 7.

Action Items Completed

RECOMMENDATION	STATUS
<p>Course Number and Prefix: EC/ECON 201Z</p> <p>Rationale: All 21 surveyed institutions use the 201 number; 15 institutions use EC, 5 use ECON, and 1 uses ECO.</p>	<p>Passed February 26, 2024</p> <p>Yes 11 No 0 Abstain 0</p>
<p>Course Title: Principles of Microeconomics</p>	<p>Passed February 26, 2024</p>

<p>Rationale: The subcommittee decided to prioritize a simple title of the form “Principles of” or “Introduction to” for both EC-201Z and EC-202Z. All 21 surveyed institutions included “Microeconomics” in the title, of which 18 were styled “Introduction to” or “Principles of” economics. The committee discussed the two prevailing options and decided that “Principles” best describes the course content.</p>	<p>Yes 11 No 0 Abstain 0</p>
<p>Course Credits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In the case that Transfer Council does not allow for credit variation, the Subcommittee recommends 4 credits ● In the case that Transfer Council does allow for credit variation, the Subcommittee recommends a standard of 4 credits and recommends institutions be allowed to offer the course at 5 credits <p>Rationale: At 19 of 21 surveyed institutions, EC-201 is 4 credits; at 1 institution, it is 5 credits; and at 1 institution, it is 3 credits. The subcommittee believes that the course should be at least 4 credits, in line with the majority of current offerings. The subcommittee also believes that institutions should be allowed to offer the course for a higher number of credits in line with the needs of the institution’s student population.</p>	<p>Passed May 6, 2024</p> <p>Yes 12 No 0 Abstain 0</p>
<p>Course Description:</p> <p>Examines how consumers and firms make choices when facing scarce resources, and how those choices are related to government policy and market outcomes, such as prices and output.</p> <p>Rationale: The course description is based on the current course description at an Oregon Public University, and was edited based on feedback elicited from members of the subcommittee and non-voting members.</p>	<p>Passed April 15, 2024</p> <p>Yes 11 No 0 Abstain 0</p>

<p>Course Learning Outcomes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Articulate the concepts of opportunity costs and trade-offs. 2. Explain producer and consumer behavior using economic models. 3. Analyze the relationship between supply and demand and its applications across various economic contexts. 4. Identify the impact of market failures and government policy on efficiency and welfare. <p>Rationale: The course learning outcomes were created after surveying the current course learning outcomes at all participating OPUs and CCs as well as information the committee could gather from campus buddies at non committee institutions. The subcommittee looked for common themes throughout all course learning outcomes that best aligned with the course content. A robust discussion of the desired level of Bloom’s taxonomy and clearest verb choice led the group to the 4 CLO’s above.</p>	<p>Passed April 15, 2024</p> <p>Yes 11 No 0 Abstain 0</p>
<p>Course Number and Prefix: EC/ECON 202Z</p> <p>Rationale: All 21 surveyed institutions use the 202 number; 15 institutions use EC, 5 use ECON, and 1 uses ECO.</p>	<p>Passed February 26, 2024</p> <p>Yes 11 No 0 Abstain 0</p>
<p>Course Title: Principles of Macroeconomics</p> <p>Rationale: The subcommittee decided to prioritize a simple title of the form “Principles of” or “Introduction to” for both EC-201Z and EC-202Z. All 21 surveyed institutions included “Microeconomics” in the title, of which 18 were styled “Introduction to” or “Principles of” economics. The committee discussed the two prevailing options and decided that “Principles” best describes the course content.</p>	<p>Passed February 26, 2024</p> <p>Yes 11 No 0 Abstain 0</p>

<p>Course Credits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the case that Transfer Council does not allow for credit variation, the Subcommittee recommends 4 credits In the case that Transfer Council does allow for credit variation, the Subcommittee recommends a standard of 4 credits and recommends institutions be allowed to offer the course at 5 credits <p>Rationale: At 19 of 21 surveyed institutions, EC-201 is 4 credits; at 1 institution, it is 5 credits; and at 1 institution, it is 3 credits. The subcommittee believes that the course should be at least 4 credits, in line with the majority of current offerings. The subcommittee also believes that institutions should be allowed to offer the course for a higher number of credits in line with the needs of the institution's student population.</p>	<p>Passed May 6, 2024</p> <p>Yes 12 No 0 Abstain 0</p> <p>Yes 12 No 0 Abstain 0</p>
<p>Course Description:</p> <p>Examines the aggregate activity of a market economy, economic growth, inflation, unemployment, and the use of fiscal and monetary policy to address macroeconomic problems.</p> <p>Rationale: The course description is based on the current course description at an Oregon Public University, and was edited based on feedback elicited from members of the subcommittee and non-voting members.</p>	<p>Passed May 6, 2024</p> <p>Yes 12 No 0 Abstain 0</p>
<p>Course Learning Outcomes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Interpret basic macroeconomic indicators including GDP, unemployment, and inflation. Identify the determinants of economic growth. Apply economic models to explain macroeconomic outcomes. Compare fiscal and monetary policy 	<p>Passed May 6, 2024</p> <p>Yes 12 No 0 Abstain 0</p>

<p>tools, and their uses and economic impacts.</p> <p>Rationale: The subcommittee used the same process for the 202Z CLOs as we used for the 201Z CLOs. The course learning outcomes were created after compiling the current course learning outcomes at all participating OPUs, CC's and campus buddy institutions. The subcommittee looked for common themes throughout all course learning outcomes that best aligned with the course content. Using the Bloom's framework we developed for the 201 CLOs we discussed the phrasing and verb choice and decided upon the 4 CLOs listed above.</p>	
<p>Review Cycle:</p> <p>The subcommittee proposes that the annual review cycle of these courses serve a two-fold purpose: (1) to review the transfer effectiveness of the courses and (2) to gather information about challenges, concerns, or changes needed from the 24 two- and four-year schools in the state. We propose that the initial review takes place during Spring term 2027 under the assumption that the CCN approved outlines will go into effect no later than Fall 2025.</p> <p>The subcommittee recommends a deeper review of the alignment of these courses takes place every three years, with the first such review beginning in Fall 2029. This is the only time that the subcommittee will consider a vote to modify the aligned content of the course, using the available data since the last three-year review was concluded. The three-year review process will culminate in a recommendation to either affirm the existing alignment decisions or to revise a particular aspect of the alignment, as deemed appropriate by the subcommittee.</p>	<p>Passed June 10, 2024</p> <p>Yes 11 No 0 Abstain 0</p>

The subcommittee recommends that as many members of the original subcommittee be invited to participate in these discussions as possible. Historical memory and original context will be useful in informing future decisions.

Action Items In-progress/Pending

ACTIVITY	STATUS
None	

Questions for Transfer Council

- None at this time.

Other Notes

- The subcommittee recommends that institutions should have the ability to offer EC-201Z and EC-202Z as five-credit courses.

Signed by:

Camille Soltau Nelson

Signature Camille Soltau Nelson

Derek Lougee

Signature Derek Lougee

Date: June 10, 2024

Provide copies to:

CCN Economics
Subcommittee

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