

ECON 8010-005 (CRN 83390)**MATH ESSENTIALS FOR ECONOMICS****Semester:** Summer/Fall 2010**Place:** AYSPS**Dates/Times:**Aug 9th ♦ 12th, from 1:00-3:30pmAug 16th ♦ 20th (no class on W, Aug 18th) from 5:30-8:00pm**Instructor:** Dr. Shelby Frost

Office: Andrew Young School of Policy Studies (AYSPS), room 656 (The AYSPS building is located at the intersection of Marietta and Peachtree Streets; my office is on the 6th floor ♦ take a left off the elevators.)

Office Hours: by appointment

Office Phone: 404-413-0155 (email is my preferred method of communication)

Email Address: sfrost@gsu.edu (or use the email feature in ulearn)

Prerequisite: none**Topics Covered:** [\[nl\]](#)

- Basic calculus concepts used in economics
 - Differentiation
 - Unconstrained optimization
 - Constrained optimization (lagrangian multipliers)
 - Integration
- Matrix algebra
- Dynamic optimization
- Basic probability

Text/Materials: Course materials (readings/problems) will be made available via the ulearn site; no formal textbook is required. ♦ A scientific calculator is recommended. ♦ Access to a computer and the internet is required ♦ there are many computer labs available on campus ♦ for information about locations and hours see [♦http://www.gsu.edu/~wwwets/labsclassrooms/computerlabs/locations/index.html](http://www.gsu.edu/~wwwets/labsclassrooms/computerlabs/locations/index.html) .

We will be using ulearn (previously called webct vista) for this course, which can be found at the following URL: <https://gsu8.view.usg.edu/>. ♦ It is a password-protected environment where you can monitor your grades, easily communicate with me and your classmates, and find many useful materials throughout the semester. ♦ Please check the ulearn site at least once between each class meeting for announcements, etc. ♦ To logon to the system, you need your ulearn ID and your initial password ♦ see the ulearn login page for information about how to login to the system and where to go for help if you have never used ulearn before (otherwise, there should be a link to this course on your existing ulearn page). ♦ If you have trouble getting into the ulearn site with your own user ID and password, use *temp.sfrost* as the user ID and *student* as the password (this is my ♦fake student♦ account ♦ please

do NOT change the password for this account), and please send me an email to let me know that you cannot access the ulearn site so I can try to help you access it. ♦ There will be various items available through the internet throughout the semester. You should become familiar with a web browser (such as Internet Explorer or Firefox) and you will need Adobe Acrobat Reader for some items; the reader is available free of charge at the following URL: <http://www.adobe.com/prodindex/acrobat/readstep.html>. There is a link to the Adobe site on the links organizer page of the ulearn site. ♦ If you have not already done so, I highly recommend that you install it on your machine; it should already be installed on any machine you use in a computer lab on campus.

Grading/Make-up Policy: There will be no grades assigned for this course ♦ it is offered only for audit credit. ♦ No exams are scheduled. ♦ The purpose of the course is to provide students with the necessary math skills to succeed in advanced study of economics. ♦ Problems and answers will be provided so the students can assess their own progress.

Attendance Policy: ♦ Attendance will be taken daily, and it is expected that all students will attend every class session. ♦ Consult the ulearn calendar to see what we are scheduled to cover each day. ♦ It represents a tentative course outline, but we will try to stick to it as closely as possible (please see note #1 below). ♦

Notes:

1. This course syllabus provides a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary.

[\[n\]](#) Tentative topics