**Affordable Learning Georgia Textbook Transformation Grants**

**Final Report for Mini-Grants**

# General Information

Date: **December 19, 2019**

Grant Round: **Round Twelve**

Grant Number: **M41**

Institution Name(s): **Valdosta State University**

Team Members: (**1) Dr. Levent Bulut, Lecturer in the Department of Economics and Finance,** [**lbulut@valdosta.edu**](mailto:lbulut@valdosta.edu)

**(2) Dr. Ellis Heath, Professor of Economics in the Department of Economics and Finance,** [**ebheath@valdosta.edu**](mailto:ebheath@valdosta.edu)

Project Lead: **Dr. Levent Bulut**

Course Name(s) and Course Numbers: **Survey of Economics, ECON 1500**

Final Semester of Project: **Fall 2019**

***If applicable to your project:***

Average Number of Students Per Course Section: **45**

Number of Course Sections Affected by Implementation of Revised Resources: **6 sections per year**

Total Number of Students Affected by Implementation of Revised Resources: **270 students per year**

# 1. Project Narrative

*Describe the course of your revision or ancillary creation project, including*

* *A summary of your project’s purpose, plan, and timeline.*

***In this project, we aimed to prepare study materials for the students taking ECON 1500 SURVEY OF ECONOMICS course at Valdosta State University. Even though a zero-cost OpenStax textbook (‘Economics 2’ by Grenlaw, Shapiro and Taylor) was adopted in this course, students have had no access to supplementary materials except the textbook. The test bank provided to instructors by OpenStax is limited in number and very broad. In our project, we wanted to prepare study materials accessible by students through open homework and adaptive platforms of OpenStax to support their Open Textbook ‘Economics 2’. In line with the course content of ECON 1500, our project plan was to prepare detailed study materials and solved practice questions for chapters 3, 4, 12, 13, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 27, and 28. Project timeline was from January of 2019 till December of 2019.***

* *The original works which were revised or added to, with links.*

***We prepared questions for the following textbook: Principles of Economics by OpenStax, Edition 2e by Steven A. Greenlaw of University of Mary Washington and David Shapiro of Pennsylvania State University.*  (**<https://openstax.org/details/books/principles-economics-2e>**)**

* *A narrative description of how the project’s plan was carried out.*

***Project members Dr. Bulut and Dr. Heath met periodically throughout the project period to further discuss the content of the materials and the chapter learning outcomes to be selected when preparing the study materials. Chapters were assigned to each project member and follow up meetings were arranged to evaluate and modify the progress. A final meeting was made by the first week of December 2019 to prepare the project outcome.***

* *Lessons learned, including anything you would do differently next time.*

**We reached to the conclusion that students need alternative supplemental materials beside the practice questions to deepen their understanding of the materials. Engaging materials such as videos or other multimedia resources can help students with different learning styles. If we would to a similar project in the future, we would first reach out to former or current students taking this course to better assess what would best help them when they study the course materials. Also, we would seek for alternative tools to increase student engagement.**

# 2. Materials Description

* *Describe all the materials you have created or revised as part of this project. These descriptions may be used in the* [*GALILEO Open Learning Materials*](https://oer.galileo.usg.edu/) *repository in the official description field.*

**In this project, an online study material was prepared to support OpenStax’s Principles of Economics 2e textbook. There are some supplementary materials provided by OpenStax only accessible by the instructor. On the other hand, there are limited freely accessible available supplementary resource for students’ use. In our project, we wanted to fill this gap by making both the questions and the answers to be accessible by students. As a result, we have prepared some practice questions along with their detailed answers for the following chapters: *Chapters 3, 4, 12, 13, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 27, and 28.***

# 3. Materials Links

* *If you are hosting your materials in places other than GALILEO Open Learning Materials, please provide these links in this section. Otherwise, leave blank.*

**Solved practice questions for the chapters indicated above are hosted at the following Creative Common site:** [**https://www.oercommons.org/courseware/module/28399**](https://www.oercommons.org/courseware/module/28399)

# 4. Future Plans

* *Describe any planned or actual papers, presentations, publications, or other professional activities that you expect to produce that reflect your work on this project.*

***We plan to conduct a student survey in the future to analyze what type of supplementary resource would benefit them most.***

* *Describe any plans to revise or add to these materials in the future.*

**Our plan is to constantly update and add more practice questions to our online materials and add some video links as well.**

**Levent Bulut, Principal Investigator**



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