



Principles of Microeconomics

Econ 2010 – 090

Spring 2023

Instructor: Eunice Han

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Phone Number: (801) 587-1398

Course Days/Time/Location: Online via Canvas

Office Hours: by appointment

Required Materials

The textbook for the course is Principles of Microeconomics by N. Gregory Mankiw (Cengage, 10th edition. ISBN-13 Number: 9780357722862). The course fee covers the required textbook content and course materials at a reduced cost through the Inclusive Access (IA) program. Under IA, you will get online access to the textbook through Canvas by clicking on the “Bookshelf” tab.

If you find a physical copy of the textbook you would like to purchase, you can opt out of IA. To opt out, go to the following link: <https://portal.verba.io/utah/login>

You may also obtain an earlier edition if you prefer, but please be aware that some content in earlier editions may differ from that which is contained in the newest edition.

Course Description and Objectives

This course is designed to acquaint you with the basic tools of microeconomics. Economics is the study of how society allocates its scarce resources, and microeconomics is the study of the behavior of households and firms whose collective decisions determine how resources are allocated in a free market economy. The goal of the course is to teach you to “think like an economist,” which I hope will help you to understand the world around you, make better economic decisions in your own life, and be a more informed citizen and voter. The course

focuses on economic theory and therefore will often rely on abstract concepts. However, the course will emphasize the application of these concepts to real-world situations through frequent in-class discussions of current events and interactive learning exercises. This course has no prerequisite and is 3 Credit Hours.

Teaching and Learning Methods

The course has two parts: lecture and exercise sections. The lecture section will provide you with concepts, and the exercise section will help you apply the concepts to actual problems that will show up in quizzes and exams. It is during the exercise sections that you will practice problem-solving skills.

Short articles and other readings will be posted. The readings may include newspaper, magazine, and journal articles, as well as excerpts from books. The readings will help you understand more about substantive economic issues and apply the economic ideas and methods you learn in class to real-world problems.

Assignments

1. Weekly Quizzes

There will be a weekly quiz, which will be due on 11:59pm on Sunday that week. The quiz will be multiple choice, ranging between 20 and 25 questions. All quizzes are open book with no time limit. For all quizzes, you are only responsible for the materials that are covered in my lectures and exercise sections. Your textbook has a lot more content, but no quiz question will ask any material beyond my lectures and exercise sections. Late quizzes will not be accepted under any circumstances. However, you are allowed to drop two quizzes.

Practice questions (exercise session) will be posted on Canvas, and your TA will post videos going over some of those problems. Those exercise sections will be very helpful in obtaining higher scores on weekly quizzes.

2. Midterm Exam

There is no midterm exam.

3. Final Exam

The final exam will be available on Sunday, April 30, 2023, at 9am, and you have two hours to complete the exam once you start the exam. The exam will close at 11:59pm, so you have an

entire day to take your exam. The final exam will be cumulative, covering the entire semester's material from lectures and weekly quizzes. The format of the exam will be similar to the weekly quizzes. Neither an early final exam nor a make-up final exam will be given, except for medical reasons.

4. Article Reports

I will post short readings such as newspaper, magazine, and journal articles periodically. You will write three article reports. The report may include summarizing the article or answering questions regarding the article. The article report will be graded on a 1-5 scale. Late reports will not be accepted under any circumstances, but you are allowed to drop one article report.

Grading Policy

Basic semester grades are determined by weekly quizzes (60%), the final exam (30%), and article reports (10%). The tentative letter grade scales are below:

A range letter grades (A, A-) if $\geq 90\%$;

B range letter grades (B+, B, B-) if $\geq 80\%$;

C range letter grades (C+, C, C-) if $\geq 70\%$;

D range letter grades (D+, D, D-) if $\geq 50\%$;

E if $< 50\%$

The final letter grade is subject to curve. Incompletion is not generally given for non-medical reasons. If you have any questions regarding your grade on your assignment or on your exam, you must inquire within one week from the day the grades are posted on Canvas. No exception to this rule will be given.

University Policies & Procedures

1. The Americans with Disabilities Act. The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, (801) 581-5020. CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this

course can be made available in an alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

2. Addressing Sexual Misconduct. Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran's status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677(COPS).

Course Policies

1. Attendance & Participation: Due to the large class size, I will not check attendance during lectures.
2. Canvas: Canvas is where the syllabus, course content, grades, and communication will reside for this course.
 - Canvas login: <https://utah.instructure.com/>
 - Problems with Canvas? Please contact [U Online Help Desk](#) at classhelp@utah.edu or call 801-581-6112 and press 2 (M-F 8:00am-5:00pm MST). For after-hours and weekend help, contact Canvas Support by clicking the Help button located on the left-side global navigation within Canvas.
3. Communication: If you have any questions or concerns regarding class material or other related issues, please email me so that we may find a mutually convenient time to meet. I usually respond to an email inquiry within 24 hours, but this is not guaranteed, especially on weekends, so plan accordingly if you have time-sensitive questions.
4. Copyrighted Materials: Throughout the course you will receive copyrighted materials, such as test questions and sample answers. These materials are provided to you as a student of this section of Econ 2010, for use in this course only. Please remember that you may not copy or share these materials with others (including posting any of these materials online) without permission. Not only can such copying raise questions regarding academic integrity, but in many cases it is a violation of copyright law. If you have any questions about whether you can share course materials or work with students from other sections of Econ 2010, please contact me.

Course Schedule

Date	Topic/Discussion	Reading
Part 1: Introduction		
Week 1:	Introduction to Economics	Chapter 1 & 2
Week 2:	Interdependence and the Gains from Trade	Chapter 3
Part 2: The Market System: Supply and Demand		
Week 3:	Demand and Supply	Chapter 4
Week 4:	Elasticity	Chapter 5
Week 5:	Government Intervention	Chapter 6
Part 3: Markets and Welfare		
Week 6:	Consumer, Producer, and Social Surplus	Chapter 7
Week 7:	Application: The Cost of Taxation	Chapter 8
Part 4: The Economics of The Public Sector		

Week 8:	Externalities	Chapter 10
Week 9:	Spring Break	
Week 10:	Public Goods and Common Resources	Chapter 11
	The Design of Tax System	Chapter 12

Part 5: Firm Behavior and The Organization of Industry

Week 11:	The Costs of Production	Chapter 13
Week 12:	Firms in Competitive Markets II	Chapter 14
Week 13:	Monopoly	Chapter 15
Week 14:	Monopolistic Competition	Chapter 16
Week 15:	Oligopoly	Chapter 17
Finals Week:	Final Exam (May 1)	

Note: This syllabus is meant to serve as an outline and guide for our course. Please note that I may modify it with reasonable notice to you. I may also modify the Course Schedule to accommodate the needs of our class. Any changes will be announced in class and posted on Canvas under Announcements.