

Intro to Microeconomics (ECON 200 F)

Instructor: Matthew Grimm **Email:** mgrimm5@uw.edu

Course Pages:

1. Canvas: <https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1663485>

The Canvas page will contain all the important information regarding the course such as announcements, assignments, files and deadlines. Please check the Canvas page regularly to keep up to date with the course.

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 10:30a-11:30a, SAV 319C

- Send me an email to schedule an appointment if this time does not work for you

Main References: We will be using selections from the following textbook.

- Karlan, Dean and Jonathan Morduch, Microeconomics: Improve Your World. 3e, McGraw Hill.
 - You do **not** need to buy the access connect

Learning Objectives:

- To be able to understand and use microeconomic terminology to solve problems on homework assignments and exams and as they apply to current events.
- To be able to understand and apply the idea that the highest valued alternative foregone is the opportunity cost of any decision
- To be able to understand and apply the idea that individuals and firms make themselves as well-off as possible in a world of scarcity
- To be able to understand and apply the idea that prices inform decisions about which goods and services are produced in a market economy and how those goods and services are allocated.
- To be able to understand and apply the idea that government policies and the organization of industries and market affect both production and allocation decisions.

Grading Policy:

Grades will be calculated based on the following:

- Problem Sets (20%)
- Writing Assignments (10%)
- Exam 1 (30%)
- Exam 2 (40%)

Note: Canvas will not round grades and I will not round grades for individual students.

Grades in this class will be curved so that the median student gets a grade point between 2.9 and 3.1 . As such, it is impossible to guarantee a particular grading scale for this class, as the median may be above or below what it was in the past. However, typically, we do not need to curve grades and often apply a standard conversion where 80-90% is a B+/- and 90-100% is an A+/- . I will try to give detailed information about the distribution of grades throughout the quarter, to try to help you understand how you are doing in the class.

Assignments:

- **Problem Sets:** Problem sets are due at 11:59 PM Pacific Time almost every Friday night. More details on specific due dates can be found on the canvas page. At the end of the term, I will drop your lowest homework score.
- **Writing Assignments:** You will turn in two short writing assignments this quarter on **October 27th** and **December 1st**. Further details on these writing assignments can be found on Canvas.
- **Exams:** We will have 2 exams in this course.
 - Exam 1: The first exam will be **November 1st** and will roughly cover chapters 1-6
 - Exam 2: The second exam will be **December 6th** and will roughly cover chapters 12-15, 17,18
 - * Further details will be given closer to each exam.

Late Policy: Late submissions (up to 7 days) on writing assignments and problem sets will come with a 5% per day penalty unless approved by me.

Accommodations: Students who have established services with Disability Resources for Students (DRS) should contact me about their accommodations as soon as possible. Students with disabilities who have not yet established services with DRS should contact them at <http://depts.washington.edu/uwdrs/> or 206-543-8924 to set up an access plan.

Washington state law requires that UW develop a policy for accommodation of student absences or significant hardship due to reasons of faith or conscience, or for organized religious activities. The UW's policy, including more information about how to request an accommodation, is available at <https://registrar.washington.edu/staffandfaculty/religious-accommodations-policy/>. Accommodations must be requested within the first two weeks of this course using the Religious Accommodations Request Form at <https://registrar.washington.edu/students/religious-accommodations-request/>.

Academic Misconduct: All students are expected to know and to abide by the University's Academic Misconduct policies as defined at <http://www.washington.edu/admin/rules/policies/SGP/SPCH209.html#7> summarized at <https://depts.washington.edu/grading/pdf/AcademicResponsibility.pdf>. In particular, while you are encouraged to study with each other, all assignments for this course must be completed on one's own. Exams are open book but the submission must be one's own work. Failure to abide by these policies is likely to result in failing this course, and may result in further sanctions as described by the policy. Should I believe that you cheated or plagiarized on an assignment, you will receive a "zero" grade on that assignment.

Table 1: Tentative Course Outline

Date	Topic
Week 1	Introduction, Comparative Advantage, and the PPF Curve
Week 2	Demand, Supply, and Equilibrium
Week 3	Elasticity and Efficiency
Week 4	Government Intervention
Week 5	Review and Midterm 1
Week 6	Trade and Externalities
Week 7	Perfect Competition
Week 8	Perfect Competition
Week 9	Monopoly and Monopolistic Competition
Week 10	Review and Midterm 2