

Syllabus
ECON200: Principles of Microeconomics
Summer 2017

Instructor: Aurora Stephany

Class time: MW 3:30-5:20 pm SMI 407

Office Hours: Fridays, 1:30 pm

Email: asteb@uw.edu

Website: <https://catalyst.uw.edu/workspace/asteb/56596/>

Course description: In this course you will learn the fundamentals of economics as a way of thinking about problems of resource allocation, balance of incentives, and decision-making. This will help you understand why firms and individual make certain decisions, and why in some cases there are ways to improve welfare. You will find that the economic way of thinking extends to situations you might not have expected, such as environmental issues, marriage decisions, drug use, among many others.

This is a somewhat demanding course and you must make sure to start working right away. Many of the concepts we will learn require some time to grasp, and you will find that trying to learn them in a short time before exams is nearly impossible.

Textbook: We will use Principles of Microeconomics by Greg Mankiw. Any edition of the book is fine, there is no need to purchase the latest one

Grade: your grade will depend on class activities (30%), two midterm exams (20% each) and a final exam (30%). Class participation will be rewarded with extra credit

- **Problem Sets:** I will post problem sets on the Canvas website. They are optional, but I strongly advise that you go through them before class. Group study is encouraged.
- **Class Activities:** Instructions will be provided in class. Occasionally I will give you a document to read in advance.
- **Midterms:** will be on 4/19 and 5/12. Subject to change.
- **Final:** June 8th (Thursday of final week).
- **Class participation:** You are encouraged to contribute to the class by either making questions, or answering the questions that I ask. If you have trouble with a problem from the Problem Set, please bring them to class and we can solve them together in the practice sessions.

Grades will be allocated according to the table below.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Equivalent Numeric Grade- Point
94-100	A	3.9-4.0
90-93	A-	3.5-3.8
87-89	B+	3.2-3.4
84-86	B	2.9-3.1
80-83	B-	2.5-2.8
77-79	C+	2.2-2.4
74-76	C	1.9-2.1
70-73	C-	1.5-1.8
67-69	D+	1.2-1.4
64-66	D	0.9-1.1
60-63	D-	0.7-0.8
Below 60	F	0.0-0.6

Other issues:

- **Calculator:** You may bring a scientific or basic calculator to quizzes and exams. Cellphones or graphic calculators are not allowed. This rule will be strictly enforced: if you forget your calculator on an examination date, you will have to solve the exam without it (which is perfectly possible, don't worry)
- **Make up policy:** If you miss one class activity, you do not need to present a valid excuse and you will be given a chance for a make-up. If you miss two or more class activities, you will need to bring proof of your excuse (for your second miss) and you will be allowed to take a make-up class activity during my office hours, at most one week after the activity took place. It is your responsibility to contact me as soon as possible after you miss a class activity.
If you miss the midterm exam, you will need to provide valid justification and you will take a makeup exam. You need to tell me in advance, if it is a foreseeable situation.

Honesty policy: Any student caught cheating will automatically have a zero for the test. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, reading other student's exam, allowing another student to read your exam, reading class notes or the textbook during and exam, using a cellphone during the exam, or communicating with another student during the exam, regardless of the topic of said communication.

The following is a tentative schedule for the quarter. It is subject to change. Any modification will be announced in class and on the website.

WEEK	SECTION	MATERIAL
Week 1: 3/27 and 3/29	Introduction	Chapter 1: Ten Principles of Economics Chapter 2: Thinking like an Economist Chapter 3: Interdependence and the Gains from Trade
Week 2: 4/3 and 4/5	Supply and Demand	Chapter 4. The Market Forces of Supply and Demand. Chapter 5. Elasticity and Its Application.
Week 3: 4/10 and 4/12	Supply and Demand	Chapter 6. Supply, Demand, and Government Policies Chapter 7: Consumers, Producers, and the Efficiency of Markets
Week 4: 4/17 and 4/19	MIDTERM 1 Supply and Demand	Midterm on 4/19 Chapter 8: The Costs of Taxation Chapter 10: Externalities
Week 5: 4/24 and 4/26	Economics of Public Sector	Chapter 10: Externalities Chapter 11: Public Goods and Common Resources
Week 6: 5/1 and 5/3	Economics of Public Sector	Chapter 12: The Design of the Tax System Chapter 13: The Costs of Production
Week 7: 5/10 and 5/12	MIDTERM 2	Chapter 14: Firms in Competitive Markets Midterm on 5/12 Chapter 15: Monopoly
Week 8: 5/17 and 5/19	Firm Behavior and Organization of Markets	Chapter 15: Monopoly Chapter 16: Monopolistic Competition
Week 9: 5/24 and 5/26	Firm Behavior and Organization of Markets	Chapter 17: Oligopoly Game Theory
Week 10: 5/31 and 6/2		Game Theory Review