

ECON 200 H: INTRODUCTION TO MICROECONOMICS
Winter 2020

Instructor:	Saruul Khasar	Time:	TTh 08:30 – 10:20
Email:	saruul@uw.edu	Classroom:	SMI 105
Office Hours:	TTh 10:30-11:30, or by appointment (SAV 319D)		

TEXTBOOK:

- Principles of Microeconomics 8th edition by Gregory Mankiw (Required)
- Microeconomics 1st edition by Karlan and Morduch (Not required but recommended)

LEARNING GOALS:

- Understand and be able to use microeconomic terminology
- Analyze how individuals and firms make themselves as well off as possible in a world of scarcity
- Explain how prices inform the decisions about which goods and services to produce, how to produce them, and who gets them
- Analyze how government policies affect the allocation of resources in a market economy
- Explain how market structure influences the allocation of resources
- Use microeconomic principles to understand and explain economic events and some social phenomenon
- Appreciate the usefulness of economic reasoning in personal decision making
- Critique the economic content articles or presentations

CLASS RULES:

- Regular attendance is essential and expected
- It is important to check Canvas regularly. Please note that lecture notes and other materials will be posted on Canvas
- If circumstances beyond your choice and control materialize (such as a sudden illness, an accident, etc.) that derail you from studying or taking a test on time, you have the responsibility of informing me as soon as possible. I will then try to help you to the best of my ability. Please read the section on make-up exams on this syllabus. There is no make-up exam for the final exam.

GRADING POLICY: Homework (10%), Class participation (10%), Quizzes (20%), Midterm exam (25%), Final exam (35%)

- Homework: We will have 4 homework assignments in this class and I will grade 2 questions randomly from each assignment. I will not accept late submission for homework.
- Class participation: We will have questions titled Active Learning during lectures. You will work with the person next to you to answer these questions and submit your answer during the lecture.
- Quizzes: We will have 2 quizzes in this class. The quizzes will be on the designated days in the last 30 minutes of the class.
- Exams: We will have 1 midterm and a final. You can bring a simple four function or scientific calculator to the exams. However, graphing calculators are not allowed in any of the exams.

GRADING SCALE:

- The grades in this class are not curved. Rather, there is a (preliminary) grade scale on the basis of which I determine course grades. The grading policy of the Department of Economics sets the upper boundary for the Median grade in principles of economics courses at 3.1. I will maintain a median grade for this course in the 2.8-3.1 range. If the median grade for the course happens to be outside of 2.8-3.1 range on the preliminary grade scale, I will adjust the grade scale accordingly.

MAKE-UP EXAMS:

- I will require both the phone number and address of the doctor/clinic in order to verify the authenticity of the documentation you provide. For the midterm exam, I will write a make-up again with documentation from a clinic or a doctor. There is no make up for the final exam. If you miss the final exam due to an unexpected event or an accident, you will have to notify me as soon as possible. If you provide verifiable documentation, you may earn an incomplete grade in the course. Otherwise your grade for the final will be zero and I will calculate your course grade based on the zero grade you have earned.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- Homework due dates: January 16, January 30, February 20, March 12
- Quizzes: January 23, February 27
- Midterm exam: February 13 (08:30 – 10:20 am)
- Final exam: March 17, 2020 (10:30 – 12:20 pm)

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

- Exams are individual work and cheating will not be tolerated. Looking at a neighbor's exam is considered cheating. If a student is seen committing this act, they will not be allowed to continue taking their exam. The neighbor sitting next to the student will also be duly punished if they are seen as facilitating this act of cheating.
- Altering an exam before submitting it for a review of the grading, obtaining an advance copy of an examination, or arranging for a surrogate test-taker are all flagrant violations of University policy.
- Cheating of any kind may result in expulsion from the University. The Department will follow University policy in case of academic misconduct. I strongly recommend that you review University policy at <https://econ.washington.edu/policy-academic-conduct>
- Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty will be subject to sanctions, which range from a disciplinary warning to permanent expulsion from the University, depending on the seriousness of the misconduct.

RELIGIOUS ACCOMODATIONS POLICY:

It is the policy of the University of Washington to reasonably accommodate students' religious observances in accordance with RCW 28B.10.039 regarding religious accommodation for higher education students as amended by SB 5166, effective July 28, 2019.

Any student seeking reasonable accommodations must provide written notice to the Office of the University Registrar of the specific dates of absence due to religious accommodation, within the first two weeks of the beginning of the course. The religious accommodation form can be found here:

<https://registrar.washington.edu/students/religious-accommodations-request/>

DISABILITY ACCOMODATIONS STATEMENT:

The University of Washington is committed to providing access, equal opportunity and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. To request disability accommodation contact the Disability Services Office at least ten days in advance at: 206.543.6450/V, 206.543.6452/TTY, 206.685.7264 (FAX), or e-mail at dso@u.washington.edu

TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE:

Week	Concepts to learn	Mankiw	Karlan
1	Opportunity cost and marginal decision making Gains from trade and comparative advantage	Ch.1 Ch.2 Ch.3	Ch.1 Ch.2
2	How to construct a demand curve and a supply curve How demand and supply interact to bring markets equilibrium	Ch.4	Ch.3
3	How to define and calculate elasticity Determinants of price elasticity of demand and supply	Ch.5	Ch.4
4	How to define and identify efficiency How to define and calculate surplus and deadweight loss	Ch.7	Ch.5
5	Effect of a price ceiling or a price floor on the equilibrium Effect of a tax or a subsidy on the equilibrium	Ch.6 Ch.8	Ch.6
6	Effect of trade policies on the equilibrium How external costs and benefits affect trade-offs	Ch.9 Ch.10	Ch.17 Ch.18
7	How to define revenue, cost, and profit How to define marginal product and show diminishing marginal product	Ch.13	Ch.12
8	Characteristics of a competitive market and firms' output decisions Characteristics of a monopolistic market and a monopolist's output decisions	Ch.14 Ch.15	Ch.13 Ch.14
9	Monopolistic competition and firm's decision Oligopoly and strategic behavior	Ch.16 Ch.17	Ch.15