

Econ 300 - Intermediate Microeconomics

Fall 2015

Instructor: Alex Hubbard

Lecture: Monday, Wednesday 6:30-8:20 pm in MEB 242.

Office: Art Building 343

Email: ajhubb@uw.edu

Webpage: <https://catalyst.uw.edu/workspace/ajhubb/51332/>

Office Hours: Mondays, Wednesdays 5:00-6:00 pm and by appointment.

Required Materials:

Microeconomics (Seventh Edition) by Jeffrey Perloff

Course Description:

Economics is a tool for analyzing a wide range of social phenomena; from how consumers and producers interact to dealing with social problems such as pollution and climate change. Intermediate microeconomics builds on the theories of introductory microeconomics by utilizing mathematics to more precisely model what we see in the world. The goal of the course is to learn understand and apply these theories to determine how consumers and firms interact in different market structures.

Homework:

There will be a weekly or semi-weekly homework assignment taken from selected questions at the end of each chapter plus any extra problems at my discretion. Each assignment will be worth 2 points:

- 2 points: Fully attempt to answer all questions
- 1 points: Attempts to answer most of the questions
- 0 Points: Did not turn in or did not make an attempt to answer most questions satisfactorily (Ex: has answers for most questions but not related to the topic in question or completes less than half the assignment)

To get full credit, you must attempt all problems. Solutions will be provided after homework is graded to study from. No late homeworks will be accepted.

Exams:

There will 3 exams: 2 midterms and 1 final. The tentative schedule for exams is:

- Midterm 1: Ch. 2-5 – Monday, October 26, 2015.
- Midterm 2: Ch. 6-8 – Monday, November 23, 2015
- Final: Ch. 10-11, 14 – Wednesday, December 16, 2015, 630-820 pm, MEB 242

You will be given the entire class period to finish each exam. If there is a scheduling conflict between you and the exam date, you must notify me ahead of time so we can

schedule a makeup. Missing an exam due to illness must be cleared with a doctor's note to reschedule. Otherwise, no makeups will be given.

Participation:

Attending lectures will be important, as most of the test material will be covered in class. Some material from lecture may not be presented in the textbook and examples will be covered on the board. I recommend keeping up with readings each week as we cover them in class. You will be expected to spend time learning the material on your own, outside of class. I will be available by office hours to help with any questions you may have concerning the material.

Grade Scheme:

- Homework: 10%
 - Lowest homework score will be dropped.
- Exams
 - Lowest score: 25%
 - Middle score: 30%
 - Highest score: 35%

Your final grade will be calculated according to the *tentative* grade scale below. The percentages on the left are tentative. Any curve applied to the class grading scale will come at the end of the quarter. There is no curve applied to individual tests. The median grade will not be higher than 3.1 per department standards.

| Percentage | Letter Grade | Numeric Grade |
|------------|--------------|---------------|
| 95-100 | A | 3.8-4.0 |
| 90-94 | A- | 3.5-3.7 |
| 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 |

Student Athletes:

If you are a student athlete, inform me as soon as possible of potential scheduling conflicts with exam dates. You should give me a letter from the athletics department with all conflicting dates.

Academic Accommodations:

The University of Washington is committed to providing access and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education, and employment for individuals with disabilities. For information or to request disability accommodation contact: Disability Resources for Students (Seattle campus, matriculated students) at 206-543-8924/V, 206-543-8925/TTY, 206-616-8379 (Fax) or email at uwdss@uw.edu.

Additional Resources: The Economics Department offers several additional services to assist students in their Econ courses:

- EUB Tutoring Center - <http://depts.washington.edu/ecnboard/eub-tutoring/>
- English Language Learner Comprehension & Writing Center
- Personal Tutors for hire – email econadv@u.washington.edu for additional information

Academic Integrity:

The Department will follow University policy in case of academic misconduct. I strongly recommend that you review University policy at <http://www.washington.edu/uaa/advising/help/academichonesty.php> 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. 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.

Miscellaneous:

Calculators: Four function or scientific will be allowed on exams, but graphing calculators, phones, tablets, computers, etc. will not be allowed, even if put on airplane mode. If you bring a calculator that is not allowed, you will have to take the test without a calculator.

Electronic devices: Please silence your cell phones, computers, and tablets while in class. Please refrain from using social media during class; it is distracting to you and those around you.

Food: Please refrain from bringing foods with strong odors to class, as it is distracting to everyone around you. Snacks are allowed as long as they are not distracting. Also, be aware of bringing foods others may be allergic to such as peanut-based products.

Reading Schedule:

Tentative, possibility to change based on flow of the class:

| | |
|---------|--|
| Week 1 | Math Review Ch. 2.1-2.4 HW 1 assigned |
| Week 2 | Ch. 3.1-3.4 HW 1 due, HW 2 assigned |
| Week 3 | Ch. 4.1-4.4, Appendix 4A-4B Ch. 5.1-5.3, 5.5 HW 2 due, HW 3 assigned (not due) |
| Week 4 | Ch. 6.1-6.5 Midterm 1 |
| Week 5 | Ch. 7.1-7.4, Appendix 7A-7C HW 4 assigned |
| Week 6 | HW 4 due, HW 5 assigned |
| Week 7 | Ch. 8.1-8.4, Appendix 8A-8B Ch. 9.1-9.3, 9.5 HW 5 due, HW 6 assigned (not due) |
| Week 8 | Ch. 10.1-10.4 Midterm 2 |
| Week 9 | Ch. 11.1-11.6 HW 7 assigned |
| Week 10 | Ch. 14.1-14.2 HW 7 due, HW 8 assigned (not due) |