

ECON 200G: Introduction to Microeconomics

Autumn 2018

Lectures: M-F 10:30-11:20 @ LOW 205

Instructor: Ferdous Z. Sardar

Email: fzsardar@uw.edu

Office: Savery 319A

Office hours: MTh 11:30-12:30

Course Website: <https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1220221>

Textbook: Microeconomics, 6th edition by R. Glenn Hubbard and Anthony Patrick O'Brien

Course Description: In this course students will be exposed to the economic way of thinking and learn about the functioning of economic agents in a modern economy. The course deals with basic economic principles that help us understand the process of decision making by individuals and firms. We analyze the fundamental economic activities of consumption, production, distribution and exchange. How these economic activities are affected under different policies, market structures, or property rights are also analyzed in this course.

Learning Goals: At the end of the course, you are expected to be able to

- Understand and use microeconomic terminology
- Explain how individuals and firms make themselves as well off as possible in a world of scarcity
- Analyze how prices inform the decisions about which goods and services to produce, how to produce them, and who gets them
- Analyze how government policies and different institutional arrangements affect the allocation of resources in an economy
- Explain how market structure influences the allocation of resources
- Critique the economic content of articles or presentations
- Use microeconomic principles to understand and explain economic events and other social phenomena – under a competitive market structure
- Use elements of game theory to explain the strategic choices of individuals or organizations

Grading and Grading Scale

Writing Assignment	10%
Quizzes	30%
Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	30%

Please note that the grading policy of the Department of Economics sets the upper boundary for the median grade in 200 level economics courses at 3.1. In this class, the grade will be curved maintaining a median grade from 2.8-3.0 range.

Writing Assignments: There will be two writing assignment which accounts for 10% of your total grade. The topics and due dates for submission of writing assignments will be announced in class.

Quizzes: There will be a total of 7 quizzes which will be held at the end of each week. The quizzes will test your knowledge on the materials discussed in that week. Your best 6 quizzes will be considered for your course grade calculation. Each quiz is worth 5% of total grade. The quiz will be held on the following dates:

Quizzes	Date
Quiz 1	10/05/2018
Quiz 2	10/12/2018
Quiz 3	10/19/2018
Quiz 4	11/02/2018
Quiz 5	11/09/2018
Quiz 6	11/16/2018
Quiz 7	12/01/2018

Exams: There will be two exams. The first one is a midterm which will be held on **October 25, 2017** (Thursday). This exam will account for 30% of your total grade. The final exam will be held at **8:30-10:20 a.m. Monday, December 10, 2018** (according to Autumn 2018 Final Examination Schedule on UW's website). This one will be worth 30% of your total grade.

Problem Sets: Beginning of each week, practice problems will be posted on Canvas containing problems from the materials going to be discussed that week. Though you do not have to submit the problem sets and you will not be graded for these problems, solving these problem sets will be good preparation for the quizzes and exams.

Some general guidelines

- No make-up for quizzes. If you miss one quiz, that's the one that will be dropped.
- No make-up of midterm exam other than for medical reason. For make-up of midterm exam, you must submit verifiable documentation from the clinic/doctor. There is no make up for the final exam.
- 5% penalty per day for late writing submission.
- Papers are checked for plagiarism using Vericite. If I believe that you have cheated or plagiarized, you will receive a 0 for the assignment. Depending on the severity of plagiarism, you may receive an F in this course.
- If you are struggling, please get help! You can come to my office hours, go to the free tutoring available from the EUB, or a CLUE session (check website for more info).
- You are also always welcome to approach me after class with questions, or to email me to make an appointment.
- If you have a documented disability, please bring documentation from the Office of Disability Resources for Students on the first day of class, so that I can make any arrangements required for accommodations.

Tentative Schedule

Week	Topics
Week 1	Introduction Math Review
Week 2	Demand Supply Market Equilibrium
Week 3	Tax Subsidies Price Control
Week 4	Elasticities
Week 5	Externalities Exam 1
Week 6	PPF/Opp. Cost Gains from trade Trade Restrictions
Week 7	Production/Technology SR Costs SR Cost Curves
Week 8	LR Costs and cost curves Perfect competition
Week 9	Monopoly Monopolistic Competition/Oligopoly
Week 10	Property Rights
Week 11	Final exam