

ECON 200 H: INTRODUCTION TO MICROECONOMICS

Winter 2018

Instructor: Iffat Chowdhury	Time: T & TH 8:30-10:20
Email: iffatc@uw.edu	Place: MOR 221

Course Page:

<http://canvas.uw.edu>

Office Hours: Tues 10:45-12:45 and by appointment SAV 319F

Required Text

- Hubbard and O'Brien, *Microeconomics*, 6th Edition with My Econ Lab

Objectives: Economics is the study of choices made under constraints, usually the constraints of budgets, prices, and input costs. In this class, you will learn not only a set of tools for analyzing markets at the micro or individual level, but a way of thinking about human decision-making and choices in the face of scarcity. Topics covered include consumer demand, production, exchange, the price system, resource allocation, and government intervention, but economic thinking can be applied to most social and political issues. This is not a class in which you can succeed by memorizing a set of facts. You must use the tools we will develop to explain why households and firms act the way they do.

At the end of the course, a successful student should be able to:

- Understand and be able to use microeconomic terminology
- Understand that the highest-valued alternative foregone is the opportunity cost of what is chosen
- Understand how individuals and firms make themselves as well off as possible in a world of scarcity
- Understand how prices inform the decisions about which goods and services to produce, how to produce them, and who gets them
- Understand how government policies and different institutional arrangements affect the allocation of resources in an economy
- Use microeconomic principles to understand and explain economic events and other social phenomena

Tentative Course Outline:

- █ Introduction to Economic Thinking and the Market System
- █ Market Equilibrium: Combining Supply and Demand
- █ Elasticity and Market Responsiveness
- █ Economic Efficiency and Market Interventions
- █ Externalities
- █ Consumer Choice
- █ Firms and Production
- █ Market Structure: Perfect Competition, Monopoly and Oligopoly

Grading :

- Homework: **15%** **The first graded homework will be due January 15.** After which, homework will be assigned weekly on my econ lab. Your lowest homework grade will be dropped.
- Quizzes: **25%** There will be 2 to 3 quizzes in total. I will announce the dates of the quizzes at least a week prior.
- Midterm: **30%** The tentative date for the midterm is February 8th.
- Final: **30%** The final will be on Tuesday, March 13, 2018, 10:30-12:20, MOR 221. The final will not be cumulative.

Grading: The Department of Economics at UW requires that the median GPA for all undergraduate economics courses fall within the range of 2.8-3.1. A student who receives a median grade on every assignment can expect a final GPA somewhere in that range.

Makeups: Makeups will only be given with documentation.

Disability Accommodations: Please contact me as soon as possible if you have a documented disability and need accommodations. Information for documenting your disability can be found here:
<http://depts.washington.edu/uwdrs>

Student Athletes: Please approach me as soon as possible if you will be missing any important dates for this course due to your athletic activities, especially exams/quizzes. You should have official documentation of these dates.

Academic Honesty: Lack of knowledge of the academic honesty policy is not a reasonable explanation for a violation. Academic integrity is the cornerstone of the Department's rules for student conduct and evaluation of student learning. Students accused of academic misconduct will be referred directly to the Office of Community Standards and Student Conduct for disciplinary action pursuant to the Student Conduct Code and, if found guilty, will be subject to sanctions. Sanctions range from a disciplinary warning, to academic probation, to immediate dismissal for the Department and the University, depending on the seriousness of the misconduct. Dismissal can be, and has been, applied even for first offenses. Moreover, a grade of zero can be assigned by the instructor for the course. Behavior that constitutes academic misconduct includes but is not limited to cheating on exams or quizzes (copying answers from others, using unauthorized materials, a student not taking their own quiz/exam, etc.), copying homework answers, plagiarism.

Week	Tentative Schedule of Readings
Jan 9th	
	Chapter 1: 1.1-1.3, 1.5, Appendix Chapter 2
Jan 16th	
	Chapter 3
Jan 23rd	
	Chapter 4: 4.1-4.3, Appendix Chapter 6: 6.1
Jan 30th	
	Chapter 6: 6.2, 6.3, 6.6 Chapter 4: 4.4
Feb 6th	
	Midterm/Review
Feb 13th	
	Chapter 5 Chapter 9
Feb 20th	
	Chapter 11
Feb 27th	
	Chapter 12 Chapter 13: 13.1-13.5
March 6th	
	Chapter 14 Chapter 15: 15.1-15.4