# Econ 300: Intermediate Microeconomics

Sean Ewen

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E-mail: sewen@uw.edu Office: Savery 319H Office Hours: Th 3-4pm (or by appointment) Class Hours: TTh 12:30-2:20pm Class Room: PAR 220

Economics 300 is the intermediate course in microeconomic theory. We analyze changes in the behavior of individuals and firms in response to changes in the constraints they face. This course will stress applications of elementary economic theory to real-world issues and problems. Analytical reasoning and mathematical modeling based on fundamental principles are emphasized throughout. This is a scientific course: we shall be concerned with explanations of real-world events. This course presents the conceptual foundations and analytical methods of microeconomics. This course is intended to equip you with the tools and comprehension to write reports or conduct research using modern microeconomic theory. Correspondingly, mastery of the material covered in the course will help you critically evaluate the microeconomic content of the work of others.

### **Required Materials**

- Textbook: *Microeconomics: Theory and Applications with Calculus* (5th edition) by Jeffrey M. Perloff
- Pearson MyLab Economics (required for online homework)



### Prerequisites

- ECON 200 and any one of the following: MATH 112, 123, or 134.
- We will make frequent use of differential calculus and algebra.

## Grading

Grades will be based on the following:

- 2 Exams (70%)
- 8 Homeworks (25%)
- Participation (8%)
  - 5% for showing up to class, extra 3% for participating in class discussions

Exams will be held in class and in person. You may use a simple calculator, not a graphing calculator or phone.

Homeworks are online through Pearson MyLab. You can access them through MyLab link on the course's Canvas page. Your lowest homework grade will be dropped.

Participation points will be awarded for coming to class and taking part in class discussions/practice problems.

According to UW Department of Economics policy, final grades will be curved as necessary to reach a median grade for the class between 2.9 and 3.1.

# **Important Dates**

- Homework is due in MyLab at 11:59 pm PST almost every Thursday night.
- Exams are 11/8 and 12/15 (10:30-12:20).

## **Course Policies & Other Information**

#### **Teaching Model**

In ECON 300A, lectures will be offered at the regularly scheduled class time. They will not be recorded and made available for remote viewing, but class slides will be available online. Office hours will be offered in person or via Zoom by appointment. Assignments must be submitted remotely via Canvas. Exams will be given in class. There will be two exams. Students will not be able to complete the class remotely.

#### **Religious Accomodations**

Washington state law requires that UW develop a policy for accommodation of student absences or significant hardship due to reasons of faith or conscience, or for organized religious activities. The UW's policy, including more information about how to request an accommodation, is available at Religious Accommodations Policy (https://registrar.washington.edu/staffandfaculty/religious-accommodations-policy/). Accommodations must be requested within the first two weeks of this course using the Religious Accommodations Request form (https://registrar.washington.edu/students/religious-accommodations-request/).

### Academic Integrity

The University takes academic integrity very seriously. Behaving with integrity is part of our responsibility to our shared learning community. If you're uncertain about if something is academic misconduct, ask me. I am willing to discuss questions you might have.

Acts of academic misconduct may include but are not limited to:

- Cheating (working collaboratively on quizzes/exams and discussion submissions, sharing answers and previewing quizzes/exams)
- Plagiarism (representing the work of others as your own without giving appropriate credit to the original author(s))
- Unauthorized collaboration (working with each other on assignments)

Concerns about these or other behaviors prohibited by the Student Conduct Code will be referred for investigation and adjudication.

Students found to have engaged in academic misconduct may receive a zero on the assignment, a zero in the course and/or a referral to the Student Conduct Office.

#### **Disability Resources**

Your experience in this class is important to me. It is the policy and practice of the University of Washington to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law. If you have already established accommodations with Disability Resources for Students (DRS), please activate your accommodations via myDRS so we can discuss how they will be implemented in this course.

If you have not yet established services through DRS, but have a temporary health condition or permanent disability that requires accommodations (conditions include but not limited to; mental health, attention-related, learning, vision, hearing, physical or health impacts), contact DRS directly to set up an Access Plan. DRS facilitates the interactive process that establishes reasonable accommodations. Contact DRS at disability.uw.edu.

#### **Face Coverings**

Face coverings are encouraged but not required. Please find updated UW face covering policy here: https://www.ehs.washington.edu/covid-19-prevention-and-response/face-covering-policy

#### Medical Excuse Notes

Students are expected to attend class and to participate in all graded activities, including exams. To protect student privacy and the integrity of the academic experience, students will not be required to provide a medical excuse note to justify an absence from class due to illness. Your lowest exam grade will be dropped to accommodate a missed exam.

#### Safety

Call SafeCampus at 206-685-7233 anytime – no matter where you work or study – to anonymously discuss safety and well-being concerns for yourself or others. SafeCampus's team of caring professionals will provide individualized support, while discussing short- and long-term solutions and connecting you with additional resources when requested.

#### Title IX

Sex- and gender-based violence and harassment: UW, through numerous policies, prohibits sex- and gender-based violence and harassment, and we expect students, faculty, and staff to act professionally and respectfully in all work, learning, and research environments. For support, resources, and reporting options related to sex- and gender-based violence or harassment, visit the UW Title IX webpage, specifically the Know Your Rights & Resources guide. If you disclose information to me about sex- or gender-based violence or harassment, I will connect you (or the person who experienced the conduct) with confidential and/or private resources who can best provide support and options. Please note that some senior leaders and other specified employees have been identified as "Officials Required to Report." If an Official Required to Report learns of possible sex- or gender-based violence or harassment, they are required to call SafeCampus and report all the details they have in order to ensure that the person who experienced harm is offered support and reporting options.

### **Tentative Course Schedule**

Week 01, 09/26 - 09/30: Syllabus, Math Review

- First day of class 9/29
- Week 02, 10/03 10/07: Chapter 2
- Week 03, 10/10 10/14: Chapter 3
- Week 04, 10/17 10/21: Chapter 4
  - Homework 1 due 10/20
- Week 05, 10/24 10/28: Chapters 5 & 6
  - Homework 2 due 10/27
- Week 06, 10/31 11/04: Chapter 7, Exam review
  - Homework 3 due 11/3
- Week 07, 11/07 11/11: Midterm Exam, Chapter 8
  Midterm Exam 11/8
- Week 08, 11/14 11/18: Chapters 8 & 9
  - Homework 4 due 11/17
- Week 09, 11/21 11/25: Chapter 11
  - Online lecture 11/22
  - Homework 5 due 11/24
- Week 10, 11/28 12/02: Chapters 13 & 14
  - Homework 6 due 12/1

#### Week 11, 12/05 - 12/09: Exam review

• Homework 7 due 12/8

#### Week 12, 12/12 - 12/16: Exam week

- Homework 8 due 12/15
- Final Exam 12/15 10:30-12:20pm