

# ECON 200 A: INTRODUCTION TO MICROECONOMICS

## SUMMER 2025

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**Time:** T/TH 3:30 – 5:40 P.M.

**Place:** Asynchronous

### Course Page:

- <https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1810499>

**Office Hours:** Office hours will be held via Zoom every Monday and Wednesday from 9 AM to 10 AM. The Zoom link will be posted on Canvas. The instructors are also available via email to answer any questions you may have.

**Main References:** We will be using selections from the following textbook:

- Krugman, Paul and Robin Wells, *Microeconomics*, 7<sup>th</sup> ed., McGraw Hill.  
(*Recommended*, not required)

We will be drawing heavily from this textbook, which makes it a useful supplemental reference. However, you will only be tested on material that is discussed during lecture, which means that you will *not* be responsible for chapter contents in the textbook that were *not* explicitly discussed during lecture.

**Objectives:** This course serves as an introduction to the principles of microeconomics, used to understand the behavior of individuals and firms operating in markets and in other strategic interactions. Topics covered include opportunity cost, scarcity, preferences and decision making, gains from trade, game theory, social preferences, institutions, efficiency, firms, market power, competition, supply and demand, labor markets, market failure, and more.

**Grading Policy:** Problem Sets (30%), Midterm (35%), Final (35%). Grades in this class will be curved so that the median student gets a grade point between 3.1 and 3.3 on a 4.0 scale. As such, I am unable to guarantee a particular grading scale for this class, as the median may be above or below what it was in the past. I will give detailed information about the distribution of grades throughout the quarter, to try to help you understand how you are doing in the class.

**Problem Sets:** You will be tasked with completing short problem sets that will be assigned weekly. These problem sets are designed to prepare you for the kinds of questions that will appear on the exams. They will be multiple choice questions and you will receive two attempts to complete the assignment. Homework is due on Thursdays at 11:59 PM PDT.

Although it will be difficult to determine if a student has used artificial intelligence (AI) tools to complete the problem sets, it is in your interest, at the very least, to attempt the assignment yourself before resorting to AI for assistance. Doing the problem sets yourself will increase your chances of success on the exams. Simply plugging the questions into ChatGPT or Claude and then reading through the answers is *not* sufficient practice.

## **Late assignments will not be accepted.**

**Attendance Policy:** This course is asynchronous and many of the students currently enrolled are dispersed throughout the world and across varying time zones. As such, it is understandable that many students will not be able to attend the live Zoom recordings of lecture. However, watching the lectures is indispensable for your education. I do not simply read off the slides and many important details that provide intuition are expressed verbally during lecture.

**Exams** will be held asynchronously. The exams will be made available on Canvas at 3:30 PM PDT. You will have one hour and fifty minutes to complete the exam after the specified start time. You will be allowed an additional 10 minutes to submit the exam on Canvas.

One percentage point will be deducted from your exam score for every minute it is submitted late. If you miss the midterm, your midterm grade will be reweighted toward your final exam grade, which means that your final exam grade will count for both your midterm and final exam grade. Missing the final exam will result in a failing grade.

**Accommodations:** Should you require disability accommodations, please contact Disability Resources for Students at <http://depts.washington.edu/uwdrs/> or 206-543-8924.

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](#). Accommodations must be requested within the first two weeks of this course using the [Religious Accommodations Request form](#).

**Academic Misconduct:** All students are expected to know and to abide by the University's Academic Misconduct policies as defined at [http://www.washington.edu/admin/rules/policies/SGP/SPCH209.html# 7](http://www.washington.edu/admin/rules/policies/SGP/SPCH209.html#7) summarized at <https://depts.washington.edu/grading/pdf/AcademicResponsibility.pdf>. In particular, while you are encouraged to study with each other, all assignments for this course must be completed on one's own. Exams are closed-book must be completed without accessing outside information, whether from "cheat-sheets," cellphones, your computer, or other sources. Failure to abide by these policies is likely to result in failing this course, and may result in further sanctions as described by the policy. Should I believe that you cheated or plagiarized on an assignment, you will receive a "zero" grade on that assignment.

Table 1: Tentative Outline

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment
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06/24	Introduction to ECON 200E	Chapter 1	
06/26	Comparative Advantage and Trade	Chapter 2	
07/01	Demand	Chapter 3	
07/03	Supply	Chapter 3	
07/08	Elasticity	Chapter 6	<b>HW1</b>
07/10	Efficiency	Chapter 4-5	
07/15	Taxes, Subsidies, and Other Interventions	Chapter 7	
07/17	Review		<b>HW 2</b>
<b>07/22</b>	<b>Midterm</b>	<b>Chapters 1 - 7</b>	
07/24	International Trade	Chapter 8	
07/29	Externalities	Chapter 17	
07/31	Firms	Chapter 12	
08/05	Perfect Competition	Chapter 13	<b>HW3</b>
08/07	Perfect Competition	Chapter 13	
08/12	Monopoly	Chapter 14	
08/14	Monopolistic Competition and Oligopoly	Chapter 15 - 16	<b>HW 4</b>
08/19	Review		
<b>08/21</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>Chapters 8 – 16</b> (excluding 9, 10, and 11)	

*Note: our final exam is scheduled for August 21<sup>st</sup>.*