

Econ 202 Section 200 - Honors
Principles of Microeconomics
Fall 2017
MW 9:55-11:10

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Course description

Microeconomics is the study of individual behavior, that of households, businesses and government units, and how they interact. We will examine several aspects of this behavior, including scarcity and choice, opportunity cost, demand and supply, consumer behavior, firm behavior in perfect and imperfect markets, and additional topics as time permits.

Required text

The required text is Hubbard and O'Brien's Microeconomics, and is available at local bookstores. I have the 5th edition, but older editions should be fine. Additional readings may be assigned from time to time.

Tentative Outline of Topics: All dates are subject to change. Any changes will be announced in class.

Topic	Tentative Dates
Chapter One: Economics – Foundations and Models	8/28 – 8/30
Chapter Two: Tradeoffs, Comparative Advantage, and the Market System	8/30-9/6
Chapter Three: Demand and Supply	9/6-9/13
Chapter Four: Economic Efficiency, Government Price Setting, and Taxes Plus Appendix	9/13-9/20
Chapter Five: Externalities, Environmental Policy, and Public Goods	9/20-9/25
Chapter Six: Elasticity	10/2-10/4
Chapter Seven: Consumer Choice and Behavioral Economics Plus Appendix	10/9-10/11
Chapter Eight: Technology, Production, and Costs Plus Appendix	10/16-10/18
Chapter Nine: Firms in Perfectly Competitive Markets	10/30-11/1
Chapter Ten: Monopolistic Competition	11/6
Chapter Eleven: Oligopoly	11/8-11/13
Chapter Twelve: Monopoly	11/15-11/20
Chapter Thirteen: Price Discrimination	11/27

Grades

Grades will be based on three exam scores, quiz scores and class participation. Your average score on three equally weighted exams will comprise 75% of your course grade. The remaining 25% of your course grade will be based on quiz scores and class participation. You should expect approximately a dozen quizzes. Three quiz scores will be dropped. Course grades will be awarded as follows: 90+ = A, 80-89 = B, 70-79 = C, 60-69 = D, 0-59 = F. Exam and quiz/participation scores are the sole criteria used to determine grades. This means that extenuating circumstances will not be considered in the determination of grades. There is no extra credit.

Exam dates

Midterm 1: 9/27

Midterm 2: 10/25

Midterm 3: 11/29

Missed Exams: Students who miss an exam may be allowed to take a makeup exam. Makeup exams will differ in both form and content from regularly scheduled exams. Makeup exams are typically in essay format.

If you miss an exam and have not received my permission prior to the regularly scheduled exam, you must satisfy all of the following requirements in order to take a makeup exam.

- 1.) You missed the exam due to illness or university-excused absence.
- 2.) You must have a written excuse that I can keep in my files explaining the reason for missing the test. For example, if you were ill, you must have a written excuse from your physician or from the University Health Center stating that you were too ill to take an exam. In the event of a death in the family, you must provide written verification. (Note: I verify any written excuses to confirm they satisfy the first requirement above.)
- 3.) You must notify me by the end of the second working day after the missed test. The easiest way to notify me is to call 845-7351 during business hours, or via electronic mail at edwardson@econmail.tamu.edu.
- 4.) I will maintain a list of students who are eligible for a makeup and wish to take it. You need to make sure you get on this list if you wish to take a makeup.

Students who miss an exam and do not meet each of the four requirements above will receive a score of zero for the exam. There are no makeups for missed quizzes.

General class guidelines:

1. All students are expected to follow the Aggie Code of Honor. Academic dishonesty of any kind will be dealt with in a draconian manner.
2. You are expected to act courteously toward your classmates. Refrain from any behavior that might distract a classmate. Show up on time. Don't leave early. Turn off your cellular telephone before entering the classroom. Text messaging during class is prohibited.
3. Regular attendance is expected. You are also expected to keep up with all reading assignments and assigned exercises. I do not post any lecture notes online. In the event you miss class for any reason, you should obtain any lecture notes you need from a classmate. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to check with a classmate to find out if you missed any important announcements.

Calculators:

1. Simple mathematical operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division) may be necessary on exams. While I'm certain that you can manage these by hand, you may use an electronic calculator if you wish.
2. Programmable calculators are not permitted. Graphing calculators are not permitted. Calculators that allow you store text are not permitted. You may not use your cellular telephone or any other wireless communication device as a calculator. No exceptions.

Academic Resources: The Department of Economics offers both a free tutoring lab (located in ALLN 3002) and fee-based private tutors. You can find more information about both by calling 845-7351. Your textbook publisher offers several ancillary study aids, both online and in print.

ADA Policy Statement: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, currently located in the Disability Services building at the Student Services at White Creek complex on west campus or call 979-845-1637. For additional information, visit <http://disability.tamu.edu>.

Aggie Honor Code: “An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal or tolerate those who do.” Upon accepting admission to Texas A&M, a student immediately assumes a commitment to uphold the Honor Code, to accept responsibility for learning, and to follow the philosophy and rules of the Honor System. Students will be required to state their commitment on examinations, research papers, and other academic work. Ignorance of the rules does not exclude any member of the TAMU community from the requirements or the processes of the Honor System. For additional information please visit www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor/

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: Texas A&M University has identified student learning outcomes that describe our institutional commitment to your education goals. These include the ability to demonstrate critical thinking, effective communication, and social, cultural, and global competence. Please see http://provost.tamu.edu/essentials/pdfs/copy_of_UndergraduateLearningOutcomesFinal.pdf/view