

# Principles of Microeconomics

Econ 2302-3 (12954)  
Summer 2023 Syllabus

University of Houston  
Department of Economics

## Course Info

**When:** Monday through Friday, 10:00am–12:00 pm  
**Where:** MH 113

**Instructor:** Eva Loaeza-Albino  
**Email:** [edloaeza@cougarnet.uh.edu](mailto:edloaeza@cougarnet.uh.edu)  
**Office location:** Online  
**Office Hours:** TBA  
**Final Exam:** Aug 9 (Wed), 11am-2pm at MH 113

## Course Description

This course is an introduction to microeconomics - individual consumer and firm behavior, supply and demand and the market determination of prices, production, and income. It also includes government price ceilings, monopoly and antitrust, market failures and environmental pollution.

## Learning Outcomes

- Students will understand basic microeconomic terms, concepts and methodology and demonstrate the ability to apply them to the fundamental economic question of allocating scarce resources
- Students will understand market failure and externalities as well as the effects of government intervention in such markets
- Students will be able to apply economic reasoning to better understand real world policy issues, such as tax system design, poverty, and discrimination

**Prerequisites** Completion of Math 1310 or a higher Math. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that you have the necessary prerequisites.

## Course Requirements:

### Textbook

Principles of Microeconomics (9th edition) by Gregory Mankiw integrated with MindTap. MindTap registration is required to ensure online access to class materials and book chapters. The following user guide contains a video demonstration as well as written instructions to guide students through the steps to access MindTap through Canvas: [How to Register for MindTap in Canvas](#).

## Grading

I follow the standard grading scale (93-100 is A, 90-92 is A-, 87-89 is B+ and so on).

### Grading Structure

Midterm Exam 1: <b>July 19</b>	25%
Midterm Exam 2: <b>July 31</b>	25%
Comprehensive Final exam, <b>Aug, 9</b>	30%
Online MindTap Assignments	20%
Attendance & Class Participation (extra-credit)	4%
End of semester evaluation (extra-credit)	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>105%</b>

## Exams

- There will be 2 midterm exams during the semester and a final comprehensive exam (August 9). The exams will be **in person**, closed-book, and closed-notes.
- There is no make-up exam unless a student has been involved in an accident (proof from the police) or has been seriously ill and shows proof from the doctor/hospital. Unapproved absence from any exam counts as a zero. It is the professor's decision whether the student can take the exam, after showing the required proof. Contact me ASAP before/after a missed exam and we can discuss options.

## MindTap Homeworks

- Grades are not negotiable. Observance of all due dates and times is the responsibility of the student. MindTap assignments are due on the assigned date at **11:59 pm**.
- **MindTap Late Submission Policy:** There will be a "Late Submission Policy" of THREE DAYS with a 5-point penalty. This policy is meant to take care of temporary personal events that might make students unexpectedly fall behind. There are no additional extensions. However, keep in mind that delaying homework can only set you back. Do your best effort to stick to the official due dates for each homework. Do not use it as a road to procrastination.

**Attendance** You can earn extra credit for attending my class and participate. This is NOT an ON-LINE class. Take into account that the lectures contain the material that prepares you for the exams, and the textbook is not a perfect substitute for the lectures.

**Office hours** If there are things you do not understand you should come to me for help. You must bring both your class notes as well as the notes you take while reading your textbook and show me specific questions or concepts you are struggling with. The course is, by nature, comprehensive, and poor performance early on will lead to poor performance throughout the semester. Thus, it is a good idea to study consistently and read assigned chapters from your textbook before the class.

**Syllabus Changes** Please note that I may need to make modifications to the course syllabus and may do so at any time. Notice of such changes will be announced as quickly as possible through. I will announce in class and by e-mail if there is any change.

Table 1: Topics Outline and HW Schedule

Week	Chapter	Topic	Date	Homework Due 11:59 PM
1	2	Introduction	Mon, July 10	Chapter 2
	3	Interdependence and the Gains from Trade	Tue, July 11	
	4	Market Forces of Supply & Demand	Wed, July 12	
	5	Elasticity and Its Application	Thu, July 13	Chapter 3
	6	Supply, Demand & Gov Policies of Markets	Friday, July 14	
			Sat, July 15	Chapters 4, 5
			Sun, July 16	
2	7	Consumers, Producers & the Efficiency Review	Mon, July 17	Chapters 6 & 7
			Tue, July 18	
	*	<b>Exam 1 (Up to Ch. 7)</b>	Wed, July 19	
	8	Application: The Costs of Taxation	Thu, July 20	Chapters 8, 10
	10	Externalities	Fri, July 21	
			Sat, July 22	
			Sun, July 23	
3	11	Public Goods and Common Resources	Mon, July 24	Chapter 11
	12	The Design of the Tax System	Tue, July 25	
	13	The Costs of Production	Wed, July 26	Chapter 12
	14	Firms in Competitive Markets	Thu, July 27	
		Review	Fri, July 28	
			Sat, July 29	
4			Sun, July 30	Chapters 13, 14
	*	<b>Exam 2 (Up to Ch. 14)</b>	Mon, Jul 31	
	15	Monopoly	Tue, Aug 01	Chapter 15
	16	Monopolistic Competition	Wed, Aug 02	
	17	Oligopoly	Thu, Aug 03	Chapter 16
	18	The Markets for the Factors of Production	Fri, Aug 04	
5			Sat, Aug 05	Chapter 17
			Sun, Aug 06	
		Review	Mon, Aug 07	Chapter 18
		No class	Tue, Aug 08	
	*	<b>Final Exam (Comprehensive)</b>	Wed, Aug 09	

## University Policies

**Reasonable Academic Adjustments/Auxiliary Aids** The University of Houston complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, pertaining to the provision of reasonable academic adjustments/auxiliary aids for disabled students. In accordance with Section 504 and ADA guidelines, UH strives to provide reasonable academic adjustments/auxiliary aids to students who request and require them. If you believe that you have a disability requiring an academic adjustments/auxiliary aid, please contact the Justin Dart Jr. Student Accessibility Center.

**Excused Absence Policy** Regular class attendance, participation, and engagement in coursework are important contributors to student success. Absences may be excused as provided in the University of Houston Undergraduate Excused Absence Policy and Graduate Excused Absence Policy for reasons including: medical illness of student or close relative, death of a close family member, legal or government proceeding that a student is obligated to attend, recognized professional and educational activities where the student is presenting, and University-sponsored activity or athletic competition. Under these policies, students with excused absences will be provided with an opportunity to make up any quiz, exam or other work that contributes to the course grade or a satisfactory alternative. Please read the full policy for details regarding reasons for excused absences, the approval process, and extended absences. Additional policies address absences related to military service, religious holy days, pregnancy and related conditions, and disability.

**Academic Honesty Policy** High ethical standards are critical to the integrity of any institution, and bear directly on the ultimate value of conferred degrees. All UH community members are expected to contribute to an atmosphere of the highest possible ethical standards. Maintaining such an atmosphere requires that any instances of academic dishonesty be recognized and addressed. The [UH Academic Honesty Policy](#) is designed to handle those instances with fairness to all parties involved: the students, the instructors, and the University itself. All students and faculty of the University of Houston are responsible for being familiar with this policy.

**Student Conduct Policy** CLASS students are expected to abide by the University of Houston's Code of Student Conduct Student Code of Conduct - University of Houston ([uh.edu](http://uh.edu))

**Sexual Misconduct Policy** Please know there are places on campus where you can make a report in confidence. You can find more information on the Title IX website at: <https://uh.edu/equal-opportunity/title-ix-sexual-misconduct/resources/>

**Counseling and Psychological Services** [Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#) are available for students having difficulties managing stress, adjusting to college, or feeling sad and hopeless. You can reach CAPS by calling 713-743-5454 during and after business hours for routine appointments or if you or somebody you know is in crisis. The [Let's Talk](#) program provides easy access to informal confidential consultations with therapists from CAPS. Consultations are free of charge, and no appointment or paperwork is needed.

**Incompletes** The official policy on incompletes, from the Undergraduate Catalog, states that the grade of "I" is given "when students a) are currently passing a course or b) still have a reasonable hope of passing in the judgment of the instructor, but for non-academic reasons beyond their control have not completed a relatively small part of all requirements." A student with an F average who would have to get a 100 on the final to pass does not have a "reasonable hope" of passing; a student who has already missed exams or papers and is also unable to take the final exam or complete a final paper is NOT missing only a "relatively small part" of the requirements. Finally, having a lot of work to do is not a "non-academic" reason beyond the student's control.