

ECON 201–Intermediate Microeconomics

Course Information

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Office Hours: MWF–8:00a–9:00a, TR–8:30a–9:30a, and by appointment

Course Description

In Principles of Microeconomics you received an introduction to decision-making for individuals, firms, and government. This introduced you the concepts of key economic agents and the allocation of scarce resources in markets. This course expands on the topics you learn in a Principles course. In many ways, the topics are the same, but the level of complexity is drastically increased through the incorporation of algebra and calculus. This course serves as an intermediary between Principles and Graduate-level modeling of things like supply and demand and optimal decision-making.

Course Materials

There are plenty of materials that could be useful for this course. This section outlines some specific suggestions and highlights the required elements. It is expected that you will already have access to Canvas (canvas.emory.edu).

MyEconLab (Required)

MyEconLab will be used for our graded quizzes and provide ample practice throughout the semester. Purchasing MyEconLab also comes with access to an online version of our textbook (see below), which you will be expected to read independently and use for study. A link to our specific MyEconLab course can be found on Canvas.

Access for MyEconLab can be purchased at the bookstore or independently through the publisher when registering.

Textbook (Optional)

Our textbook this semester will be: *Microeconomics* (8th Edition) by Robert Pindyck and Daniel Rubinfeld (ISBN-13: 978-0132857123). You do not need a physical copy of the book, however, if you prefer reading on paper as opposed to digitally, this may be a good option for you. The bookstore will be selling a physical version of the book bundled with access to MyEconLab, if this is what you want. Should you choose to buy independently through another source, the ISBN above will guide you to the correct choice.

Coursework

This course will be graded based on percentages assigned to coursework. All coursework can be divided into three categories: Quizzes, Participation, and Exams.

Quizzes

I will assign graded quizzes over the course of the semester, typically once per week. Your score across all of these quizzes will account for 33% of your overall final grade. Quizzes will always be due Sunday at 11:59 pm and the due dates will fall the Sunday after we have completed all of the necessary material. For example, the one of your first quizzes this semester will cover a calculus review, Chapter 1, and Chapter 2. If we finish Chapter 2 on Thursday, August 31, then the corresponding quiz will be due Sunday, September 3.

No quiz makeups will be allowed as they are online, so be sure to plan your week accordingly and work ahead, if need be. You will have one attempt on each quiz so be sure to check your answers prior to submission on MyEconLab and have a stable internet connection. Your attempt will be 2 hours long to give you ample time and quizzes will be open book and open note. Prior to each quiz, I have developed practice homework assignments that mirror what you will see on the graded quiz; use these practice to prepare and ask me for questions prior to the graded portion.

Participation

Periodically, I will distribute worksheets with practice problems and questions in class which will account for 17% of your final grade. You will be given class time to work through these worksheets and must submit them within a set time limit. This time limit will vary based on the length and style of worksheet handed out. They can be completed individually or in groups, though each student is expected to submit their own responses individually.

Worksheets will not happen every class period, but more than one may happen in a given class. Each is meant to provide you with feedback on your understanding of course material and allow me to see what content may need to be discussed further. *Participation worksheets can only be completed for points in class.*¹

The manner that each worksheet will be graded will be clearly stated at the top of each worksheet and each participation activity will be worth 10 points (to ensure each activity is weighted equally towards the 17% of your final grade.). Grading will work one of two ways:

1. "Participation Only"

This grading style will be used most often for open-ended questions that ask you to analyze a given concept. You will receive a 10 if you complete this worksheet and 0 otherwise.

2. "Answer-Driven"

This grading style will be more common and correspond to worksheets where there is a correct answer. If your answer is perfect, you will receive 10 points. If your answer is not perfect, but you are close, you will receive 5 points. If your answer is not very close, you will receive 0 points.

If you receive a 5 or a 0, you will have the opportunity to make up some points. If you resubmit the participation worksheet and all answers are correct, your grade will be increased to a 7.5 and 5, respectively.

¹If you have a documented university excuse or medical hardship, please contact me when you will be missing class so we can discuss options.

Exams

You will have three exams this semester, each of which will be worth 100 points. Exams are held approximately once every five weeks. The first two exams will only cover new material while the last exam (Final Exam) will be cumulative in nature.

Exams will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer. Most questions will be designed to directly reflect those seen in participation worksheets, practice homework, graded quizzes, lectures, the book, and class discussions. Exams will be taken in class; please check the course schedule and calendar on Canvas for these dates.

Grading

With three types of coursework, the score breakdown for the course is as follows:

Item	Percentage Contribution
Quizzes	33%
Participation	17%
Exams	50%
Total	100 %

Final grades for the course will be determined exclusively based on the percentages you earn across all coursework for the semester. *No rounding will occur after the semester, no matter how close you come to a threshold for a higher grade.* In order to earn each letter grade, you must earn *at least* the percentage listed in the following table:

Letter Grade	Necessary Percentage	Letter Grade	Necessary Percentage
A	93%	C+	77%
A–	90%	C	70%
B+	87%	D	60%
B	83%	F	0%
B–	80%		

Expectations

In order to maximize the amount of learning for everyone, there are some rules I expect everyone to follow throughout the semester. These expectations should be treated like a contract and your continued registration in the course constitutes an acceptance of these terms. Failing to follow these will result in a penalty at the discretion of the instructor.

Conduct

Students are expected to be respectful to one another and the instructor at all times. This includes (but is not limited to) class responses, submitted assignments, interactions with students on Canvas, and class discussions. Likewise, I will always treat you with respect during class and other interactions. At times in this course, opinions will be elicited and often times one student's opinion will differ from those of another. These differences will be discussed in a respectful fashion and each student is entitled to his or her opinion.

I treat this course as a “two-way” street. My goal is to provide the best education possible for you while covering the topics that need to be discussed prior to semester’s end. If at any point you have suggestions or comments, I welcome them. If I am going too fast in class, or too slow, say so. If something is unclear, ask for clarification or help. I will not be able to adjust things without knowing about them.

Electronic devices are all around us and learning to responsibly use those devices is important. In class, refrain from using cell phones. If you need to make a call or respond to a message, step out of class as these actions are distracting to those around you. If you want, you may use a laptop/tablet to take notes, though keep the use of these to electronic devices to class-related learning.

Academic Honesty

The Honor Code is strictly enforced in this class. Academic dishonesty may include giving or receiving help on exams, plagiarizing material, copying another student’s work, and more. Please familiarize yourself with the [Honor Code](#). Violations of the Honor Code will result in a penalty at the discretion of the instructor, but will typically result in the automatic award of an ‘F’ for the course.

Attendance and Communication

Any changes to the course will be made via Canvas announcements. Check these often, especially if you must miss class. You are expected to attend class, and will be directed to fellow classmates should you miss some time.

If something happens to prevent you from fully participating in class, communicate this with me immediately. In such moments, we can figure out a plan of action to ensure that the course remains manageable to you.

All assignments (with the exception of exams) and course material can be found on Canvas. Check Canvas often to make sure that you are keeping up.

Accommodations

The Office of Accessibility Services (OAS) works with students who have disabilities to provide reasonable accommodations. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, students must contact OAS and complete the registration process. Faculty may not provide disability accommodations until an accommodation letter has been processed; accommodations are not retroactive. Students registered with OAS who receive a letter outlining specific academic accommodations are strongly encouraged to coordinate a meeting time with their professor to discuss a protocol to implement the accommodations as needed throughout the semester. This meeting should occur as early in the semester as possible. Contact OAS for more information at (770) 784-4690 or oas_oxford@emory.edu. Additional information is available at the OAS website at <http://equityandinclusion.emory.edu/access/students/index.html>.

Religious Holiday Arrangements

Instructors are encouraged, not required, to accommodate students’ academic needs related to religious holidays. Please make every effort to negotiate your religious holiday needs within the first two weeks of the semester; waiting longer may compromise your instructors ability to extend satisfactory arrangements. If you need guidance negotiating your needs related to a religious

holiday, the College Chaplain, Rev. Lyn Pace, ppace@emory.edu, Candler Hall 202, is willing and available to help. Please be aware that Rev. Pace is not tasked with excusing students from classes or writing excuses for students to take to their professors. Emorys official list of religious holidays may be found at http://www.religiouslife.emory.edu/faith_traditions/holidays.html.

Course Structure and Schedule

On Canvas and as a separate document, I will outline the schedule for this course. This schedule is tentative and I reserve the right to amend the schedule at any time. When changes are made, I will update Canvas and the separate Course Schedule, as well as describe the changes via Canvas announcement.