

Econ 101: Principles of Microeconomics

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN – MADISON

Monday and Wednesday 4:00 – 5:15 pm, B10 Ingraham
4 credit hours (traditional definition), General education, Face-to-face
instruction

This course is an introduction to the economic system and economic analysis with emphasis on demand and supply, relative prices, the allocation of resources and the distribution of goods and services, theory of consumer behavior, theory of the firm, and competition and monopoly, including the application of microeconomic analysis to contemporary problems. Students are expected to understand basic algebra as well as graphs.

Instructor

Name: Dr. Rebecca Glawtschew (Glŭf-chĕf)

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Phone: (608) 535-9336

Preferred Method of Communication: Email for student specific questions | Piazza for content questions

Expected Response Time: 1 business day

Communication

Email

Please send all email correspondence to rebecca.glawtschew@wisc.edu. Email subjects must adhere to the following structure: [Econ 101] email subject. I will not reply to any emails that fail to conform to that structure or that are sent through the Canvas system. Please address me as Dr. G. or Dr. Glawtschew.

Piazza

This course will use a tool called Piazza to help manage your questions and answers about the course. Piazza is a wiki-style discussion tool where you and your fellow students can post questions and collaborate to edit responses to these questions. We (your instructor and TAs) can also answer questions and endorse student answers. Find our class page [here](#) or click the Piazza button in Canvas on the left sidebar.

Course Announcements

I will make frequent announcements using the Canvas announcements tool. To be sure you receive these announcements you can set your canvas notification preferences to send you an email or a push notification when an announcement is posted.

Office Hours

Walk-in office hours

I will hold walk-in office hours on Mondays from 12:00 – 1:30 pm and on Wednesday from 10:30 am – 12:00 pm. These office hours are first come first serve. You do not need to make an appointment. You should feel free to stop by to ask questions, review material, or talk about any issue that you deem relevant to the course or economics in general.

Appointment-based office hours

I will also be available for appointment-based office hours on Fridays from 10:30 – 1:30 pm. Appointments are not available with less than 12 hours of notice. These appointments are 20 minutes and must be scheduled through Calendly at the following link: [Schedule Office Hours](#). We will meet in my office (Social Science, Room 7404)

Course Structure

This 4-credit course has two 75-minute lectures and one 50-minute discussion section per week. Students are expected to work approximately 8 hours per week outside of class to complete assignments and learn the relevant material.

Lecture

In lecture I will typically work through theory or applied problems. I will present material under the assumption that you have read the associated chapter in advance. PDFs of the lecture PowerPoints are available in advance on Canvas.

Discussion Section

Once a week you will meet with your TA for a 50-minute discussion section. TAs will begin each discussion section by providing an opportunity for students to ask questions stemming from lecture. For the remainder of the discussion section students will work through several relevant problems individually or in small groups, with guidance from the TA.

Attendance

Attendance in both lecture and discussion section is strongly encouraged but not required. Students are responsible for any missed material.

Schedule for a Typical Week

Most weeks of the semester will have the following schedule (with some exceptions surrounding exams):

Monday: Attend 75-minute lecture

Tuesday: Complete the relevant post lecture activity* by 11:59 pm (central time)

Wednesday: Attend 75-minute lecture

Thursday: Complete the relevant post lecture activity* by 11:59 pm (central time)

Thursday/Friday: Attend 50-minute discussion section

Sunday: Complete the problem set* by 11:59 pm (central time)

* Post lecture activities and problem sets are discussed in detail on [page 4](#).

Course Materials

Canvas

Canvas is the learning management system (LMS) for this course. All course materials will be accessed via Canvas. Provided materials include PDFs of the lecture PowerPoints, practice problems, practice exams, and links to other helpful resources.

Required Textbook and Materials

We will use the Cengage eText: *Principles of Microeconomics* by Mankiw, 9th edition and associated digital homework platform: MindTap. In this course Cengage | MindTap will be integrated into Canvas; this means that you will only access these materials from within Canvas. *Access to Cengage | MindTap is required*; you cannot complete the course without it.

A Cengage Unlimited subscription provides the lowest cost access to these required materials. For \$119.99 per semester, you get access to ALL Cengage online textbooks, platforms, study tools and more—in one place. \$7.99 print textbook rentals are also available. Many of you will use Cengage products in other courses this semester, so there is the possibility of some cost savings by purchasing the Unlimited subscription.

Visit the [welcome page](#) of our course in Canvas to learn more about how to register for Cengage Unlimited.

Course Topics

I expect to cover Chapters 1 through 18 in the *Principles of Microeconomics* by Mankiw, 9th edition. I reserve the right to make additions or subtractions based on the pace of the course. For a tentative schedule of when each chapter will be covered see pages 9 through 12.

Objectives/Learning Outcomes

This is a Quantitative Reasoning-B class. Any QR-B class teaches students to:

- Manipulate quantitative information to create models, and/or devise solutions to problems using multi-step arguments, based on and supported by quantitative information.
- Evaluate models and arguments using quantitative information.
- Express and interpret in context models, solutions and/or arguments using verbal, numerical, graphical algorithmic, computational or symbolic techniques.

Following the completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Explain basic economic concepts such as scarcity, opportunity cost, supply and demand, and market failure
- Recognize how households and firms respond to incentives and make economic decisions
- Identify and apply mathematical models to answer economic questions (QRB-1)
- Express relationships among economic variables verbally, graphically, and numerically (QRB-3)
- Read current news articles and recognize and critique economic arguments
- Apply marginal analysis and cost-benefit analysis in a variety of settings

Grading Policy

Your course grade will be weighted as follows:

Post Lecture Activities:	5%
Problem Sets:	20%
Midterm 1:	20%
Midterm 2:	20%
Final Exam:	35%

Grade Components

Post Lecture Activities (5%)

There will be approximately *22 post lecture activities* administered through the Atomic Assessments environment in Canvas. There will be a post lecture activity associated with most in-person lectures. Activities that follow a Monday lecture will be due on Tuesday at 11:59 pm; activities that follow a Wednesday lecture will be due on Thursday at 11:59 pm. These low stakes assignments are designed to get you applying the material from lecture right away. You have unlimited attempts on each question and you can check your work as you go by hitting the "Check Answer" button. The high score of your attempts will be calculated and recorded. When computing your post lecture activity average, I drop your two lowest scoring assignments. No credit will be awarded for late post lecture activities.

Problem Sets (20%)

There will be *18 problem sets* administered through Cengage | MindTap, one for each chapter of material covered. In the Cengage | MindTap system you can attempt each question up to 3 times. Most questions are algorithmic; this means that each attempt you make will be a different version of the question. The high score of your attempts will be calculated and recorded. When computing your problem set average, I drop your two lowest scoring assignments. No credit will be awarded for late problem sets.

Exams (75%)

There will be *two in-class midterm exams* (each 20% of course grade) and *one cumulative final exam* (35% of course grade). There are no make-ups for missed midterm exams. In the event of a missed midterm, the final exam will be reweighted to count for 45% of the course grade and the other midterm will be reweighted to count for 30%.

If you have a final exam conflict, please alert me within the first three weeks of the semester so that alternative plans can be made. There is no guarantee of an alternative exam time once this date has passed.

The anticipated chapters covered, dates, and times of these exams are as follows:

Midterm 1 (Chapters 1 – 6)	Monday, October 11 th	4:00 – 5:15 pm
Midterm 2 (Chapters 7 – 12)	Wednesday, November 10 th	4:00 – 5:15 pm
Final Exam (Cumulative)	Friday, December 17 th	7:45 – 9:45 am

McBurney Disability Resource Center

Exams for those students with documented accommodations will take place on the same day and start time as indicated above. Students with extended time on exams should take this into account when identifying final exam conflicts.

Grade Calculation

Anyone whose weighted course grade is as follows will receive *at least* the corresponding letter grade.

$$93 \leq A < 100$$

$$88 \leq AB < 93$$

$$83 \leq B < 88$$

$$78 \leq BC < 83$$

$$70 \leq C < 78$$

$$60 \leq D < 70$$

$$0 \leq F < 60$$

I will calculate final grades to two decimal places and assign letter grades based off that number. There will be no “rounding” or “grade bumps” granted. I will not respond to end of semester emails making such requests.

Grade Appeals

If you feel that you have been graded incorrectly on a post lecture activity, problem set, or exam, then you have two weeks from the due date of the graded material to bring this error to my attention. Beyond this point, the existing grade will remain.

Copywrite Policy

My lectures and course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, exams, problem sets, and similar materials, are protected by copyright. I am the exclusive owner of copyright in those materials I create. You may take notes and make copies of course materials for your own use. You may not and may not allow others to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly without my express written consent. Publicly distributing or helping others to publicly distribute copies or modified copies of my course materials without my consent is strictly prohibited and will be considered academic misconduct.

Statement on Covid-19

As the Spring 2021 semester concluded, it began to feel like the pandemic was nearing an end in Madison. During the summer months, I started to look forward to being back on campus – teaching, holding office hours, and seeing the bottom half of peoples’ faces. But as the Fall 2021 semester approached, that excitement morphed into uncertainty. With vaccination rates plateaued and case rates rising everywhere due to the much-more-transmissible delta variant, it seems the end of the pandemic is not as near as we had hoped.

University Mask Order

Effective Thursday, August 5, all students, employees and visitors to campus are required to wear masks when inside campus buildings. This means that *you must wear a mask to class and in-person office hours*. If you refuse to wear a mask during class or in-person office hours, you will be asked to leave. The UW-Madison Police Department is authorized to enforce the current mask order. Violations are subject to citation and fine under UWS Chapter 18.

Covid-19 Vaccine Information

The available Covid-19 vaccines offer good protection against infection and transmission, and excellent protection against serious cases leading to hospitalization and death. If Covid-19 case rates spike again in Madison this fall, it is entirely possible that classes will shift back online, bars and restaurants will close, large parties and events will be canceled, and we will all lose another year of our lives. *If you want this year to be anything close to normal, the best way to contribute to that is to get vaccinated.*

Schedule a Vaccine

If you are not vaccinated but want to be, here is a link to schedule an appointment at University Health Services: [Schedule your appointment now](#).

Vaccine Hesitancy

If you have questions or concerns about covid vaccines, I urge you to make an appointment with your doctor to talk about these concerns. Your family doctor back home or a doctor at UHS will have the most reliable and current medical information.

Covid-19 Information

Here are some sources for reliable information on COVID-19.

- [Center for Disease Control](#)
- [Public Health Madison & Dane County](#)
- [UW Covid-19 Response](#)
- Epidemiologists and other relevant professionals on social media: [Dear Pandemic](#) (FB, Twitter, IG) and [Your Local Epidemiologist](#)

Mental Health Impacts of Covid-19

The past eighteen months has been difficult in a variety of ways. Many of us have felt isolated; many have lost family members or close friends; many are mourning things we missed out on doing. The return to in-person instruction this Fall may also be challenging and disorienting after a full year of online learning, as will the return to “outside life” in an environment of uncertainty. *I urge you to take your mental health very seriously this semester.*

If you feel overwhelmed or depressed, you are not alone and there is no shame in feeling this way. Help is always available. UHS has a variety of free, confidential mental health services available for students.

- [UHS Mental Health page](#)
- [UHS Support Groups](#)
- [Access Appointment process](#) (phone call to connect with appropriate resources)
- [Virtual Wellness Resources](#)
- [SilverCloud](#): online, self-guided mental health resource available 24/7 (no referral needed)
- [24 hour crisis services](#): 608-265-5600

Economics Career Coordinator

If you would like to learn more about career and internship opportunities for economics students or discuss the career skills you learn as an economics major you are encouraged to meet with an econ career advisor by emailing econcareers@ssc.wisc.edu.

Misconduct Statement from the Department of Economics

Academic Integrity is critical to maintaining fair and knowledge-based learning at UW Madison. Academic dishonesty is a serious violation: it undermines the bonds of trust and honesty between members of our academic community, degrades the value of your degree and defrauds those who may eventually depend upon your knowledge and integrity.

Examples of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to: cheating on an examination (copying from another student's paper, referring to materials on the exam other than those explicitly permitted, continuing to work on an exam after the time has expired, turning in an exam for regrading after making changes to the exam), copying the homework of someone else, submitting for credit work done by someone else, stealing examinations or course materials, tampering with the grade records or with another student's work, or knowingly and intentionally assisting another student in any of the above. Students are reminded that online sources, including anonymous or unattributed ones like Wikipedia, still need to be cited like any other source; and copying from any source without attribution is considered plagiarism. The Dept. of Economics will deal with these offenses harshly following UWS14 procedures:

1. The penalty for misconduct in most cases will be removal from the course and a failing grade.
2. The department will inform the Dean of Students as required and additional sanctions may be applied.
3. The department will keep an internal record of misconduct incidents. This information will be made available to teaching faculty writing recommendation letters and to admission offices of the School of Business and Engineering.

If you think you see incidents of misconduct, you should tell your instructor about them, in which case they will take appropriate action and protect your identity. You could also choose to contact our administrator Tammy Herbst -Koel (therbst@wisc.edu) and your identity will be kept confidential. For more information, refer to <https://www.students.wisc.edu/doso/academic-integrity/>

Department of Economics Grievance Procedure

The Department of Economics has developed a grievance procedure through which you may register comments or complaints about a course, an instructor, or a teaching assistant. The Department continues to provide a course evaluation each semester in every class. If you wish to make anonymous complaints to an instructor or teaching assistant, the appropriate vehicle is the course evaluation. If you have a disagreement with an instructor or a teaching assistant, we strongly encourage you to try to resolve the dispute with him or her directly. The grievance procedure is designed for situations where neither of these channels is appropriate.

If you wish to file a grievance, you should go to room 7238 Social Science and request a Course Comment Sheet. When completing the comment sheet, you will need to provide a detailed statement that describes what aspects of the course you find unsatisfactory. You will need to sign the sheet and provide your student identification number, your address, and a phone where you can be reached. The Department plans to investigate comments fully and will respond in writing to complaints. Your name, address, phone number, and student ID number will not be revealed to the instructor or teaching assistant involved and will be treated as confidential. The Department needs this information, because it may become necessary for a commenting student to have a meeting with the department chair or a nominee to gather additional information. A name and address are necessary for providing a written response.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

McBurney Disability Resource Center syllabus statement: “The University of Wisconsin-Madison supports the right of all enrolled students to a full and equal educational opportunity. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Wisconsin State Statute (36.12), and UW-Madison policy (Faculty Document 1071) require that students with disabilities be reasonably accommodated in instruction and campus life. Reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities is a shared faculty and student responsibility. Students are expected to inform faculty [me] of their need for instructional accommodations by the end of the third week of the semester, or as soon as possible after a disability has been incurred or recognized. Faculty [I], will work either directly with the student [you] or in coordination with the McBurney Center to identify and provide reasonable instructional accommodations. Disability information, including instructional accommodations as part of a student's educational record, is confidential and protected under FERPA.”

<http://mcburney.wisc.edu/facstaffother/faculty/syllabus.php>

Diversity & Inclusion

Institutional statement on diversity: “Diversity is a source of strength, creativity, and innovation for UW-Madison. We value the contributions of each person and respect the profound ways their identity, culture, background, experience, status, abilities, and opinion enrich the university community. We commit ourselves to the pursuit of excellence in teaching, research, outreach, and diversity as inextricably linked goals.

The University of Wisconsin-Madison fulfills its public mission by creating a welcoming and inclusive community for people from every background – people who as students, faculty, and staff serve Wisconsin and the world.”
<https://diversity.wisc.edu/> Notice to Students with Disabilities.

Mental Health and Violence Prevention Resources

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning. These might include strained relationships, anxiety, high levels of stress, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, or loss of motivation. University Health Services is here to help with these or other issues you may experience. You can learn about the free, confidential mental health services available on campus by calling 608-265-5600 or visiting uhs.wisc.edu. Help is always available.

Experiences of sexual assault, sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking affect many students on this campus and can create barriers to learning. UW-Madison is committed to fostering a safe, productive learning environment and offers a variety of resources and options for students impacted by violence. Learn about the free, confidential services available on campus and in the community by visiting www.uhs.wisc.edu/assault.

Anticipated Course Schedule


September 2021

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Course Introduction & Chapter 1	9 Week 1.1 Post Lecture Activity Due	10	11	12 Chapter 1 Problem Set Due
13 Chapter 2	14 Week 2.1 Post Lecture Activity Due	15 Chapter 3	16 Week 2.2 Post Lecture Activity Due	17	18	19 Chapter 2 & 3 Problem Sets Due
20 Chapter 4	21 Week 3.1 Post Lecture Activity Due	22 Chapter 4	23 Week 3.2 Post Lecture Activity Due	24	25	26 Chapter 4 Problem Set Due
27 Chapter 5	28 Week 4.1 Post Lecture Activity Due	29 Chapter 5 & 6	30 Week 4.2 Post Lecture Activity Due			

October 2021

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1	2	3 Chapter 5 Problem Set Due
4 Chapter 6	5 Week 5.1 Post Lecture Activity Due	6 Review for Midterm 1	7	8	9	10 Chapter 6 Problem Set Due
11 Midterm 1 (Ch. 1 – 6)	12	13 Chapter 7	14 Week 6.1 Post Lecture Activity Due	15	16	17
18 Chapter 7 & 8	19 Week 7.1 Post Lecture Activity Due	20 Chapter 8	21 Week 7.2 Post Lecture Activity Due	22	23	24 Chapter 7 & 8 Problem Sets Due
25 Chapter 9	26 Week 8.1 Post Lecture Activity Due	27 Chapter 10	28 Week 8.2 Post Lecture Activity Due	29	30	31 Chapter 9 & 10 Problem Sets Due

November 2021

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1 Chapter 11	2 Week 9.1 Post Lecture Activity Due	3 Chapter 12	4 Week 9.2 Post Lecture Activity Due	5	6	7 Chapter 11 & 12 Problem Sets Due
8 Review for Midterm 2	9	10 Midterm 2 (Ch. 7-12)	11	12	13	14
15 Chapter 13	16 Week 11.1 Post Lecture Activity Due	17 Chapter 13 & 14	18 Week 11.2 Post Lecture Activity Due	19	20	21 Chapter 13 Problem Set Due
22 Chapter 14	23 Week 12.1 Post Lecture Activity Due	24 Optional Chapter 14 In-Class Activity	25  Happy Thanksgiving!	26	27	28 Chapter 14 Problem Set Due
29 Chapter 15	30 Week 13.1 Post Lecture Activity Due					

December 2021

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1 Chapter 16	2 Week 13.2 Post Lecture Activity Due	3	4	5 Chapter 15 & 16 Problem Sets Due
6 Chapter 17	7 Week 14.1 Post Lecture Activity Due	8 Chapter 18	9 Week 14.1 Post Lecture Activity Due	10	11	12 Chapter 17 & 18 Problem Sets Due
13 Final Exam Review	14	15 Informal Q&A Session	16	17 Final Exam (Cumulative)	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		