

Econ 200: Introduction to Microeconomics

Section I

Syllabus

Instructor: Yufei Liao

Lectures: Mon/Wed 6:30 - 8:20 PM@Smith Hall 404

(Lecture slides will be uploaded to Canvas)

Office Hours (via Zoom): Tue/Thurs 4-5 PM

Zoom link: <https://washington.zoom.us/j/7903666816>

Email: yliao31@uw.edu

Topics and Schedule

Tradeoff and Choices (Week 1), Supply and Demand (Week 2-4), Market Interventions (Week 6), Production and Costs (Week 7), Perfectly Competitive Markets (Week 8), Monopoly and Imperfect Competition (Week 9-10).

Textbook and Homework

The required textbook is Microeconomics, 3rd edition, by Karlan and Morduch. You are also required to purchase the associated access to the publisher's online homework site (MH Connect). You can purchase the bundled e-book and website access in the MH Connect section on Canvas. A two-week free trial is available for those who are unsure about continuing in the class.

Grading

Grades will be calculated based on the following:

Exams (60%)

Homework (15%)

Writing Assignments (20%)

Smartbook Assignments (5%)

Final grades will be curved if necessary for the median grade of the class to be between 2.9 and 3.1.

Important Dates

Homework is due in MH Connect by 11:59 pm every Friday except the Friday after Exam 1.

Smartbook Assignments are due in MH Connect by every Thursday at 11:59 pm.

Writing Assignments are due in Canvas by 10/24, 11/21 and 12/10 at 11:59 pm.

Exams are on 11/3 (Exam 1) and 12/15 (Tentative, Exam 2), in-person, during regular class time. They are non-cumulative.

Resources

Please come to office hours for any question you might have about the class, assignments, or homework. You are also welcomed to check the lecture videos posted by Professor Melissa for her section (200A). Free tutoring is available from the Department of Economics (by the Economics Undergraduate Board).

Academic Integrity

You are expected to show your own work for every assignment and exam. It is your responsibility to be aware of the rules and not consult any outside resources during exams. Suspected violations of this policy will be taken seriously and reported to the student conduct office. You will also receive a zero for the exam. Additionally, writing assignments will be submitted through a plagiarism checker in Canvas.

Class Format

Each week, you will need to read chapters from the textbook and finish the Smartbook Assignments at the end of each chapter on MH Connect. They are graded based on completeness, due by every Thursday. I will cover those chapters in the in-person lectures on Monday and Wednesday, with the expectation that you have read them beforehand. A problem set (on MH Connect) will be assigned as homework and due by every Friday.

There will be three writing assignments throughout the quarter, where you will describe the issues presented in the article that you find, and then summarize how the material taught in class explains the information, events, or phenomenon in the article. Check the writing assignments section in Canvas for detail.

Office hour is remote through Zoom. If you have difficulty coming to office hour, feel free to make an appointment through email.

Makeup Policies and Flexibility

Your lowest homework score and two lowest Smartbook Assignments score will

be dropped before the final grade is calculated. For any other reason, you will not be given an extension for your assignment but get a zero and that score will be dropped, given that you have finished all other assignments. Any technical issue regarding to MH Connect should be consulted with their tech support as soon as possible. (Start the homework early)

Writing assignments can be submitted up to 3 days late, with a 10% per day grade penalty (A 3-day late assignment will receive 70% of the score it would have received if turned in before the due date).

If you are ill and must miss an exam, please contact me immediately to receive information about the makeup exam. Makeup exam for exam 1 is scheduled for 11/17 (Exact time TBA). Please send me an email as soon as possible if you need a makeup exam for exam 2.

Safety

Masks must always be worn properly while you are in class. You must stay home if you are sick, have COVID-19 symptoms, or if you test positive for COVID-19.

If you are on campus and need to buy a mask, look for a Healthy Huskies Vending Machine. (<https://www.washington.edu/coronavirus/healthy-huskies-vending/>)

Notify UW Environmental Health & Safety if you test positive for COVID-19 or have close contact with an individual who has tested positive. **This requirement applies even if you're fully vaccinated.** Additional details are in the FAQ.

(<https://www.washington.edu/coronavirus/faq/#health>)

Eating is not allowed in the classroom. Hydration is important and intermittently consuming water or other beverages in the classroom is allowed.

Accommodations

Students who have established services with Disability Resources for Students (DRS) should contact me about their accommodations as soon as possible.

Students with disabilities who have not yet established services with DRS should contact them at disability.uw.edu to set up an Access Plan.

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.

(<https://registrar.washington.edu/staffandfaculty/religious-accommodations-policy/>)

Accommodations must be requested within the first two weeks of this course using the Religious Accommodations Request form.

(<https://registrar.washington.edu/students/religious-accommodations-request/>)