

ECON 300 A Su 23: Intermediate Microeconomics

“Tell me, and I forget. Teach me, and I remember. *Involue* me, and I learn.” Benjamin Franklin

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Class: Mon Wed 9:40 – 11:50 AM, [Architecture Hall G070](#)
OH: Tue 1– 2 PM, SAV 319 H or 319 D (check both)
Web: <https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1643420>

Economics 300 is the intermediate course in microeconomic theory. We analyze changes in the behavior of individuals and firms in response to changes in the constraints they face. This course will stress the applications of elementary economic theory to real-world issues and problems. Analytical reasoning and mathematical modeling based on fundamental principles are emphasized throughout. This is a scientific course: we shall be concerned with explanations of real-world events. This course presents the conceptual foundations and analytical methods of microeconomics. This course will equip you with the tools and comprehension to write reports or conduct research using modern microeconomic theory. Correspondingly, mastery of the material covered in the course will help you critically evaluate the microeconomic content of the work of others.

The mathematical prerequisite for this course is **a strong background in calculus**. The textbook for the course is **the 5th edition of Microeconomics: Theory and Applications with Calculus by Jeffrey Perloff**, with an access code required for the companion MyEconLab website.

We will proceed as follows. We will cover Chapters 1 - 5, dealing with consumer behavior, demand theory, and the interaction of supply and demand in market settings during the first five weeks. We will then cover most of the material in Chapters 6 - 9, 11, 13, and 14 dealing with production and costs, supply in competitive markets, monopoly, and imperfect competition. The detailed schedule is attached in a later section.

2. Grades

Grades will be assigned as follows. The weekly **MyEconLab** homework will count for 25% of the course grade, class involvement counting for up to 8% of the course grade (**+ 3% additional**), and the two exams counting for 70% of the course grade. Please mark the dates on your own calendar. Late assignments will **not** be accepted. Exams are all **in-person**.

Task	%	Details
MyEconLab Homework	25%	Almost every Wed midnight
Midterm Exam (90 mins)	35%	Jul 24 (chapters 1-7)
Final Exam (90 mins)	35%	Aug 16 (chapters 8,9,11,13,14)
Class Involvement	8%	You get 5% by showing up to class; I call names on random days (mixed strategy). You get the extra 3% ONLY if you participate in class discussions
+	103%	This is not all ☺

This course will be graded on a curve. The good news is that if you really study and attend to the assigned problem sets, there is no way you will not do well. One cannot learn this material in a short amount of time, right before the exams. Don't even think about it! Working through practice questions is essential for superior performance in class. Economics is learned through practice, not through memorization.

3. Class Plan and COVID-Related Issues

In ECON 300D, lectures will be offered **in-person**. Lectures will not be recorded, but lecture slides will be available for viewing on Canvas. Assignments must be submitted via **Pearson MyLab Economics**. Office hours will be held **in person**.

4. Policy on Academic Conduct

The University takes academic integrity very seriously. Behaving with integrity is part of our responsibility to our shared learning community. If you're uncertain about if something is academic misconduct, ask me. I am willing to discuss questions you might have.

Acts of academic misconduct may include but are not limited to:

- Cheating (working collaboratively on quizzes/exams and discussion submissions, sharing answers, and previewing quizzes/exams)
- Plagiarism (representing the work of others as your own without giving appropriate credit to the original author(s))
- Unauthorized collaboration (working with each other on assignments)

Concerns about these or other behaviors prohibited by the Student Conduct Code will be referred for investigation and adjudication by (include information for specific campus office). Students found to have engaged in academic misconduct may receive a **zero** on the assignment (or other possible outcomes).

Cheating of any kind may result in expulsion from the University. The Department will follow University policy in case of academic misconduct. I strongly recommend that you review the Dept. of Economics policy at <https://econ.washington.edu/policy-academic-conduct>

5. Religious Accommodations Policy

Washington state law requires that UW develop a policy for the 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 requesting 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/>).

6. Disability Accommodations Statement

Your experience in this class is important to me. It is the policy and practice of the University of Washington to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law. If you have already established accommodations with Disability Resources for Students (DRS), please activate your accommodations via myDRS so we can discuss how they will be implemented in this course.

If you have not yet established services through DRS but have a temporary health condition or permanent disability that requires accommodations (conditions include but are not limited to; mental

health, attention-related, learning, vision, hearing, physical or health impacts), contact DRS directly to set up an Access Plan. DRS facilitates the interactive process that establishes reasonable accommodations. Contact DRS at disability.uw.edu.

7. Schedule (Subject to Change)

Class	Date	What is up?
0	Jun 21	No class
1	Jan 26	Welcome, Ice break & Chapter 1; Introduction
2	Jan 28	Chapter 2; Supply and Demand
3	Jul 3	Chapter 3; A Consumer's Constrained Choice
4	Jul 5	Chapter 4; Demand
5	Jul 10	Chapter 5; Consumer Welfare and Policy Analysis
6	Jul 12	Chapter 6; Firms and Production
7	Jul 17	Chapter 7; Costs
8	Jul 19	Review
	Jul 24	Midterm Exam
9	Jul 26	Chapter 8; Competitive Firms and Markets
10	Jul 31	Chapter 9; Properties and Applications of the Competitive Model <i>- we might skip this chapter</i>
11	Aug 2	Chapter 11; Monopoly and Monopsony
12	Aug 7	Chapter 13; Game Theory
13	Aug 9	Chapter 14; Oligopoly and Monopolistic Competition
14	Aug 14	Review
	Aug 16	Final Exam