

University of Minnesota
Principles of Microeconomics (Econ 1101)
Summer 2023
June 5th to June 30th

Lecture: M Tu W Th 4:40 pm – 7:40 pm
Discussion: Tu 3:30 pm – 4:20 pm
Course credits: 4 credits

Contact Information

Instructors:

Daniel Belchior (first two weeks) belch074@umn.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 11am – 12pm

Sara Canilang (last two weeks) canil007@umn.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 10am – 11am

Discussion Leader / Teaching assistant

Ruyan Liao liao0330@umn.edu
Office Hours: Friday 1pm – 3pm

Short description of the course

This is a 4-week online course on introductory Microeconomics. The main goal is to understand at a very intuitive level how agents make decisions as buyers of goods and services and as sellers of those goods and services and how these different agents interact in many different market structures. We are taking what is covered in a week during the fall or spring semester, and we are covering it in one (1) day. The lectures are 3 hours a day, 4 days a week (M Tu W Th). The discussion periods are 50 minutes long on Tuesdays before lecture. The course is entirely online; we will meet on Zoom (see the Canvas page for the link). Your grade is made up of online homework assignments through MindTap, and two multiple choice exams through Proctorio. You need a working webcam and a microphone for lectures and the exams, and you need an online access code for the homework. All class announcements will be made via Canvas. Please check Canvas daily.

Homework is all done through MindTap

All students are required to register with MindTap to complete their homework assignments. See the link 'Setting up MindTap' (available on the home page of the course) for instructions on how to get set up with MindTap correctly.

Course Mechanics

The midterm and final exam are **all multiple choice and will be held during class.**

There are 11 homework assignments, and these will all be completed through MindTap, an online homework system created by Cengage. Students are required to get access to MindTap to enroll in the class because that is how all the homework will be completed. We were told that your enrollment in the course has inclusive access to MindTap. Therefore, you do not need to purchase anything on your own. If you buy an online version of the textbook with access to MindTap you will be buying it twice. You should not have any problems accessing Cengage contents once you create your account. However, if you encounter some issues, please register for their Office Hours (https://www.cengage.com/coursepages/UMN_ECON) and they will help you.

The textbook is: Mankiw, N. Gregory, *Principles of Microeconomics*, 9th Edition, Cengage Learning.

In addition to the text, there are several additional readings and links to these readings are available at the course web site.

Course Schedule

Week	Day	Date	Chapters	Topic	HW due
1	M	6/5	1, 2	Intro	
1	Tu	6/6	4	Supply & Demand	HW1
1	W	6/7	5	Elasticity	HW 2
1	Th	6/8	6,7	Government and Welfare Analysis	HW 3
1	F	6/9	No class		HW 4 and HW 4.1 and HW 4.2
2	M	6/12	8, 10	Taxation and Externalities	
2	Tu	6/13	3, 9	Gains from trade and International Trade	HW 4.3 and HW 5
2	W	6/14	REVIEW	Review	HW 6
2	Th	6/15	MIDTERM		
2	F	6/16	No class	Grades are posted and discussed	
3	M	6/19		No class (Holiday)	
3	Tu	6/20	11, 21	Types of Goods and Consumer Theory	HW 7
3	W	6/21	13, 14	Costs of Production and Competitive Firms	HW 7
3	Th	6/22	15	Monopoly	HW 8
3	F	6/23	No class		HW 9
4	M	6/26	17	Oligopolies and Game Theory	
4	Tu	6/27	18, 19	Markets for Factors of Production and Earnings and Discrimination	HW 10
4	W	6/28	22, REVIEW	Asymmetric Information and Review	HW 11

4	Th	6/29	FINAL	
4	F	6/30	No class	Grades are posted

The HW is set up so that the homework on a lecture is due one day after the lecture. For example, if Supply and Demand is covered on Tuesday, the HW on Supply and Demand is due Wednesday night.

Prerequisites

Students are expected to have skills in algebra and the ability to work with graphs. For example, students should be comfortable finding the slope of a line and the area of a triangle on a graph. Homework Set 1 includes a practice problem (i.e., it is not graded) for a review of these skills.

Canvas Site

The basic information for the class, including the links for the homework at MindTap, will be posted at the class Canvas site, which each student can access at <http://myu.umn.edu>. The slides will be posted at this site as well as other course materials.

The Canvas site will also be used to conduct interactive forums, where students can interact online with instructors and other students. The *Forum for Students Questions* is a place where questions can be posted about course material as well as administrative matters. *Economics in the News* is a place where instructors post news articles related to the topics in the class. Students are encouraged to post comments and additional articles.

Details about Exams, Homework, and Grading.

The midterm date and time of the midterms and final are as follows:

Midterm	Thursday, June 15, 4:40 p.m. - 7:40 p.m.
Final Exam	Thursday, June 29, 4:40 p.m. - 7:40 p.m.

Homework

All homework is completed at MindTap at 11:40pm CST of the respective due day. Make sure you check the deadline with the exact time (and time-zone!). Late homework will not be accepted. Students traveling to a different time zone should take note that the deadline is central time (CST).

Homework Policy Regarding Illness and Special Circumstances

In a large operation such as this, it is to be expected that there will be students who become ill or face some other special circumstances that prevent them from completing a problem set at the

allotted time. To accommodate students in such situations, **we drop your two lowest scored homework**, and the homework grade will use only the nine highest homework scores. If a student is ill and cannot submit the homework on time, this homework will be dropped (assuming the student submits at least nine other homework by the end of the course). **Students are not encouraged to finish homework before the last minute of the deadline**, in case something unexpected comes up that prevents them from completing homework at the last minute. In that way, the student can save a homework drop for later use. But since we drop the two lowest grades, we do not give deadline extensions to the homework assignments.

Course Grade

The overall numerical course score will be determined as follows:

Course Component	Percent of grade
Homework	40 %
Midterm	25 %
Final	35 %
Total	100 %

The numerical course grade will be converted to a letter grade according to the following scale:

Percentage	Letter
92-100	A
90-91	A-
88-89	B+
82-87	B
80-81	B-
78-79	C+
72-77	C
70-71	C-
68-69	D+
60-67	D
59 and below	F

INSTRUCTIONAL TIME AND STUDENT EFFORT:

For undergraduate courses, one credit is defined as equivalent to three hours of additional work per week for the course, for students to achieve an average grade. This implies that you should put in at least 12 additional hours per week on this course, along with attending class for 12 hours per week.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENT AND SKILLS

These technical requirements will allow you to access the Canvas site successfully, send/receive online communications, complete assigned activities, and view multimedia content.

- A U of M internet ID (your official U of M email address)
- Reliable, high-speed Internet access
- A supported web browser (Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome are strongly recommended; if you're a Mac user and you like Safari, you may run into problems at some point)
- Laptop, desktop, or tablet with a webcam

You are expected to have the ability to use the following technologies: online course site navigation through CANVAS, assignment submission and exam taking in Canvas, Microsoft Office suite tools such as Word, PowerPoint, and Excel (or equivalents), and online collaboration and presentation tools. Technical support is available at the UMN [IT help site](#). Information on campus [computer labs and learning spaces](#) are available. The Information Technology page [Working and Learning Off Campus](#) is for students who need help with technology issues.

It is recommended that students use a desktop or laptop computer less than six years old with at least 1GB of RAM and use the most recent version of Chrome or Firefox with JavaScript enabled. Internet connections should be at least 512kbps.

We ask you to turn on your computer camera/video during class; it helps the instructor and builds classroom community. Please keep your audio turned off in Zoom and turn it on when asking questions or participating in class discussions.

All communication about this course will come to you through Canvas or email. During the first week of class, please make sure you set your notifications so that you receive course information. This is your responsibility.

There are two exams for the course (dates and details mentioned before), to be taken via Zoom. In case of computer malfunction (losing internet connection and other problems), please send us an email at once, and we will get back to you with steps to follow. Technical issues will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

We will not grant due date extensions in response to problems you may have with the devices or services you're using. If your personal computer does not have the necessary capabilities to complete the activities and assignments for this course, or if you experience difficulties with your internet connection, you must find alternative computer resources (link mentioned above).

Technical Support for Canvas:

For tips and information about Canvas visit the Canvas Guide Using Help - Student: <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328>.

Technical Support for MindTap

If you have technical issues with MindTap, do not expect that we know how to solve those issues. Instead, use Cengage Office Hours, which you can find here: https://www.cengage.com/coursepages/UMN_ECON.

Student Privacy

In this class, our use of technology through Canvas will sometimes make students' names and U of M Internet IDs visible within the course website, but only to other students in the same class. Since we are using a secure, password-protected course website, this will not increase the risk of identity theft or spamming for anyone in the class. If you have concerns about the visibility of your Internet ID, then we recommend that you modify your Profile setting to limit the visibility of this information.

When communicating through online forums, students are expected to maintain the same high standards of etiquette that would be expected in the classroom. Students must be respectful of the other course participants, including fellow students as well as instructors and teaching assistants. Students must only use appropriate language that is not offensive.

APPROPRIATE USE OF COURSE MATERIALS

Sharing course materials with anyone outside of the class is a violation of intellectual property per Item 6 of the [U of M policy on student responsibilities](#). Please do not share any course material with anyone else.

A note on AI tools

Artificial intelligence (AI) language models, such as ChatGPT, and online assignment help tools, such as Chegg®, are examples of online learning support platforms: they cannot be used for course assignments, or exams. The following actions are prohibited in this course:

- Submitting all or any part of an assignment/paper/exam statement from an online learning support platform.
- Incorporating any part of an AI generated response in an assignment.
- Using AI to brainstorm, formulate arguments, or template ideas for assignments.
- Using AI to summarize or contextualize source materials.
- Submitting your own work for this class to an online learning support platform for iteration or improvement.

If you are in doubt as to whether you are using an online learning support platform appropriately in this course, please discuss your situation with us.

Any assignment content composed by any resource other than you, regardless of whether that resource is human or digital, must be attributed to the source through proper citation. (Examples of citing content composed by digital tools are presented in: libguides.umn.edu/chatgpt [or provide an alternative reference appropriate for your class].)

Unattributed use of online learning support platforms and unauthorized sharing of instructional property are forms of scholastic dishonesty and will be treated as such. Students may receive a score of zero if unauthorized AI tools are used in any assignment or exam that is graded.

Please consult the DUS, Dr. Simran Sahi, if you have questions. She can be reached at ssahi@umn.edu.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS -- PROCEDURES AND POLICIES 2023

CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:

Written answers to homework assignments must be typed; Graphs and numerical work need not be typed but should be legible.

COURSE PREREQUISITES:

Students are expected to have successfully completed all prerequisites prior to taking an Economics course.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Reasonable accommodations will be provided for all students with documented disabilities (by the DRC). Contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to work out details. This information will be kept confidential.

STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH AND STUDENT COUNSELING SERVICES:

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce a student's ability to participate in daily activities. University of Minnesota services are available to assist you with addressing these and other concerns. Information about confidential mental health services is available at: <https://boynton.umn.edu/clinics/mental-health>. Student Counseling Services website: <https://counseling.umn.edu/>

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, and relationship violence) includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and/or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Such behavior is prohibited in the University setting.

Per the [U of M policy on sexual harassment](#), *I am required to share information that I learn about possible sexual misconduct* with the campus Title IX office. Within the requirements of my job, I will be as responsive as possible to your requests for confidentiality and support. You can also, or alternately, choose to talk with a confidential resource that will not share information that they learn about sexual misconduct. Confidential resources include [The Aurora Center](#), [Boynton Mental Health](#), and [Student Counseling Services](#).

DROPPING A CLASS:

Termination of attendance alone is not sufficient to drop a class. You must notify the Registrar's office. Please contact your academic (college) adviser for details on this process and pay attention to University deadlines for add/drop.

INCOMPLETE GRADE:

Low class standing is not a valid reason for an Incomplete grade. An I is given only in exceptional circumstances like family emergencies or hospitalization; arrangements must be worked out between the student and instructor before the final exam. We require written proof of emergencies. Details about I grades and how to make it up are to be decided by the Instructor and student; you need to fill out the form.

MAKE-UP EXAMS:

Make up exams are possible for the final exam only if the student has another exam scheduled at the same time or has three exams within a 16 hour period. This should be pre-arranged with the instructor at least three weeks before the final exam. Make up final exams may also be possible for documented medical emergencies.

SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY:

"The College of Liberal Arts defines scholastic dishonesty broadly as any act by a student that misrepresents the student's own academic work or that compromises the academic work of another. Examples include cheating on assignments or exams, plagiarizing (misrepresenting as one's own anything done by another), unauthorized collaboration on assignments or exams, or sabotaging another student's work".

The University Student Conduct Code defines scholastic dishonesty as “Submission of false records of academic achievement; cheating on assignments or examinations; plagiarizing; altering, forging, or misusing a University academic record; taking, acquiring, or using text materials without faculty permission; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement.”

Penalties for scholastic dishonesty of any kind in any course will entail an "F" for the assignment/exam or the course.

Website for information on Student Academic Misconduct --
<https://communitystandards.umn.edu/avoid-violations/avoiding-scholastic-dishonesty>.

If you are interested in learning more about how to cite sources and avoid plagiarism, U of M libraries offers online [tutorials and tools related to citations](#). You can also visit the [Center for Writing](#) for additional assistance.

The use of ChatGPT or other AI tools in their papers, presentations, assignments, exams, or any graded material for undergraduate economics courses is in clear violation of the rules imposed by the Department of Economics. For more information, check the previous section about the appropriate use of course materials.

STUDENT CONDUCT AND CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR:

The University of Minnesota defines academic misconduct as any act by a student that misrepresents the student's own academic work or that compromises the academic work of another. Scholastic misconduct includes (but is not limited to) cheating on assignments or examinations, plagiarizing, i.e., misrepresenting as one's own work any work done by another, submitting the same paper, or substantially similar papers, to meet the requirement of more than one course without the approval and consent of the instructors concerned, or sabotaging another's work. Within this general definition, however, instructors determine what constitutes academic misconduct in the courses they teach. Students found guilty of academic misconduct face penalties ranging from lowering of the course grade or awarding a grade of F or N for the entire course, to suspension from the University.

Students are expected to contribute to a calm, productive, and learning environment. Check the Student Conduct Code: https://regents.umn.edu/sites/regents.umn.edu/files/2019-09/policy_student_conduct_code.pdf to find out what is expected of you.

STUDY ABROAD IN ECONOMICS:

The Department encourages you to undertake Study Abroad. There are many courses in foreign countries that can satisfy some economics major, minor, or Liberal Education requirements. For

more information, please contact our Undergraduate Advisers, Ms. Annie Bigley and Ms. Tiffany Kroeze Murphy, or the University's Learning Abroad Center at <http://www.umabroad.umn.edu/>.

UNDERGRADUATE ADVISERS:

Contact the Undergraduate Advisers if you wish to sign up for an Economics major or minor or to get information about institutions of higher study. Your APAS form will list your progress toward an Economics degree.

Adviser: Ms. Tiffany Kroeze Murphy and Ms. Annie Bigley (econadv@umn.edu); Sign up for appointments at econ.appointments.umn.edu

ECONOMICS UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM INFORMATION:

Available on the Internet at: <https://cla.umn.edu/economics/undergraduate>. Registration policies are listed in the University Course Schedules and College Bulletins.

COMPLAINTS OR CONCERNS ABOUT COURSES:

All course grades are subject to department review.

Please contact your instructor or TA if you have any complaints/concerns about the course. If your concerns are not resolved after talking with your instructor, you can contact Professor Simran Sahi, Director of Undergraduate Studies. Her e-mail is: ssahi@umn.edu