

Principles of Microeconomics

Spring 2024 Course Syllabus

Course Information

<i>Course Number/Section</i>	ECON 2302 Section 003
<i>Course Title</i>	Principles of Microeconomics
<i>Term</i>	Spring 2024
<i>Meeting Schedule</i>	Tuesday / Thursday 1:00 – 2:15 PM CT
<i>Location</i>	Founders Building (FO) 2.208

Professor Contact Information

<i>Professor</i>	Dr. Trey Miller, Associate Professor of Economics
<i>Email Address</i>	tmiller@utdallas.edu
<i>Office Hours</i>	TTH 2:30-3:30 PM CT in Green 3.524 or via Microsoft Teams by appointment. I respond to student emails within 3 business days. Please include “ECON 2302.003” and your full name in the subject line in any email.

Teaching Assistant and Contact Information

<i>Teaching Assistant</i>	Fatema Tuj Johra
<i>Email Address</i>	fatematuj.johra@utdallas.edu
<i>Office Hours</i>	TBD

<i>SI Leader</i>	Sharvari Pendharkar
<i>Email Address</i>	sharvari.pendharkar@utdallas.edu
<i>Time</i>	TBD

Course Description

Economics 2302 is an introductory course in principles of economics. The purpose of the course is to introduce the core concepts from microeconomics and their application. The social science of economics is the study of how resources are allocated under conditions of scarcity. Microeconomics concerns the behavior and choices of individual decision-making units, including but not limited to persons, families, households, and firms. Microeconomics focuses on how individual decision-making units interact with each other and with government to allocate scarce resources. If human wants are unlimited and resources used to produce goods and services are limited, then choices must be made. Microeconomic theory considers these choices from the perspective of individual economic agents, such as individuals, firms, households, and families. We study economic theories that explain the decision-making processes underlying these choices. Topics include the economic approach to decision making, supply and demand, interdependence and the gains from trade, the theory of the consumer choice (which underlies demand), production and cost (which underlies supply), profit maximization by firms, market structure, externalities and public goods, earnings and investment in human capital. After successfully completing this course, students will better understand the economy, business, current events, financial markets, and public policy.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

After completing this course successfully, students will:

- 1) develop a broad-based knowledge of the way economists think and the economic approach to decision-making
- 2) have a grounding in the basic principles of microeconomics, and
- 3) be able to apply basic principles of microeconomics to the real world.
- 4) be able to interpret and analyze various types of data and statistics economists use in their analysis

Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

This course does not have any prerequisites, although we do use college algebra and graphing to explain and reinforce many of the basic economic concepts covered in the course. Because the course uses mathematical skills, it is essential that students have mastered the following:

- * how to solve an algebraic equation in one unknown
- * how to solve two algebraic equations in two unknowns
- * how to calculate percentages
- * how to read and construct graphs
- * calculations involving fractions, including solving algebraic equations with fractions and mathematical operations involving fractions
- * the mathematical concept of slope, including the definition and formula of slope and how to calculate slope

Required Textbooks and Materials

The required textbook for this course is the eBook *Principles of Microeconomics, 10th Edition* by Mankiw published by Cengage. However, rather than purchasing the version of the eBook that includes MindTap, **it is highly recommended that students purchase a subscription to Cengage Unlimited.** Cengage Unlimited is a subscription that provides access to ALL Cengage eBooks and digital learning for \$129.99. One Cengage Unlimited subscription can be used across ALL courses this semester where Cengage products are assigned. So, if you are taking another course this semester that is using Cengage products, you will be able to access those course materials for no additional cost. You can purchase your Cengage Unlimited subscription on the publisher's website, [Cengage Learning](#).

Students will access the eBook and the online homework through eLearning. To find the eBook and MindTap online homework, log in to eLearning and open the main class folder. Next click on >> Register and Access MindTap Here (look for blue circular Cengage logo)

More about MindTap Online Homework

Homework assignments (all online) for this course are provided through MindTap, a Cengage electronic product. MindTap is required for this course. When students purchase Cengage Unlimited, included is access to MindTap which students are to access via eLearning. Students are highly encouraged to complete the MindTap homework assignment in order to:

- ✓ Reinforce economic concepts
- ✓ Gain practice solving economics problems
- ✓ Prepare for quizzes and exams

The Homework grade in each student's final course grade is based on the MindTap online homework (which students access via eLearning). Further details about the homework will be posted on eLearning and therefore easily accessible to students in the course.

No extensions will be granted for MindTap homework, so pay attention to the due dates.

The professor is not responsible for problems with MindTap that arise when students fail to purchase the required eBook with MindTap or a subscription to Cengage Unlimited.

If you already have a current Cengage Unlimited Subscription, you do not need to purchase another subscription. Additional information about the textbook and Cengage Unlimited is posted on eLearning. Earlier (or used) editions of the textbook will not suffice because they do not include the MindTap homework which is required. Again, students are to purchase a subscription to Cengage Unlimited.

Additional Course Materials

The professor may provide class materials that will be made available to all students registered for this class as they are intended to supplement the classroom experience. These materials may be downloaded during the course; however, these materials are for registered students' use only. Classroom materials may not be reproduced or shared with those not in class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student Accessibility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Grading Policy

Quizzes (the highest 3 Quiz grades count towards final course grade):	30%
MindTap Homework (Students will access MindTap via eLearning):	10%
Midterm Exam:	25%
Final Exam:	35%

*** Students who miss the Midterm Exam are advised to drop the course.**

Extra Credit

- The Extra Credit opportunities are offered to all students enrolled in this course are Extra Credit Questions on all Quizzes and Exams.
- Extra Credit is entirely at the discretion of the professor, and any Extra Credit opportunities will be offered to all students enrolled in the course.

Any additional details about the Grading Policy will be posted on eLearning.

Policy Regarding Make-up Quizzes and Exams:

The testing schedule for ECON 2302.003 for the Fall 2023 Semester, which includes both quizzes and exams, as shown in the syllabus is the same for all students registered in the course.

The testing schedule will not be changed or modified for individual students who are registered for the course. Quizzes will be given on Fridays as listed in the course schedule. Students are not to ask the Professor or the TA to make an exception for them by allowing them (the student) to take a make-up quiz or exam at a time other than the scheduled time in order to accommodate their individual, family, or work-related plans. However, if students are involved in official UTD activities such as athletics, Debate Team, or Chess Team, we will do our best to make alternative arrangements as needed.

Quizzes and Exams:

There will be a total of five quizzes (Quizzes 1 through 5) this semester. The three highest quiz grades will count towards your final course grade. Quizzes consist of all multiple choice questions. Students are to bring a calculator to quizzes and exams as well as to class.

- ***There are two mandatory exams, the Midterm Exam and the Final Exam.***
- ***Students who miss the Midterm Exam are advised to drop the course.***

Each quiz and exam will be graded on a 100-point scale (% correct). Number grades will be translated into letter grades (A+ through F) as follows:

98 - 100	A+	88 - 89	B+	78 - 79	C+	60 - 69	D
93 - 97	A	83 - 87	B	73 - 77	C	Below 60	F
90 - 92	A-	80 - 82	B-	70 - 72	C-		

As the professor, I reserve the right to curve the grades in your favor. In other words, the assignment from percent correct to letter grade will never be any more stringent than above but it may be more liberal which means you may receive a higher letter grade than what is shown in the chart above. Your final grade will be a weighted average. Extra credit opportunities will be announced during the semester at the professor's discretion. Any extra credit opportunities offered will be offered to all students enrolled in the course.

Further detail about the grading policy for this course is posted on eLearning.

Technical Requirements

In addition to a confident level of computer and Internet literacy, certain minimum technical requirements must be met to enable a successful learning experience. Please review the important technical requirements on the [Getting Started with eLearning](#) webpage.

Course Access and Navigation

This course can be accessed using your UT Dallas NetID account on the [eLearning](#) website.

Please see the course access and navigation section of the [Getting Started with eLearning](#) webpage for more information.

To become familiar with the eLearning tool, please see the [Student eLearning Tutorials](#) webpage.

UT Dallas provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The [eLearning Support Center](#) includes a toll-free telephone number for immediate assistance (1-866-588-3192), email request service, and an online chat service.

Communication

This course utilizes online tools for interaction and communication. Some external communication tools such as regular email and a web conferencing tool may also be used during the semester. For more details, please visit the [Student eLearning Tutorials](#) webpage for video demonstrations on eLearning tools.

Student emails and discussion board messages will be answered within 3 working days under normal circumstances.

Academic Calendar

Week / Dates	Topics / Lectures	Readings	Assessments / Activities	Due Date(s)
Week 1 1/15 - 1/18	Ten Principles of Economics	Chapters 1 and 2	No Quizzes or HW	
Week 2 1/22 - 1/26	Thinking Like an Economist	Chapter 2		
Week 3 1/29 - 2/2	Interdependence and the Gains from Trade	Chapter 3	MindTap HW on Chapter 2 <i>Open Chapter 2 in MindTap and Look for "Apply It"</i> Quiz 1 Covers Chapters 1-3 and Material Covered in Class	MindTap HW on Chapter 2 due by 11:59 PM on Tuesday 1/30 Quiz 1 In Class on Thursday 2/1
Week 4 2/5 - 2/9	The Market Forces of Supply and Demand	Chapter 4	MindTap HW on Chapter 4 <i>Open Chapter 4 in MindTap and Look for "Apply It"</i>	MindTap HW on Chapter 4 due by 11:59 PM on Monday 2/12
Week 5 2/12 - 2/16	The Market Forces of Supply and Demand	Chapter 4	Quiz 2 Covers Chapter 4 and Material Covered in Class	Quiz 2 in Class on Thursday 2/15
Week 6 2/19 - 2/23	Elasticity and its Application	Chapter 5	MindTap HW on Chapter 5 <i>Open Chapter 5 in MindTap and Look for "Apply It"</i>	MindTap HW on Chapter 5 due by 11:59 PM on Monday 2/26
Week 7 2/26 - 3/1	More on Elasticity Review for Midterm	Chapter 5	Midterm Exam on eLearning Covers Chapters 1-5 and Material Covered in Class	Midterm Exam Given in Class on Thursday 2/29
Week 8 3/4 - 3/8	Supply, Demand and Government Policies Consumers, Producers and the	Chapter 6 Chapter 7	MindTap HW on Chapter 7 <i>Open Chapter 7 in Mindtap and Look for "Apply It"</i>	MindTap HW on Chapter 7 due by 11:59 PM on Monday 3/18

	Efficiency of Markets			
Week 9 3/11 - 3/15 Spring Break / No Class				
Week 10 3/18 - 3/22	Externalities and Public Goods	Chapters 10 and 11	Quiz 3 Covers Chapters 10 and 11 and Material Covered in Class	Quiz 3 Given in Class on Tuesday 3/26
Week 11 3/25 - 3/29	Costs of Production	Chapter 14	MindTap HW on Chapter 14 <i>Open Chapter 14 in MindTap and Look for "Apply It"</i>	MindTap HW on Chapter 14 due by 11:59 PM on Monday 4/1
Week 12 4/1 - 4/5	Firms in Competitive Markets	Chapter 15	Quiz 4 Covers Chapters 14 and 15 and Material Covered in Class	Quiz 4 Given in Class on Tuesday 4/9
Week 13 4/8 - 4/12	Monopoly The Markets for the Factors of Production	Chapter 16 Chapter 19	MindTap HW on Chapter 19 <i>Open Chapter 19 in MindTap and Look for "Apply It"</i>	MindTap HW on Chapter 19 due by 11:59 PM on Monday 4/15
Week 14 4/15 - 4/19	The Theory of Consumer Choice	Chapter 22	Quiz 5 Covers Chapter 22 and Material Covered in Class	Quiz 5 Given in Class on Tuesday 4/23
Week 15 4/23 - 4/26	Income Inequality and Poverty Review for Final Exam	Chapter 21	No Quizzes or HW	
Week 16 4/29 - 5/3	Review for Final Exam	No New Reading		Final Exam Given in Class on Thursday 5/2

Class Participation

Students should participate regularly in class discussion and post regularly to the class discussion board. Class participation accounts for 10 percent of the final course grade.

Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty of any kind (including, but not limited to, plagiarism, sharing, copying, or cheating on exams and assignments) will not be tolerated. In accordance with UTD's Office of Community Standards and Conduct, misconduct may result in a failing grade for the course, suspension, or in some cases, expulsion. For more information, see:

<http://www.utdallas.edu/conduct/integrity/>

Class Ombudsperson

It is my goal to be responsive to the goals and needs of the students in this course, and to respond to any and all issues that may arise as effectively and efficiently as possible. To facilitate this, the class will employ a class ombudsperson. Students should reach out to the class ombudsperson with any issues relating to the course and / or student or instructor behavior, particularly those that they are uncomfortable sharing with me personally. The ombudsperson will be elected by students during the first class day.

Class Attendance

The University's attendance policy requirement is that individual faculty set their course attendance requirements. Regular and punctual class attendance is expected. Students who fail to attend class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. In some courses, instructors may have special attendance requirements; these should be made known to students during the first week of classes.

Class Participation

Regular class participation is expected regardless of course modality. Students who fail to participate in class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. Ten percent of the grade for this course is directly tied to your participation in this class. Students should participate regularly in class discussions and / or post to the class discussion board. Class participation is documented by faculty. Successful participation is defined as consistently adhering to University requirements, as presented in this syllabus. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Class Recordings

The instructor may record meetings of this course. Any recordings will be available to all students registered for this class as they are intended to supplement the classroom experience. Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Unless the Office of Student AccessAbility has approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. If the instructor or a UTD school/department/office plans any other uses for the recordings, consent of the students identifiable in the recordings is required prior to such use

unless an exception is allowed by law. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Other Issues / Resources

Mental Health Services

As UTD students, you have mental health services available to you by telephone and on campus. Student Counseling Center Phone: 972-883-2575 Location: Student Services Building SSB 4.600 (limited physical hours--- call for an appointment). If needing support or in crisis, please call 24 hours per day 972-UTD-TALK, text “Home” to 741741.

Office of UTD AccessAbility Accommodations

If you have a certified disability from UT Dallas Office of Accessibility and are in need of accommodations for this class, please contact me ASAP via email and provide me a copy of your documentation so we may discuss how to best facilitate you in the course. It is very important for students with OSA accommodations to give prior notice to instructors of assessment accommodations, and I ask for a two week notice in advance as a minimum so that I can make sure that you are fully accommodated.

Electronic Communication

Students who have questions about course assignments, course content, course procedures, and course grades should first consult the syllabus. Students whose questions cannot be answered using the syllabus should contact me via email. Remember that I can ONLY respond to UTD email accounts. UT Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. All official student email correspondence will be sent only to a student's UT Dallas email address and UT Dallas will only consider email requests originating from an official UT Dallas student email account. This allows the University to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of each individual corresponding via email and the security of the transmitted information. UT Dallas furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Office of Information Technology provides a method for students to have their UT Dallas mail forwarded to other email accounts. To activate a student UT Dallas computer account and forward email to another account, go to <https://www.utdallas.edu/oit/netid/self-service>

Recommendation Letters

Requests for recommendation letters must be submitted via email at least 30 days before the deadline. If you think you might need a recommendation letter, you are strongly encouraged to make an appointment to meet to talk about the opportunity for which you are applying.

Religious Observances

In accordance with the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs, students who wish to receive an excused absence from class must submit a request form available at the link below for each day they will be absent. This form must be presented to the course instructor by the end of the second week of the semester. A separate form must be submitted for each day. The form must be signed by the instructor, a copy retained by the instructor, and the original returned to the student. Information about the policy on religious observation can be found [here](#).

Comet Creed

This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:

“As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do.”

Academic Support Resources

The information contained in the following link lists the University’s academic support resources for all students.

Please go to [Academic Support Resources](#) webpage for these policies.

UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University’s policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus.

Please go to [UT Dallas Syllabus Policies](#) webpage for these policies.

The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.