



Instructor: Kevin E. Pflum
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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 12:00 - 2:00, Arps 373
Textbook: N. Gregory Mankiw, Principles of Microeconomics, 4th edition, 2007.
Prerequisites: None

Course Objective: The purpose of this course is to serve as an introduction to economic theory and practice. This is a first course in economics so emphasis will be placed on learning how to think “like an economist”, that is, how to analytically approach the problems and issues when examining human behavior and scarcity of resources. The topics in this course cover supply and demand for goods and services, taxes, and market structure. This course is not a mathematically challenging course, however it will make extensive use of graphs and graphical analysis to illustrate the economic concepts. We have a lot of ground to cover in this course and much of the material builds upon itself so make sure you do not fall behind and make sure you get help as soon as you feel you are falling behind.

Required Text and Materials: During the course, you will be required to complete homework assignments found on the APLIA WEBSITE (<http://www.aplia.com>). You can purchase an online version of your textbook along with access to Aplia for \$70. If you would also like a hardback version of the textbook, Aplia will sell it to you for an additional \$50. Alternatively, if you want to borrow a friend's book or buy a used one, you can purchase an Aplia Access Card at the local bookstore. The Aplia course-key is: **ATRX-M37H-JUGT**.

Course documents such as this syllabus and an Aplia instruction sheet are all available on the course's Carmen site.

Grading: Your final course grade will be based on the following weighting scheme: Eight assignments (*in Aplia*), some questions on the exams will come verbatim from the assignments so it is in your best interest to do all assignments.

8 Assignments	25%
Midterm 1 (07/08)	25%
Midterm 2 (07/29)	25%
Final (TBD)	25%

Course Outline: This schedule is subject to change at my discretion.

(06/17) Intro. to Economics/Scarcity and Choice	Chapter 1 and 2
(06/19) Gains from Trade	Chapter 3
(06/24) Supply and Demand	Chapter 4
(06/26) Elasticity	Chapter 5
(07/03) Market Efficiency	Chapter 7
(07/08) Midterm Exam 1	Covers Chapters 1-5,7
(07/10) Price Ceilings, Floors	Chapter 6
(07/15) Costs of Taxation/The Design of the Tax System	Chapter 8, 13
(07/17) International Trade	Chapter 9
(07/22) Externalities	Chapter 10
(07/24) Public Goods and Common Resources	Chapter 11
(07/29) Midterm Exam 2	Covers Chapters 6,8-11,13
(07/31) The Costs of Production	Chapter 12
(08/05) Competitive Markets	Chapter 14
(08/07) Monopoly	Chapter 15
(08/12) Oligopoly and Monopolistic Competition	Chapter 16
(08/14) Monopolistic Competition	Chapter 17
(08/19) Review	Review
(TBD) Final Exam	Covers Chapters 12,14-17

Exam Policy:

1. There are no make-up exams (or early exams) for missed midterms. If you must miss a midterm because of illness or other unavoidable circumstances, you will receive the score of the second midterm in place of the first or one-half of the score of the final in place of the second midterm. The final is not comprehensive and carries the same weight as the midterms. The final will be the week of August 19-21. The specific date TBD.
2. Exams will be machine-scored. Please bring a number 2 pencil to the exam with you to fill in the exam answer sheets.
3. Pocket calculators are not allowed at exams. They should not be needed for these questions.
4. Please bring a picture I.D. to each exam. You may be asked to show it before your exam will be accepted. You will also be asked to sign and turn in the cover of your exam booklet when you turn in your answer sheet.
5. You may keep your exam question booklet. So it is a good idea to also mark your answers on it before turning in your answer sheet so that you have this information.
6. Answers to exams will be e-mailed to you shortly after the exam is over.
7. Although I always do my best to eliminate ambiguities from the exam questions, they will sometimes slip by me. In fact, if a multiple choice exam question is not to be a give-away,

more than one answer must have an element of truth in it. One answer, however, should be better than the others. Therefore, you are instructed to choose the one best answer to all questions. Credit will only be given for this one best answer. I appreciate your tolerance of this.

Important Dates: Last day to drop. Final: TBA

ADA Accommodations: Any student who, because of a disability, may require special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should contact me as soon as possible to make necessary arrangements. The instructor may request verification of need from the Dean of Students Office.

This publication/material is available in alternative formats upon request. Please contact the Office of Disabilities Services for further information. Students with disabilities are responsible for making their needs known to both their professor in a timely manner.

Academic Misconduct: The Ohio State University's Code of Student Conduct (*Section 3335-23-04*) defines academic misconduct as: "Any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the University, or subvert the educational process." Examples of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to) plagiarism, collusion (unauthorized collaboration), copying the work of another student, and possession of unauthorized materials during an examination. Ignorance of the University's Code of Student Conduct is never considered an "excuse" for academic misconduct, so I recommend that you review the code of Student Conduct and, specifically, the sections dealing with academic misconduct.