

Syllabus
Principles of Microeconomics
(06E:001:SCC; Spring 2013)

Instructor: Alan Gelder
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Office: W361 PBB
Office Hours: M 10:00–12:00, F 2:00–4:00

Course Objective

This course is designed to give students an introduction to microeconomics through basic modeling techniques and examples. Throughout the course we will address such issues as the gains from trade and specialization; the effects of taxes in different markets; firm behavior in competitive and monopolistic markets; and limitations of market economies.

Textbooks

N. Gregory Mankiw, Principles of Microeconomics (6th ed.), South-Western Cengage Learning.
Grady Klein & Yoram Bauman, The Cartoon Introduction to Economics: Volume One: Microeconomics, Hill and Wang.

Grading

Grades will be based on homework assignments, two midterm examinations, and a final examination. The grading weights are as follows:

Homework	20%
Midterm 1	25%
Midterm 2	25%
Final Exam	30%

Letter grades will be assigned according to the following distribution:

A = 93–100; A– = 90–93; B+ = 87–90; B = 83–87; B– = 80–83; C+ = 77–80;
C = 73–77; C– = 70–73; D+ = 67–70; D = 63–67; D– = 60–63; F = 0–60

Depending on the difficulty of exams, grades may be curved up but will not be curved down.

Homework

The weekly homework schedule is posted on ICON. Homework is due at the start of class when I ask for it (otherwise late penalties apply). Half of your homework grade is based on completeness (i.e. did you attempt all the problems). The other half of your homework grade is based on the accuracy of your answers on a few problems that will be selected randomly for grading. You may work with other students or a tutor on the assignments, but the answers you turn in must be your own. Using solution guides or seeking answers to homework problems on the internet is considered cheating.

Course Schedule (Subject to Change)

Week	Date	Mankiw Chapter(s)
1	22 Jan	1 & 2
2	29 Jan	3
3	5 Feb	4
4	12 Feb	5 & 6
5	19 Feb	7 & 8
6	26 Feb	9 & Review
7	5 Mar	Midterm 1 (In class)*
8	12 Mar	10 & 11
SPRING BREAK		
9	26 Mar	13 & 14
10	2 Apr	15
11	9 Apr	16 & Review
12	16 Apr	Midterm 2 (In class)
13	23 Apr	17
14	30 Apr	18, 19 & 20
15	7 May	21 & Review
16		Final Exam (Date and time to be determined)

*Read Klein & Bauman from cover to cover before Midterm 1.

Honor Code: Cheating and plagiarism are serious offenses in the Tippie College of Business. Cheating on a test will result in a failing grade for the class. Cheating on ANY homework assignment will result in a zero for ALL homework assignments (a 20% reduction in your final grade). To repeat, using solution guides or seeking answers to homework problems on the internet is considered cheating. All incidents of cheating will be reported to the Dean's Office. Additionally, students who cheat will not be permitted to drop the course.

"I have been asked what I mean by 'word of honor.' I will tell you. Place me behind prison walls—walls of stone ever so high, ever so thick, reaching ever so far into the ground—there is a possibility that in some way or another I may escape; but stand me on the floor and draw a chalk line around me and have me give my word of honor never to cross it. Can I get out of the circle? No. Never! I'd die first!"

Karl G. Maeser (1828–1901), Prominent 19th Century Educator

"Why Richard, it profits a man nothing to give his soul for the whole world... but for Economics?"

Paraphrasing Sir Thomas More in "A Man for All Seasons"

Disabilities: If you have a disability for which special arrangements need to be made relative to this course, please see me as soon as possible. Disability arrangements are coordinated through the Office of Student Disability Services.

Sexual Harassment: The Tippie College of Business and the University of Iowa are committed to providing students with an environment free from sexual harassment. If you feel that you are being or have been harassed or you are not sure what constitutes sexual harassment, we encourage you to visit the University website (<http://www.sexualharassment.uiowa.edu/index.php>) and to seek assistance from department chairs, the Dean's Office, the University Ombuds Office, or the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity.

Electronic Communication: Any emails about the course will be sent to students' official UI email addresses.

Department Chair: John Solow; Email: john-solow@uiowa.edu; Office: W210 PBB