

Econ 2201: Intermediate Microeconomic Theory

Spring 2020

Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:30-11:45

Room: OAK 117

Instructor Information:

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Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays, 1:30-2:25 or by appointment

Course Description:

Many years ago, Frank William Taussig (1859-1940) said, "Our subject offers peculiar opportunities for training people to think, and to think with care and consistency." Although he was referring to economics in general, it is particularly relevant to Microeconomics, the study of how individual economic units--consumers, firms, and workers--allocate scarce resources. Specific topics that will be discussed this semester include theory of the consumer, theory of production and costs and market failures. The true purpose of this class, however, is to prepare students for other departmental offerings related to microeconomic policy issues. Environmental economics, labor economics, urban economics, public economics, and the study of poverty are all derived from microeconomic theory. Years from now, when your college years are distant memories, the payoff from taking this course will probably be your enhanced ability to think and argue rigorously.

Prerequisite:

[ECON 1200](#) or [1201](#) and [MATH 1071Q](#), [1110Q](#), [1121Q](#), [1131Q](#) or [1151Q](#). Recommended: [ECON 1202](#).

Required Course Materials:

We will be using the Goolsbee, Levitt, Syverson textbook, *Microeconomics*, 3rd edition, with SaplingPlus. You can order digital only access (SaplingPlus) which includes the full e-book from the [MacMillan website](#) for \$108.99 (ISBN:9781319105624). If you would like a physical copy of the textbook, you can order that online too, but be sure to buy it with the SaplingPlus package (ISBN:9781319357429). The UConn bookstore is stocking loose-leaf copies with SaplingPlus. You can also feel free to purchase older editions of the physical textbook online, but you will still need to purchase SaplingPlus access because you will need that to complete your homework assignments. While you are deciding what to purchase, you can temporarily access the text and SaplingPlus by choosing the option to use a free 14 day trial.

Grading:

The course grade will be based on two midterm exams, a final exam, and weekly problem sets. The midterm exams will count for 45% of your grade (22.5% each) while the final exam will count for 35%. The final exam will be cumulative with some extra weight on material from the last part of the course. The weekly problem sets, due on Monday nights, will be worth 20%. In some weeks, your homework assignments will have only a few questions. In other weeks, there will be many questions. Late problem sets will not be accepted since solutions to the problem sets will be posted IMMEDIATELY after their due dates. I urge you to complete homework assignments early. The sooner you get started, the more time you will have to seek help from me, department tutors, or fellow classmates. If you are experiencing technical difficulties with the SaplingPlus website, please let me know as soon as possible.

Important Dates (subject to change):

February 19	-	Midterm 1
April 10	-	Midterm 2
Exam Week	-	Final Exam

Final exam week for Spring 2020 takes place from May 4-9. Students are required to be available for their exam during the stated time. If you have a conflict with this time, you must visit the Dean of Students Office to discuss the possibility of rescheduling this exam. Please note that vacations, previously purchased tickets or reservations, social events, misreading the exam schedule and over-sleeping are not viable excuses for missing a final exam. If you think that your situation warrants permission to reschedule, please contact the Dean of Students Office with any questions.

Students with Disabilities

The Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) at UConn provides accommodations and services for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a documented disability for which you wish to request academic accommodations and have not contacted the CSD, please do so as soon as possible. Detailed information regarding the accommodations process is available on their website at www.csd.uconn.edu.

Academic Misconduct:

Academic Misconduct in any form is in violation of the University of Connecticut *Student Code* and will not be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to: copying or sharing answers on tests, using “cheat sheets” or notes during the exam, and having someone else do your academic work. Depending on the act, a student could receive an F grade on the test/assignment, F grade for the course, and could be suspended or expelled from the University.

Tutoring:

The department offers tutoring services for this course. Additional information can be found here: <http://econ.uconn.edu/tutoring/>

How to Enroll in Sapling Learning (for the homework):

1. Find the Sapling Learning content section on the HuskyCT course page.
2. Click on any Sapling assignment link to launch the assignment.
3. Select your access option and continue to your assignment page. Sapling offers a grace period of 14 days from the first day of class on payment. (You may also think of this period as a free trial period or temporary access.)
4. You are now enrolled in the course and can access future assignments through the links on the HuskyCT course page.
5. To access your ebook click on the image of the cover on the right sidebar of your course site. Create an account or log in with an existing Macmillan Learning eBook account.
6. **Need Help?** Answers to many common questions are found in our Student Support Community. If you need direct assistance you can also contact technical support:
<https://macmillan.force.com/macmillanlearning/s/>.

The following link includes more detailed instructions on how to register for your course:

<https://macmillan.force.com/macmillanlearning/s/article/Students-Register-for-Sapling-Learning-courses-via-your-school-s-LMS>

Note: Your first homework assignment is due on February 3rd. Please do not wait until that day to enroll in Sapling Learning in case there are any problems with enrolling. Also, please do take advantage of the 14 day grace period, but do not wait until the last minute to pay the enrollment fee, again in case there are any problems with that. You will not be able to submit the February 10th homework unless you have purchased an access code.