

## **E201: Introduction to Microeconomics**

Spring 2014

Section: 17390 5:45-7:00pm MW Wylie Hall 015

**Instructor:** Hao Jin

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**Office Hours:** Tuesday 2:00pm-4:00pm

**Class website:**

*Oncourse:* <http://oncourse.iu.edu/portal>

*Instructor's Home Page:* <http://mypage.iu.edu/~jinhao>

These websites will be used regularly during the semester to post class information, exam information, homework, etc.

*Departmental E201 Website:* <http://mypage.iu.edu/~econcore/e201/e201.html>

**Required Textbooks:**

*Microeconomics*, 4th edition (R.Glenn Hubbard and Anthony O'Brien) & Basic Four Function Calculator

*MyEconLab* ID: jin87727

**Optional Textbooks:**

*Principles of Microeconomics*, 6th Edition (N.Gregory Mankiw)

**Prerequisites:** None, but a basic understanding of high school algebra, geometry, and graphical presentation is expected.

**Course overview and objectives:** Microeconomics studies individual's decision making given scarce resources. This course introduces basic economic analysis tools to give you an elementary ability to analyze everyday microeconomic problems common in our economy and society. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to apply those tools to the real world of business and economic policy to develop economic reasoning. Students will have the opportunity to gain insight into how each economic agent behaves and how this behavior affects their life.

**Course Organization:** Students are expected to have read the assigned material prior to each lecture and should expect to work at least six hours per week outside of class. Class activities are based on the premise you have read the material assigned, at least once, prior to the class lecture. Lectures only compliment the required reading material. Lectures are not a substitute for the readings nor are the readings a substitute for attending and participating in class. After each lecture you should reconstruct your notes so you understand the material. In addition, you are required to read and understand all material. You are responsible for all material presented both

the texts as well as lecture, for an exam. A student should attend every class for which the student is scheduled and is responsible for all work covered in the classes and assigned readings.

**Exams:** There will be three semester in class examinations. Each will be either multiple choice, or graphical/numerical problems, or short essay questions, or any combination of these three. The exams require you to use basic macroeconomic principles that we discussed in class to explain real world issues.

The final exam will cover all topics discussed throughout the course. The final exam will have two parts. Part 1 will be twenty multiple-choice questions that are administered to all E201 students department wide. Part 2 will be thirty multiple-choice questions that are section specific. Both parts are cumulative covering all topics throughout the course. You should consider the final as one exam that has 50 multiple-choice questions.

**Exam Dates:**

- (A) Exam 1 (In class, Monday, February 10, 2014)
- (B) Exam 2 (In class, Monday, March 10, 2014)
- (C) Exam 3 (In class, Monday, April 14, 2014)
- (D) Final Exam (2:45 - 4:45pm, Monday, May 5, 2014)

Your schedule **MUST** permit you to be free to take the final exam on **Monday, May 5, 2014, from 2:45 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.** There are no alternatives to taking the exam at this time and date. If you are enrolled in two or more of the following courses you have a conflict - Economics E201, Business G202, Business Z302, Mathematics J112, and Mathematics J113. Drop all but one of these conflicting courses now, unless you can resolve the conflict with your instructor(s) in the other course(s). Please do not ask if you may have an alternative time for the Economics E201 final - you will not be granted this request. Consult the final exam schedule to avoid additional conflicts.

**Homework:** There will be 12 weekly homework assignments, each of which is worth 5 points. Homework will be submitted through MyEconLab. Late homework is not graded and receives a 0. Handing in homework in other sections other than your registered section is not graded and receives a 0. You will be able to drop the two lowest homework grades. Homework assignments are worth 10% or 50 points of the course grade.

**Supplemental Instruction (SI):** SI is a proactive academic assistance program funded and managed by the Student Academic Center. With the assistance of an undergraduate intern who is called the SI leader, it provides a time for students to come together to work collaboratively to strengthen the independent learning and cognitive skills they need to master the E202 course content. Participation in SI is voluntary but strongly recommended. Active participation can count up to 5% or 25 replacement points of your final exam grade. If you choose not to be involved in SI, your final exam carries an extra 5% weight. Supplemental Instruction will be organized the second week of the semester. A maximum of 2 missing is allowed to receive full credit. Partial participation earns you partial credit, which is based on your SI leader's discretion.

SI leader: TBA

SI session times: TBA

**Quiz:** During class there will be quizzes to practice. Answers must be written down on a piece of paper and handed in to the instructor by the end of the class. Students can earn an *extra* maximum of 15 quiz points which worth an *extra* 3% of course grade. Students must present in class to receive those points.

**Valid Excuses:** During the course many possible events may occur that would result in your inability to attend class, attend exams, or perform at a minimally acceptable level during an examination. Illness or injury, family emergencies, certain University-approved curricular and extra-curricular activities, and religious holidays can be legitimate reasons to miss class or to be excused from a scheduled examination.

In the case of your own illness or injury, a note from a physician, physician's assistant, or a nurse-practitioner that says, among other things, "...unable to attend.." is required. The words "unable to attend" must be precisely stated in the note. If the note leaves any ambiguity on this point you will not be excused. Further, the note must be provided to the instructor within one week of the missed course event (in cases of extended illness or incapacity, the note must be provided within a week of the end of your illness or incapacity, and it should specify the period of your inability to attend the course).

With regard to family emergencies, you must provide verifiable documentation of the emergency. Given the vast array of family emergencies the instructor will provide precise guidance as to what constitutes adequate documentation. Unless the emergency is critical you should notify the instructor in advance of your absence from the scheduled course event. In cases of critical emergencies, you must notify the instructor within one week of your absence.

For University-approved curricular and extra-curricular activities, verifiable documentation is also required. The student should obtain from the unit or department sponsoring the activity a letter (or class absence form) indicating the anticipated absence(s). The letter must be presented to the instructor at least one week prior to the first absence.

In the case of religious holidays, the student should notify the instructor by the third week of the course of any potential conflicts. IU web: <http://enrollmentbulletin.indiana.edu/pages/relo.php>

**Make-up policy: NO** make-up semester exams. The points from the excused, missed exams will be placed onto the final exam. **NO** make-ups are provided for homework. The two lowest grades from homework will be dropped from calculating your final grade. **NO** make-ups for quizzes. The quiz points are counted as extra when calculating the final grade.

**Academic Integrity:** Dishonesty of any kind is not tolerated in this course. Dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabricating information or citations, facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with academic work of other students. Students who are found dishonest will receive the most severe academic sanction consistent with IU polices. A minimum penalty for any breach of

academic integrity is the grade of “F” for the course. The University of Indiana has information at its website: <http://www.iu.edu/~code/code/responsibilities/personal/index.shtml>. Be sure to read the contents of this site.

**Disabilities:** If you desire classroom/testing accommodations for a disability, contact your instructor outside of class to present the written supporting memorandum of accommodation from the Office of Disability Services for Students (<http://studentaffairs.iub.edu/dss/>). Requests for accommodations for disability must be received and authorized by your instructor in written form no less than two weeks in advance of need, in order to allow adequate time to review and make appropriate arrangements. No accommodation should be assumed until authorized by your instructor.

**The last day for an automatic “W” is Wednesday, March 12th, by 4:00p.m. This is also the last day to get a withdrawal slip signed without a special petition.** After this date, you can obtain a late withdrawal from a course only by first receiving special permission from the dean of the college. Such permission is **VERY** difficult to get. University rules specify that permission for late withdrawals is “given only for urgent reasons relating to extended illness or equivalent distress” to a student who is “**passing** the course on the date of withdrawal.”

**Grading policy:** Your course grade will depend on your performance in the following areas.

- Three semester exams – *each* is worth 100 points or 20% of your final grade. (300 points or 60% in total of final grade).
- Final Exam – worth 150 points or 30% of your final grade. (25% or 125 points if you earn full participation points in Supplemental Instruction sessions).
- Homework Assignments – worth 50 points or 10% of your final grade.
- Quizzes – worth *extra* 15 points or 3% of your final grade.

**Grading Scale:**

A+ (500-485)	B+(439-425)	C+(384-370)	D+(334-320)	F(Below 274)
A (484-460)	B (424-405)	C (369-350)	D (319-300)	
A- (459-440)	B-(404-385)	C-(349-335)	D-(299-275)	

Please note that modification of policies may be required during the semester. The instructor will make explicit announcements pertaining to any such changes.

# Course Outline

## Part 1: Microeconomic Concepts

Jan.13	Chapter 1: Economics: Foundations and Models
Jan. 15 & 22	Chapter 2: Trade-offs, Comparative Advantage, and the Market System
Jan. 27 & 29	Chapter 3: The Interaction of Demand and Supply
Feb. 3 & 5	Chapter 6: Elasticity: The Responsiveness of Demand and Supply
Feb. 10	<b>EXAM 1</b>

## Part 2: Consumers, Firms and Government

Feb. 12, 17 & 19	Chapter 4: Economic Efficiency, Government Price Setting, and Taxes
Feb. 24 & 26	Chapter 10: Consumer Choice and Behavioral Economics
Mar. 3 & 5	Chapter 11: Technology, Production, and Costs
Mar. 10	<b>EXAM 2</b>

## Part 3: Market Structure and Firm Strategy

Mar. 12, 24 & 26	Chapter 12: Firms in Perfectly Competitive Markets
Mar. 31 & Apr. 2	Chapter 13: Monopolistic Competition
Apr. 7 & 9	Chapter 15: Monopoly and Antitrust Policy
Apr. 14	<b>EXAM 3</b>

## Part 4: Externalities and International Trade

Apr. 16 & 21	Chapter 5: Externalities, Environmental Policy, and Public Goods
Apr. 23 & 28	Chapter 9: Comparative Advantage and the Gains from International Trade
Apr. 30	Review
<b>May 5</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM: 2:45 – 4:45pm</b>