

ECON 200: Basic Economic Issues
Summer 2013
Syllabus

Lectures: MoTuWeTh 8:30AM-10:45AM, McClelland Hall Rm 133

Instructor: Jianjing Lin (email: jianjingl@email.arizona.edu)

Office hour: MoTuWeTh 11:00AM-12:15PM, or email by appointment

Course description

ECON200 is an introductory course on economics, involving theory and some applications. We will begin with Microeconomics by looking at theory of supply and demand, applications of market efficiency, firm behavior and etc. The remaining time of the session will focus on some basic topics on Macroeconomics, such as measuring production of nations, employment and unemployment, money and inflation and so on.

Textbook and references

- N. Gregory Mankiw, Principles of Microeconomics, 5th edition, South-western. The textbook by Mankiw is required. The book is well-organized and presents the materials pretty clearly. You may also find it useful to consult other textbooks as you learn the materials. I recommend:
- John B. Taylor and Akila Weerapana, Principles of Economics, 6th edition, South-western.
- Edgar K. Browning and Mark A. Zupan, Microeconomics: Theory and Applications, 10th edition, John Wiley & Sons.

Assessment

There are four components to your course final grade:

Written assignments (12%): The assignments are trying to make students “think like economists”. Each week a student must pick an article for reading. The student must connect the contents of the article to what have been learned and write down a paragraph (around half page of letter paper) of some comments, or understanding. Please turn in the HARD copy and attach the article **at the beginning of class** on the next coming Monday. Late submission will not be accepted.

Midterm exams (25% each): There are two midterm exams, which last from 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM on the exam day. The first midterm is scheduled on **Jul 18** (Wed) and the second one will be on **Jul 30** (Mon).

Final exam (30%): The final exam will be scheduled on **Aug 8** (Wed), from 8:30 AM to 10:30 AM. It is a cumulative exam.

Note that all exams are closed-book. In general, there are NO make-up exams. If you have any question about the date of the exams, please let me know by the THIRD lecture.

Class participation (8%): Class participation is more than attendance. During the lecture I will invite students to discuss or work on some examples. I hope all of you

to learn from each other and make your own contribution.

Grades will be determined according to the following scale:

90 & above: A

80-89: B

70-79: C

55-69: D

Below 55: E

Course topics (may be revised as the summer session progresses)

- Introduction
- Theory of supply and demand
- Efficiency of the market system
- Externalities and public goods
- Competition, monopoly and the organization of industry
- Introduction to Macroeconomics

Academic dishonesty and plagiarism

All UA students are supposed to abide by the Code of Academic Integrity, available through the office of the Dean of Students and online at

<http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/codeofacademicintegrity>

In-class ethics

Please ensure the whole class a good environment for effective learning by refraining from chatting, texting, surfing the web and etc. I understand it is convenient to use laptop or tablet for note-taking, but it is up to you to restrict its use to coursework. For more about class conduct, please read online

<http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/studentcodeofconduct>.

Students with disability

If you expect any accessibility issue which will affect your participation in the class, please let me know early. If formal, disability-related accommodations are necessary for your study, please register with the Disable Resources (520-621-3268; <http://drc.arizona.edu>) and inform me of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations.