

Principles of Economics

ECON 200 Spring, 2009

Current Reading List/Syllabus

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Office Hours: Tuesday, 10:30-12:15

Required Text

The text for the class is *Principles of Microeconomics, Fifth Edition With Aplia* by N. Gregory Mankiw. The study guide is optional. The book with the *Aplia* option should be available at the bookstore. It can also be purchased from the *Aplia* website. I believe that is your least expensive alternative. See the last pages of this syllabus for details.

Note that, however you choose to acquire the material, the *Aplia* add-on is REQUIRED as I will use this for problem sets in the course. The *Aplia* information is at the end of this syllabus.

I will make use of the overheads that are supplied with the textbook and are available by going to the links provided in your *Principles of Microeconomics* and then Student Resources. At times, I will also supplement those slides with my own. Those will be available at the course website, <http://www.econ.umd.edu/~vincent/econ200.html>. Please use this site as well for course announcements and links.

Course Description

ECON 200 is the microeconomics half of a two-semester introductory course on the principles of economics. ECON 201 and 201H address macroeconomics. Although some Maryland students take macroeconomics before microeconomics, we recommend taking microeconomics first. I will assume that this is your first course in economics.

Lectures will be given on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The first lecture is Tuesday, January 27. Students will also attend a discussion section that meets for one hour each week. The discussion sections are an important part of the course. I will assign 9 problem sets during the semester via *Aplia* and you will review the problem sets with your teaching assistants in your discussion sections. The best 6 scores of your problem sets will count toward your final grade. The TAs will also use the discussion sections to present some material I do not cover in lecture, review the examinations, and answer questions about material in the text and lectures.

Discussion sections will begin Wednesday, January 28.

Grading: Your grade will be determined as follows:

9 Problem Sets <i>(best 6 scores count)</i>	60 points
Midterm Score <i>(Midterm Score is determined as the average of the two curved scores gained on the two Midterms.)</i>	200 points
Final exam	140 points

Total	400 points

The problem sets will be available on the Aplia website. Each problem set will be worth a maximum of 10 points. You must complete the problem set by the due date (usually, Wednesdays at 11pm but note that PS9 is due the last day of class.) If you believe you have not received credit for a problem set you completed you should talk to your TA immediately. We will post grades from the exams and the problem sets from time to time. I cannot consider claims that you did not receive credit for a problem set more than two weeks after grades are posted.

Following each midterm, interim grades will be posted on Blackboard. To find your grade, go to <http://www.elms.umd.edu> and sign on using your usual university sign on. You should then be able to go to the econ200 course and find your grade. More instructions can be found here:

https://elms.umd.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab_id= 35_1

The Department of Economics policy on grading requires me to use the grading system I announce at the beginning of the semester in all cases. I cannot make any exceptions to that rule.

"The University of Maryland, College Park has a nationally recognized Code of Academic Integrity, administered by the Student Honor Council. This Code sets standards for academic integrity at Maryland for all undergraduate and graduate students. As a student you are responsible for upholding these standards for this course. It is very important for you to be aware of the consequences of cheating, fabrication, facilitation, and plagiarism. For more information on the Code of Academic Integrity or the Student Honor Council, please visit <http://www.studenthonorcouncil.umd.edu/whatis.html>."

Examinations

The schedule for the course exams is as follows:

First Exam	Tuesday, March 03	12:30 PM – 1:45 PM
Second Exam	Tuesday, April 7	12:30 PM – 1:45 PM
Final Exam	Tuesday, May 19*	1:30 PM -- 3:30 PM*

** This is just my reading of the final exam schedule. Please double-check Testudo to confirm this information.*

The midterms and final exam will be all multiple choice.

It is in your best interest to take BOTH midterms. However, if for reasons beyond your control you have to miss one of the midterms, you have the option to have your score on the other midterm count for the full midterm part of the score. You should inform your TA as soon as possible that you are in this position so we do not assume you have dropped the course. Makeup midterms will not be offered unless you have a *valid* and documented University excuse.

You are required to take the final examination. There will be a make-up exam the final **only** for those students with a valid and documented University excuse.

NOTE: Travel obligations DO NOT constitute a valid excuse. If you have travel plans that conflict with the exam schedule you should change them now or drop the course now. It is your responsibility to ensure you are available for the midterms and final exam.

Students with learning disabilities who require special exam procedures should get in touch with their TA's as soon as possible.

Web Site

The Web page for this course is <http://www.econ.umd.edu/~vincent/econ200.html>. You will be able to find the problem sets, old exams, the overheads I use in lecture, a link to the Department of Economics Web page, and e-mail access to your TA there. Please let me know if you find any bugs in the page and please send me suggestions on ways to make it more useful.

Reading Assignments

I plan to cover most of the text. In addition, I will present a fair amount of material in lectures that is not in the book. There is supplemental reading for two topics that we will cover near the end of the semester, game theory and information and uncertainty. Supplemental material is marked with a * below.

<i>Title</i>	<i>Chapter</i>
Introduction	Chapters 1 and 2
Supply and Demand	Chapter 4
Elasticities of Supply and Demand	Chapter 5
Applications of Supply and Demand	Chapter 6
The Efficiency of Markets	Chapter 7
Taxation	Chapter 8
International Trade	Chapter 9

Externalities
Public Goods and Common Resources
Costs of Production
Perfect Competition
Monopoly
Oligopoly and Game Theory
Information and Uncertainty
Input Markets
Consumer Choice
The Gains from Trade
Income Distribution

Chapter 10
Chapter 11
Chapter 13
Chapter 14
Chapter 15
Chapter 16, "Game Theory*"
Economics of Information*
Chapters 18 and 19
Chapter 21 (pp 453-455)
Chapter 3
Chapter 20

Teaching Assistants

Name	Office*	Phone	E-Mail	Sections
Ozgun Atasoy	PKT 1224	x56857	atasoy@Econ.umd.edu	2202 2205 2206
Keith Kranker	TYD 4101-D	x53521	kranker@econ.umd.edu	2209 2211
Jing Zhang	PKT 1224	x56857	zhang-j@econ.umd.edu	2203 2207 2212
Juliana Araujo	TYD 4101-E	x53507	araujo@econ.umd.edu	2204 2208 2214
Orathai Sujitprapakorn	PKT 1224	x56875	sujitprapakorn@econ.umd.edu	2201 2210 2213

* TYD = Tydings Hall, PKT = Preinkert Field House

Discussion Sessions (Check with Testudo to make sure, these are only offered as a guide).

Section	Time	Place	Instructor
2201	F 11:00	ARM 0103	Orathai Sujitprapakorn
2202	M 8:00	TYD 1118	Ozgun Atasoy
2203	W 9:00	TYD 1108	Jing Zhang
2204	F 9:00	TYD 2110	Juliana Araujo
2205	M 1:00	TLF 1101	Ozgun Atasoy
2206	W 1:00	TYD 2108	Ozgun Atasoy
2207	M 1:00	TYD 2102	Jing Zhang
2208	F 8:00	TYD 1108	Juliana Araujo
2209	W 8:00	TYD 0101	Keith Kranker
2210	F 9:00	TYD 1118	Orathai Sujitprapakorn
2211	W 1:00	TYD 1108	Keith Kranker
2212	M 8:00	TYD 2110	Jing Zhang
2213	F 10:00	MMH 0108	Orathai Sujitprapakorn
2214	F 10:00	SYM 0215	Juliana Araujo



Student Registration and Payment Instructions

Course Name: Vincent, Princ. of Micro (Mankiw 5e) - Spring 09

Start Date: 01/26/2009

Instructor: Daniel Vincent

Course Key: 755Y-45U8-45ZM

You can begin working on your homework as soon as you register!

- In this course, you will use a textbook and Aplia's website.
 - In most cases, you can save money if you buy Aplia and your textbook together. See payment options below.
 - You will have access to a digital version of your textbook using Aplia.
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Registration

If you have never used Aplia before...

1. Connect to <http://www.aplia.com>.
2. Click the New Student link and enter your Course Key: **755Y-45U8-45ZM**. Continue following the instructions to complete your registration.

If you have used Aplia before...

1. Connect to <http://www.aplia.com>.
2. Sign in with your usual e-mail address and password and enter your Course Key when prompted: **755Y-45U8-45ZM**. If you are not prompted for a new Course Key, click the Enter Course Key button to enroll in a new Aplia course. Enter your Course Key when you are prompted.

** You will have different payment options after you register for your course. If you choose to pay later, you can use Aplia without paying until 11:59 PM on 02/15/2009.*

Payment

Option 1: Digital Textbook with Aplia Access

- **From Aplia:** Purchase access to your course from Aplia's website for \$70.00 USD.

Option 2: Physical Textbook with Aplia Access (also includes digital textbook)

- **From Aplia:** Purchase access to your course for \$70.00 USD and a physical book for \$50.00 USD from Aplia's website.
- **From Bookstore:** Purchase an Aplia Access Card and a physical book together as a bundle from your campus bookstore.

** If you purchased an Aplia Access Card from a bookstore, enter the Access Card's payment code on Aplia's website as payment for your Aplia course.*

** You will have access to your digital textbook up until the end of this course.*

