



Econ 2302.021I2
Principles of Microeconomics
Fall 2025
Online

Instructor Information:

Name: John Damon,

Email: JDamon@COM.edu

Contact Phone: (346) 297 0541

(409) 933 8212 – Kerry Kloesel, Department Administrative Assistant

Communication Expectations:

All communication should be prioritized through D2L. I will respond to messages within 24 hours during the week. Weekends and holidays may see a longer delay.

Student hours and location: Online Office Hours – Monday 7-9PM (By Appointment)

Required Textbook/Materials:

N. Gregory Mankiw, **Principles of Microeconomics 10e**, Cengage Learning

Online Ancillary for Homework: MindTap from Cengage Learning

*Access to Mindtap from Cengage will automatically come with the complete e-book, so this is your only required purchase. Mindtap access fee is **included** in your course fees, so all course materials are available to you on day one and there is no need to pay extra. The physical textbook is not required but can be purchased through Cengage or other distributors.*

Mindtap, Cengage's digital learning platform includes the digital textbook, the Study Guide, as well as Aplia assignments which offers interactive exercise and assignments that connect key concepts to the real world.

Course Description: (catalog description)

The course is intended to provide students with an understanding of the economics behind individual and firm behavior. Specifically, how individuals, households and different types of firms make decisions in the face of scarcity. Students are introduced to the basic models of market structure and how firms behave under these different structures. Students will acquire an understanding of concepts such as market supply and demand, firms' profit maximization behavior under different circumstances, and a wide 2 range of economic policy issues and how they impact the interaction between firms and individuals

Course requirements:

Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:

1. Assignments on Mindtap

During this course, to complete assignments, you will be REQUIRED to register for Mindtap. Registration will be done through my D2L course. Once you have signed into the D2L course, click on the Assignments learning module. Then click on the link for Mindtap and follow the instructions.

Here are two links which also have the instructions for how to register as well as some additional information about Cengage:

<https://play.vidyard.com/mNxofeRXYsqEKxoSY6sUko>

https://embed.widencdn.net/pdf/plus/cengage/cqjy9n1mpx/gui_mt-bb-stuquick-guide-inclusive-access.pdf?u=c8lcjz

Please register for Mindtap on day one!

The homework assignments are critical to learning the course materials in economics. All work is grouped by Chapter and also by Unit. You will find it very difficult to be successful in the course if you do not complete your tasks on time and in an efficient manner. Because of the structure of this, and that the lowest grades are dropped, there is no late policy for work.

Graded homework on MindTap corresponds to the textbook content. The problem sets are typically due after the material is covered and it will be assumed you have read the assigned reading before attempting them. For many (but possibly not all) of these assignments you will be offered up to three opportunities to submit the correct answer and be given feedback for incorrect answers. Because of this grading scheme it is very easy to get 100% for your homework grade if you allow ample time to work on the problems. Students will have the opportunity to work and rework the homework assignments up until the due date.

Since work is posted on the first day of the course, there is nothing that is restrictive for students to work ahead.

Please pay close attention to the day and the time the assignments are due! To accommodate unforeseen emergencies, the lowest three homework assignments are dropped.

Practice Problems on Mindtap are not graded and therefore optional. They are an excellent way to learn course materials, prepare for graded assignments and tests. Please take advantage of these additional exercises.

"The Refreshing your math and graphing skills" practice assignment is intended for students who took math a long time ago. Most of you can skip it with no problem. It is quite lengthy and I do not expect you to complete it for practice purposes. Feel free to pick sections to go over if you think you need a refresher.

2. Readings (required but not graded)

You are expected to read the textbook and view the provided lecture videos. Not all the reading will be covered during lecture and oftentimes the lecture will contain content that is not in the reading.

3. Discussion Participation

Materials on the discussion board enhance your learning. You are required to make **one initial post and two replies** to each discussion topic. Your initial post **is required to contain outside sources that are properly cited** relevant to the topic.

The total score of the assignment is 10 points using the following rubric:

1. Discussion participation is 5 points
2. Effective use of written communication skills is 1.5 points
3. External sources and citations are 3.5 points

Discussion posts are open during the length of a Unit, so from the conclusion of the previous exam to the closing of the current exam.

Content matters more than length (quality vs quantity), however a quality post should be of a length to sufficiently address the topic in a satisfactory manner. A reasonable post expectation should be 2-3 paragraphs with a 1 paragraph response.

4. Exams and Exam Make-Up Policy

There will be four ONLINE exams via D2L. All exams will have 40 multiple-choice questions. The lowest of the four exams is dropped.

All exams **MUST** be taken by the deadlines outlined in your Course Schedule and Course Calendar and are available on the first day of class.

There will be no makeup exams. If you miss an exam or assignment, it is going to be counted as zero regardless of circumstances.

Grading Formula

Your final grade will be calculated as the following:

Exams (3) 45%

Homework 50%

Discussions 5%

Details:

Each exam is valued at 15% of your overall grade, 4 Exams, drop the lowest.

Each homework assignment is the percentage of questions answered correctly, the lowest 3 assignments are dropped. Each assignment makes up 10% of your Homework Grade, or 5% of your overall grade.

Each Discussion Post (4 Total) makes up 25% of the discussion grade, or 1.25% of your overall grade.

Grading Scale

The following grade scale will be used:

A = 90 – 100 points

B = 80 – 89 points

C = 70 – 79 points

D = 60 – 69 points

F = 59 – below

You can find the end of chapter multiple choice questions and problem sets on Mindtap in the form of assignments in the “Practice” mode, please work through them to help review materials covered in the chapter. You should also use the Study Guide (at the bottom of your Mindtap homepage) questions as self-testing tools to prepare for unit exams.

There are no considerations for grade ‘adjustments’. All grades are finalized based on the performance of the student and their work.

Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy:

Due to the time structure of the course, that all assignments are available in advance, **there is no late work policy. There are no Make-Ups for Exams. There is no Extra Credit.** These exist due to the ability of students to complete homework tasks to achieve the score they desire.

Attendance Policy: **Students will complete their first discussion post by the Census Date.** Online classes are flexible, but not independent study. You are expected to log into D2L regularly, at least **four times a week** in order to complete tasks.

Communicating with your instructor: ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means. (Faculty may add additional statement requiring monitoring and communication expectations via D2L or other LMS)

Student Learner Outcome (SLO)	Connections to Core Objective	Assessment
Explain the role of scarcity, specialization, opportunity cost, and cost/benefit analysis in economic decision making.	Critical Thinking /Empirical and Quantitative Skills	Exam, Discussion
Identify the determinants of supply and demand; demonstrate the impact of shifts in both market supply and demand curves on equilibrium price and output.	Critical Thinking /Empirical and Quantitative Skills	Exam, Discussion
Summarize the law of diminishing marginal utility; describe the process of utility maximization.	Empirical Analysis	Exam, Discussion
Calculate supply and demand elasticities, identify the determinants of price elasticity of demand and supply, and demonstrate the relationship between elasticity and total revenue.	Critical Thinking /Empirical and Quantitative Skills	Exam, Discussion
Describe the production function and the Law of Diminishing Marginal Productivity; calculate and graph short-run and long run costs of production.	Critical Thinking /Empirical and Quantitative Skills	Exam, Discussion
Identify the four market structures by characteristics; calculate and graph the profit maximizing price and quantity in the output markets by use of marginal analysis.	Critical Thinking /Empirical and Quantitative Skills	Exam, Discussion
Determine the profit maximizing price and quantity of resources in factor markets under perfect and imperfect competition by use of marginal analysis.	Empirical Thinking and Quantitative Skills	Exam, Discussion
Describe governmental efforts to address market failure such as monopoly power, asymmetric information externalities, and public goods.	Critical Thinking /Empirical and Quantitative Skills	Exam, Discussion
Identify the benefits of free trade using the concept of comparative advantage.	Critical Thinking /Empirical and Quantitative Skills	Exam, Discussion
(CS1) Develop, interpret, and express ideas through written communication.	Communication Skills	Discussion
(SR) Demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.	Social Responsibility	Discussion

Academic Dishonesty: Any incident of academic policy will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on exams, submitting written assignment containing any plagiarized material or AI component will receive a grade of zero on that exam/assignment and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for appropriate discipline action. **Note about AI:** AI is a tool that should never be used for the creation of student work.

Student Concerns: If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Department Chair, Shinya Wakao at 409-933-8107 or through email at swakao@com.edu.

Course outline:

SYLLABUS QUIZ DUE 10/15/2025

UNIT 1

- Chapter 1 Ten Principles of Economics
- Chapter 2 Thinking like an Economist
- Chapter 3 Interdependence and Gains from Trade
- Chapter 4 The Market Forces of Supply and Demand

Exam 1

Due Date: *10/25/2025*

UNIT 2

- Chapter 5 Elasticity and Its Application
- Chapter 6 Supply, Demand, and Government
- Chapter 7 Consumers, Producers, and Surplus
- Chapter 10 Externalities

Exam 2

Due Date: *11/8/2025*

UNIT 3

- Chapter 11 Public Goods and Common Resources
- Chapter 14 The Costs of Production
- Chapter 15 Firms in Competitive Markets
- Chapter 16 Monopoly

Exam 3

Due Date: *11/22/2025*

UNIT 4

- Chapter 17 Monopolistic Competition
- Chapter 18 Oligopoly
- Chapter 19 The Markets for Factors of Production
- Chapter 21 Income Inequality and Poverty

Exam 4

Due Date: *10/9/2025*

The course outline is tentative; dates and chapter coverage may be subject to change. All dates are listed in D2L.

Institutional Policies and Guidelines

Grade Appeal Process: Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook <https://www.com.edu/student-services/student-handbook.html>

An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor's professional judgment of the quality of the student's work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.

Academic Success & Support Services: College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

ADA Statement: Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact:

Kimberly Lachney, Student Accessibility Services Coordinator

Phone: 409-933-8919

Email: AccessibilityServices@com.edu

Location: COM Doyle Family Administration Building, Student Success Center

Textbook Purchasing Statement: A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Withdrawal Policy: Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a "W" grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw from the 1st 8-week session is October 1. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 14. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is November 25.

FN Grading: The FN grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The FN grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the FN grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an FN grade.

Early Alert Program: The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty

completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

Resources to Help with Stress:

If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please click here <https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/>. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life issues that get in the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students office at deanofstudents@com.edu or communityresources@com.edu.

Nondiscrimination Statement:

The College District prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity and gender expression), or any other basis prohibited by law. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is a violation of College District policy.