

Intermediate Microeconomics

ECONOMICS 306-003 - Fall 2013
274 Enterprise Hall
Mondays & Wednesdays (3:00-4:15 PM)

Instructor: Paul Mueller

Office: Enterprise Hall, 3rd Floor, Workstation 328

Office Hours: Monday 1:00-2:30 or by appointment

Email: Pmuelle4@gmu.edu

Website: Blackboard

Phone: 719-650-3725

Objectives:

In this class you will learn basic price theory including utility functions, finding the equilibrium between supply and demand functions, calculating elasticity (and more importantly, knowing what it means), and how to maximize revenue/minimize costs. You will also learn how the market is a *process*; including basic theories about entrepreneurship, competition, and production under various market conditions like monopsony or oligopoly.

Prerequisites

You should already have taken principles of microeconomics and should have a solid grasp of basic differential calculus, logic, graphical methods and basic math.

Policies

While you are in class I ask that all of your electronic devices be turned off and out of sight. In return I will do my best to keep class interesting and engaging. If you do not know how to take notes by hand, or feel that doing so is a fate worse than death, you may ask me for permission to use your laptop/tablet for note-taking. **You are ultimately responsible for what you learn.**

I encourage you to attend class. The choice, however, and the responsibility, is yours. Assignments are due at the beginning of class. Being absent does not change this. If there are special circumstances meriting an extension, you must let me know at least 24 hours beforehand. You must take the exams on the scheduled days. No exceptions.

In addition to the standards outlined directly in this document, the University's Honor Code governs every action you take in this class. Violations will be handled according to University policy. **Cheating on exams will result in a score of 0 and will be referred to the dean.**

Course Materials

Textbook: Edgar K. Browning and Mark A. Zupan: Microeconomics: Theory and Applications, 10th Edition. A study guide is available but **not** required.

Articles: I may assign articles during the course. If so, I will make them available on Blackboard at least one week in advance.

Grading

Your grade will be based upon the following categories:

- Homework 25%
- 1st Midterm 20%
- 2nd Midterm 20%
- Final Exam 35%

Notes on Grading

- You may collaborate on the homework but remember that you should be able to answer the questions independently as there will be similar questions on exams.
- I will try to return assignments by the next class period.
- I will not go through the answers to midterm exams unless a majority of the class struggled on a particular problem. I will answer any questions you have about your individual exam after it has been returned for more than 24 hours.

Course Schedule

We **will not** have class on Monday **9/2** (Labor Day), Monday **10/14** (Columbus Day), or on Wednesday **11/27** (Thanksgiving). We **will** have class on **Tuesday 10/15** (same time and place)

1st Midterm: Wednesday 10/2

2nd Midterm: Wednesday 11/6

Final Exam: Monday 12/16 from 1:30-4:15

Other Important Dates

Last day to add classes/Drop with no tuition penalty — **September 3rd**

Last day to drop (33% tuition penalty) — **September 18th**

Last day to drop (67% tuition penalty) — **September 27th**

Selective Withdrawal Period — **September 30 - October 25th**

Note about Disabilities

If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Services at 703.993.2474 or ods.gmu.edu. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.