

# Syllabus

## Econ 1011

### Spring 2025

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**Office Hours:** T 11:30-12:30, W 11:00-12:00 (virtually as needed), and by appointment individually. Sign up for office hours (not Tuesday) at <https://calendly.com/rhiller-1>

**Textbook:** Mankiw, N. Gregory. Microeconomics, Cengage Learning, 7th or 8th edition (I will be teaching from the 7th edition, but either will be fine.)

**Prereq:** No prerequisite is needed, but we will use basic algebra and graphing in the course. Some knowledge of these math skills is necessary.

## Description

Microeconomics is the study of individuals and firms, but as most of you are taking your first rigorous Economics course, Economics in general is a set of tools for analyzing the world. In this class we will consider the motivation and decision making of people. What makes someone buy a car, eat another slice of pizza, or work a job they don't like? We will also use this basic knowledge to think critically about public policies, derive and solve basic economic models, and you can use these skills to converse intelligently about economic events. Additionally, this subject will be essential for further studies in Economics.

## Core Pathways

Principles of Microeconomics is part of the social science core. In terms of the Core Pathways, social science courses provide you with a solid background in quantitative reasoning, and the knowledge needed to actively connect with civic engagement.

## Grading

Grade Breakdown:

Two Midterms: 25% each

Homework: 20%

Final exam: 30%

For this class we will be following the book fairly closely. However, I will use examples or ideas not in the book in lecture. Anything covered in class is fair game for exams.

There will be several pop quizzes at random points in the semester which will determine an overall “participation” grade. We will have two midterms at the assigned dates and a cumulative final. Students must also complete homework assignments. You may work in groups for these assignments but must each turn in an individual homework.

## Tentative Schedule of Topics

(Subject to Change)

Chapter	Topic
1-2	First Principles
3	Interdependence and Gains from Trade
4	Supply and Demand
5	Elasticity
6	Supply and Demand and Government Policy
7	Consumer and Producer Surplus
8 & 9	Costs of Taxes & International Trade
10	Externalities
11	Public Goods
13	Production Costs
14	Competitive Markets
15-17	Industrial Organization
18	Markets for Factors of Production
19*	Economics of Discrimination
20*	Income Inequality and Poverty
21*	Theory of Consumer Choice
	*Chapter covered time permitting

## Important Dates

Midterm 1 - Friday, February 21

Midterm 2 - Tuesday, March 25

Final - May 6th, 11:30 AM

## Academic Honesty

All students are expected to conform to the code of academic honesty of the University. You should read the section in the University catalogue that describes academic honesty, and make sure you understand it. Although you are welcome to work together on the computer part of the homework assignments, the written part should be done independently, and cheating on exams will result in a failing grade on that test and possible referral to the Dean’s Office.