

ECO 211: Introductory Microeconomics Course Syllabus

Course & Section	ECO 211-08
Course Title	Introductory Microeconomics
Semester & Year	Fall 2020
Course Meeting Days/Times	N/A (Online Course)
Building & Room Number	N/A
Instructor	Christopher John F. Cruz, Ph.D.
Instructor Office Hours	Virtual Office Hours Thursday 2-3 pm and 5:30-6:30 pm; Friday 11 AM – 12 noon and by appointment.
Email	cruzch@gvsu.edu
Phone	(616) 331-7122
Office Location	Virtual Office on Bb and SCB 3122

Please Note: Every effort has been made to outline the semester and course expectations as known. Given the unprecedented uncertainties caused by the COVID pandemic, we reserve the right to make adjustments as needed to the course syllabus in order to achieve the course outcomes.

Course Description

Microeconomics focuses on the interactions among households, producers, and governments in market economies. It also applies fundamental methods of economic analysis to topics such as household spending and saving patterns; producer pricing, profits, and organization; wages and income distribution; investment decisions; health care and insurance; government taxes, spending, and regulation of markets.

General Education Requirements

ECO 211 is part of the General Education Program at GVSU in the *Social Sciences Foundation* category. It meets the broad General Education Objectives by attending to the following specific content objectives and skill objectives:

Content Objectives

- To become familiar with economic methods and to understand the basic concepts and terminology of economics.
- To become aware of various participants in market economies—households, firms and government—and to develop an understanding of how they interact in market settings.
- To explore the role of government in modern market-based economies.

Skills Objectives

- To apply critical thinking to microeconomic issues and economic policy.
- To effectively communicate microeconomic concepts to others.
- To be able to locate and interpret both economic data and information on economic policy.

Course Prerequisites

MTH 110 OR MTH 122 OR MTH 201; sophomore standing recommended

Course Learning Objectives

See General Education Requirements for the course learning objectives

Course Materials

Required Materials: Principles of Microeconomics, 9th edition by N. Gregory Mankiw
CENGAGE UNLIMITED-ACCESS (1 SEMESTER)

Course Expectations

The course content is organized over 15 weekly folders. Each folder is designed identically starting with a description of the learning objectives the material and assignments are designed to meet, lecture videos to watch, notes to read and activities to complete both in and outside the classroom during the week. Students are expected to stay on top of the due dates and deliverables and take full responsibility for their academic work and progress.

Class Format and Delivery:

The course content (lectures) will be delivered asynchronously via Blackboard (Bb). Since this is a fully-online course, active learning assignments, discussions, and Q and A will also be delivered on Bb. Every week, you are expected to go over the relevant video lectures, relevant chapters, work on active learning assignments and homeworks, etc. All submissions, be it homework, active learning assignments, or information literacy assignments, will be done through the Bb side. To keep things organized, the Bb site lists the things you need to do on a week-by-week basis. It is critical that you maintain constant communication with the instructor to ensure that you understand the concepts and ideas in the course.

Online/Hybrid Computer Resources

- Access to Blackboard required
- Access to audio and video capabilities for use with Blackboard required

Attendance Policy:

As this is an online course, students will not be attending any classes in person. However, students are encouraged to actively participate in virtual meetings with the instructor. Virtual office hours are listed above and we will be utilizing the Bb Ultra Collaborate mainly for these meetings. When there are tech issues, we will be using Zoom as an alternative. The instructor will provide the

necessary Zoom links as the need arises.

Exams:

Two non-cumulative take home midterms and a *cumulative final exam* will be given during the semester. The emphasis on exams will be on applying the material learned in class. For example, you may be asked to integrate several concepts or to apply a concept in a new way—one not discussed in class. Exams will include a mix of multiple choice, short answer and problem-solving questions.

Active Learning:

For immediate reinforcement, application and assessment of the material covered, active learning exercises will be employed. You are expected to work on these exercises during or after watching the video lectures. You are expected to upload your completed work on Bb.

Homework:

There will be fourteen on-line homework assignments. Assignments are found and completed in MindTap accessed via Bb. Assignment due dates are in the schedule below and on Bb and must be completed on the scheduled date in order to receive credit. It is the student's responsibility to appropriately manage their time and complete the assignments when due. Student will be provided three attempts on each homework assignment. The highest of the three scores will apply towards the final grade.

Quizzes:

There will be weekly quizzes on Bb throughout the semester. Material for the quizzes will come from the lecture videos, active learning assignments and MindTap homeworks. The quizzes will consist of 10 multiple-choice questions. You will have 30 minutes to complete each quiz. There will be **no makeup quizzes**. However, your lowest two quiz scores will be dropped in calculating your final grades.

Information Literacy:

There will be an information literacy assignment that is generated by the Economics Department and is a required part of the course. As part of this activity you will ...

- identify the specific information needed and gather optimal information from a variety of sources using appropriate search tools.
- evaluate and select only the best sources for quality, usefulness, and relevance.
- use information effectively and ethically to draw appropriate conclusions and optimally answer a question or solve a problem.
- properly cite all ideas, text and media following APA format (in body of paper and bibliography).

Late Work & Extension Requests:

Assignments and due dates are clearly listed in the schedule below. No late work will be accepted and requests for extensions for due dates will not be entertained. All assignments have

been planned around critical times within the semester and contribute to your successful learning of the following material.

Missed Exams, Make-up Exams and/or Quizzes:

All students are expected to take the examinations on the scheduled dates and times. Only university approved excuses, supported by official verifiable DOCUMENTATION, will be an acceptable reason for a student missing an exam. A student who misses an examination without notifying the instructor prior to the examination and receiving my permission to miss the exam will be assigned a grade of zero. There will be no make-ups for a missed midterm exam. If a student misses an exam for a legitimate reason that has been, pre-approved, the final exam will be counted as 25% of the final grade.

In addition, late homework, active learning exercises, course research project milestones, and quizzes will not be accepted or graded. All work assigned is required and must be turned in when due and requested. Failure to turn in any of the above on time will result in a score of zero.

Grading

Grade Component	% of Final Grade
Take-home Midterm 1	10%
Take-home Midterm 2	10%
Comprehensive Final Exam*	15%
Active learning assignments	15%
Quizzes	15%
MindTap Homework	25%
Information Literacy Assignment	10%
TOTAL	100%

- includes the department assessment exam

Grade	%	Grade	%	Grade	%
A	93+	B-	80-82.99	D+	67-69.99
A-	90-92.99	C+	77-79.99	D	60-66.99
B+	87-89.99	C	73-76.99	F	0-59.99
B	83-86.99	C-	70-72.99		

Tentative Weekly Course Schedule

Note: This tentative schedule is subject to change as needed during the semester. If changes are made, this will be communicated via an email and Bb announcement.

Week	Days/Dates	Agenda Topic(s)	Items Due	Due Dates
1	Aug 31-Sept 6	Introduction	(1) Flipgrid Introductions (2) Explore MindTap: a video tutorial (3) How to do Apla Assignments (4) Refresh your math and graph skills	11:59 PM, Sunday Sept 6
2	Sept 7-Sept 13	Chapter 1 and 2	(1) Active learning Assignment Ch 1&2 (2) Quiz Ch 1&2 (3) Mindtap HW Ch 1&2	11:59 PM, Sunday Sept 13
3	Sept 14-Sept 20	Chapter 3	(1) Active learning Assignment Ch 3 (2) Quiz Ch 3 (3) Mindtap HW Ch 3	11:59 PM, Sunday Sept 20
4	Sept 21-Sept 27	Chapter 4	(1) Active learning Assignment Ch 4 (2) Quiz Ch 4 (3) Mindtap HW Ch 4	11:59 PM, Sunday Sept 27
5	Sept 28-Oct 4	Chapter 5	(1) Active learning Assignment Ch 5 (2) Quiz Ch 5 (3) Mindtap HW Ch 5 (4) Midterm 1 (Ch 1-5)	11:59 PM, Sunday Oct 4
6	Oct 5-Oct 11	Chapter 6	(1) Active learning Assignment Ch 6 (2) Quiz Ch 6 (3) Mindtap HW Ch 6	11:59 PM, Sunday Oct 11
7	Oct 12-Oct 18	Chapter 7	(1) Active learning Assignment Ch 7 (2) Quiz Ch 7 (3) Mindtap HW Ch 7	11:59 PM, Sunday Oct 18
8	Oct 19-Oct 25	Chapter 10	(1) Active learning Assignment Ch 10 (2) Quiz Ch 10 (3) Mindtap HW Ch 10	11:59 PM, Sunday Oct 25
9	Oct 26-Nov 1	Chapter 11	(1) Active learning Assignment Ch 11 (2) Quiz Ch 11 (3) Mindtap HW Ch 11 (4) Midterm 2 (Ch 6-11)	11:59 PM, Sunday Nov 1
10	Nov 2-Nov 8	Chapter 13	(1) Active learning Assignment Ch 13 (2) Quiz Ch 13 (3) Mindtap HW Ch 13	11:59 PM, Sunday Nov 8
11	Nov 9-Nov 15	Chapter 14	(1) Active learning Assignment Ch 14 (2) Quiz Ch 14 (3) Mindtap HW Ch 14	11:59 PM, Sunday Nov 15
12	Nov 16-Nov 22	Chapter 15	(1) Active learning Assignment Ch 15 (2) Quiz Ch 15 (3) Mindtap HW Ch 15	11:59 PM, Sunday Nov 22
13	Nov 23-Nov 29 Online class T: 8:30-9:45	Chapter 16	(1) Active learning Assignment Ch 16 (2) Quiz Ch 16 (3) Mindtap HW Ch 16 (4) Information Literacy Assignment	11:59 PM, Sunday Nov 29

Week	Days/Dates	Agenda Topic(s)	Items Due	Due Dates
14	Nov 30-Dec 6 Online class T-Th: 8:30-9:45	Chapter 17	(1) Active learning Assignment Ch 17 (2) Quiz Ch 17 (3) Mindtap HW Ch 17	11:59 PM, Sunday Dec 6
15	Dec 7-Dec 13 Online class T-Th: 8:30-9:45	Review	Final Exam Review	
EXAM Week		Final Exam	Final Exam	8:00 am – 9:50 am Thursday, Dec 17

Academic Calendar

<https://www.gvsu.edu/registrar/academiccalendar.htm#BD262BEF-991E-E631-BB83C2857E4F63B2>

GVSU Policies

This course is subject to GVSU course policies located at: <http://www.gvsu.edu/coursepolicies/>
Students with Disabilities:

- Americans with Disabilities Act Philosophy Statement: <https://www.gvsu.edu/dsr/>
- Disability Support Resources: <https://www.gvsu.edu/dsr/registering-with-disability-support-resources-85.htm>

Withdrawal Policy: <https://www.gvsu.edu/sasc/academic-policies-procedures-67.htm>

Incomplete Policy: <https://www.gvsu.edu/registrar/general-academic-policies-55.htm#IncompleteGrade>

Student Code of Honor: <http://www.gvsu.edu/studentcode/>

Academic Integrity and Dishonesty: <https://www.gvsu.edu/conduct/academic-integrity-14.htm>

Tutoring:

- Seidman Tutoring <https://www.gvsu.edu/seidman/tutoring>
- GVSU Tutoring at the Student Academic Success Center <http://www.gvsu.edu/tc/>

Commitment to Inclusion & Equity and University Anti-Harassment/Non-Discrimination Policy:	https://www.gvsu.edu/affirmativeactionstatement.htm
Title IX Information:	https://www.gvsu.edu/titleix/
Religious Inclusion Policy:	https://www.gvsu.edu/policies/policy.htm?policyId=129535EB-9F42-2683-61E9033594C870D2h
Face Coverings when on Campus:	Face coverings, such as masks, are required to be worn in the classroom. Students who have forgotten their masks may get a disposable mask at a campus office. The evidence is clear that face coverings are a crucial part of keeping coronavirus at bay , and GVSU's policy on face coverings is posted on the Lakers Together web site.

Seidman College Mission Statement

Seidman develops business talent that contributes to the economic growth of West Michigan and the Great Lakes region. Through the exchange and application of knowledge with a global perspective, our students learn to make informed decisions, act ethically, and take initiative. Our distinctiveness is grounded in strong community collaborations, applied scholarly contributions, innovative approaches to learning, and a supportive environment.