

Economics 2120-160: Introduction to Microeconomics
Summer Semester 2013
MTWRF, 1:00 pm – 2:55 pm

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Text Microeconomics
2nd Edition
Krugman and Wells
ISBN 0137002890

Online Course Information

Course information, such as the syllabus, review sheets, and test grades will be available via ecourseware. To access ecourseware, simply go to <http://elearn.memphis.edu/> and follow the instructions. If you have problems accessing ecourseware, let me know and I will see what I can do.

Course Description

Economics 2120 focuses on the behavior of individual firms and consumers viewed through the framework of economic theory. Once an understanding of market basics is obtained, students will study various market structures, including perfect competition and monopoly, policy issues such as taxation and tax incidence, and applied microeconomics in areas such as income distribution, environmental economics, and labor economics. Particular attention will be paid to current events and policy matters.

Grading/Make-up Policy

The grading scale is as follows:

A	90 - 100
B	80 - 90
C	70 - 80
D	60 - 70
F	< 60

I will of course round up to the nearest whole number when assigning grades, such that an 89.5 is an A, 79.5 a B, and so on. There might or might not be a curve, but that depends on the final averages and grades. I am hesitant to commit to one now, but I am open to that possibility as the semester progresses.

In general though, I do not grade on a curve. It is entirely possible that two students could end the semester with the same final average, but due to extra effort made inside or outside of class (i.e. participating in class discussions, attending office hours, regular attendance, and so on), one of those students might receive the benefit of a curved final grade, while the other may not. Effort counts, and that more than anything else will determine whether or not an individual student will receive a curved grade. Curves are thus determined on an individual and not class-wide basis.

Attendance Policy

Attendance will not be taken daily and does not factor directly into your grade, but attending class is important and will ultimately affect your final grade. If you miss class, you are responsible for finding out what you missed. Note that some opportunities to earn extra points will require your presence in class – missed opportunities for extra points cannot be made up.

I do expect you to be here on time. Lateness is strongly discouraged.

Exams, the Group Project, and the Final

There will be three midterm exams and a final. The final will be comprehensive and is mandatory. There will be no make-up exams. The exams will be a combination of multiple-choice and short-answer questions. Review sessions in class will be scheduled, time permitting. The tests should take approximately one hour. You can drop your lowest midterm exam score.

Finally, you will have a group project to complete. Students will be assigned a group with their classmates who are in the same language class. Each group will complete a 15-20 minute PowerPoint presentation about a topic relevant to international economics and your region of the world. The projects will be presented in class on Thursday, 27 June. I will provide guidance on topic selection and the final project. More information about the project will be provided soon.

You will have the opportunity to earn bonus points throughout the semester. For example, there will be practice quizzes prior to each exam that you can take for extra credit. The practice quizzes will be posted to ecourseware about a week before each exam and will consist of questions from the test bank included with the text. Each practice quiz will add up to ½ point to your final average. Other bonus point opportunities will be handed out at my discretion.

The tests and other assignments are weighted as follows in determining your final grade:

Exams One, Two and Three	50% (25% each)
Final Exam	30%
Group Project	20%

Exam Schedule

Friday, 7 June	Exam One
Friday, 14 June	Exam Two
Friday, 21 June	Exam Three
Friday, 28 June	Final Exam

Notes

1. All students are responsible for knowing and adhering to the University's [Policy on Academic Honesty](#) as published in the Student Handbook. Any incidents of academic dishonesty (i.e. cheating on a test, plagiarizing, etc.) will result in a final grade of "F" for the course.
2. This course syllabus provides a general plan for the course; deviations might be necessary.