

# Syllabus

## Economics 1051: General Economics

Meeting Time MoTuWeThFr from 1:00 pm to 1:50 pm

Meeting Place 114 Physics Building ([map](#))

### Course Instructors

Name Martin Pereyra  
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Name Martha M. Steffens  
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### Course Overview

Economics is an exciting discipline with many applications. This course will help develop your critical thinking skills by presenting and analyzing examples drawn from our everyday life. During this semester we will cover both microeconomics and macroeconomics topics. Microeconomics studies the decision making process of both consumers and firms. Macroeconomics generally refers to a collection of questions about how scarcity affects a group of people interacting with one another. Topics covered in this course include: gains from trade, supply and demand analysis, elasticity, imperfect competition, gross domestic product, economic growth, unemployment, inflation, monetary and fiscal policy.

### Textbook

General Economics for School of Journalism – N. Gregory Mankiw (5<sup>th</sup> edition). Thomson-Southwestern Publishing. The Study guide is also required. The MU bookstore also has available for sale a 4<sup>th</sup> edition of this textbook that you can use.

### Course blackboard

Course materials including syllabus, handouts, and important course announcements will be posted on the blackboard site ([www.courses.missouri.edu](http://www.courses.missouri.edu)). You may also check your grades on the course blackboard site.

The Wall Street Journal: you will need to get a 10-week subscription to the Wall Street Journal beginning the week of Sept. 14; so apply soon. You may team up with another student and share a subscription, which will be sent to your dorm. Sign up at <http://info.wsj.com/professor/new/> and click on Student Subscriptions and 10 weeks. It costs \$24.95.

### Aplia

Aplia grants you access to additional exercises and studying resources (e.g. interactive graphs). Please login to Aplia during the first week of classes following the instructions on your textbook. The course Key code is: **D9L4-G7P2-JYHH**. Please make sure that you use your pawprint as your nickname when creating your account.

### Communications

Please use only your UMC e-mail account for communication purposes. Do not use other accounts to send me e-mails. Check your UMC e-mail account at least twice per day. E-mail will be used extensively for course related announcements. Please be sure to use “Econ 1051” as the subject heading when e-mailing your instructors.

### Reading assignments

You are responsible for the material covered in lecture and in the textbook reading assignments. Weekly reading assignments are given on the lecture schedule. Please complete the reading assignment before each chapter is discussed in class. Any changes in the schedule will be announced in lecture, usually at the beginning or at the end of class. Please be in class on time and stay until the end of the class to make sure you get all important information.

### Econ 1051 Help Desk

Extra help is available through the Econ 1051 Help Desk. You can stop by during office hours in room 230 (Professional Building) to ask questions about topics covered in this course. Four economics graduate students will be ready to help you understand the material better. Please do not wait until the last day before an exam to contact the Econ Help Desk. Information about office hours and a phone number will be posted in Blackboard.

### Lectures and Attendance Policy

Attendance and your undivided attention at every lecture is strongly encouraged as we cover material very quickly. Lectures usually build upon previous lectures, so it will be crucial for you to make sure you understand the material every day. When students are struggling on exams, it is often because they miss lectures.

If you are ill and cannot attend, please be sure to obtain class lecture notes from classmates in case. Instructors' lecture notes **will not be available** to you. We expect courtesy from all students including being on time for class, being silent during class and staying until the end of class to prevent any disruptions to your classmates or to the lecture.

Students are expected to complete all required assignments. In case of absence, please note that you are still responsible for all material covered in any missed lectures and you are responsible for any other shortcomings that may come from missing class.

### Exams and Online quizzes

Quizzes will reinforce concepts discussed in the text or lecture. Hence, they will prepare you for the exams. An exam will be given almost every three weeks (a total of 3 midterms and the final). Most of the exam questions will be multiple-choice and they will typically be similar to quiz questions, and/or they will be from lecture and reading assignments. Tests and quizzes will only be administered during scheduled times. There are **no makeups** for homework and/or tests. Your performance on the final exam will replace the lowest score on a midterm exam if the former is higher (read more about this below).

### How to succeed in this class

During the second week, we will bring in students from previous semesters who have achieved As in this class to share with you their secrets for success. Be prepared to question them on note-taking and study strategies.

### Emergency related issues

In case of an emergency, military call-ups, sickness or death in the family affecting attendance the day of an exam, you will be excused from the exam **if and only if** you follow this procedure:

You **must** provide me with your justification via e-mail and you **must** submit proper documentation in a timely manner (e.g. military order in advance, doctor's note upon your return). When you go through a death in the family, you need to send me a statement, via e-mail, telling the deceased's name and the relationship to you and provide me with a copy of the obituary upon your return.

Unexcused missed tests and quizzes **will be scored as zeros**. If you miss a midterm with no excuse, your score for that midterm **will not** be replaced by your performance on the final. A maximum of **one** quiz and one midterm can be excused during the semester. The excused quiz will be scored as the average of the other quizzes. If you **miss more than one midterm** or **the final exam**, you will automatically receive an "F".

Note: If you have a valid excuse to miss two exams on their scheduled dates, you will receive an "incomplete" for the semester grade.

## Grading

Online quizzes	120
First midterm (Pereyra)	95
First midterm (Steffens)	25
Second midterm (Pereyra)	95
Second midterm (Steffens)	25
Third midterm (Pereyra)	95
Third midterm (Steffens)	25
Final Exam (Pereyra)	95
Final Exam (Steffens)	<u>25</u>
Total course points	600

The letter grade is assigned based on the total points you can earn:

A+	582 or above	C+	462 – 479
A	558 – 581	C	438 – 461
A-	540 – 557	C-	420 – 437
B+	522 – 539	D+	402 – 419
B	498 – 521	D	378 – 401
B-	480 – 497	D-	360 – 377
		F	below 360

## Academic Dishonesty

Academic integrity is fundamental to the activities and principles of a university. All members of the academic community must be confident that each person's work has been responsibly and honorably acquired, developed, and presented. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort is successful. The academic community regards breaches of the academic integrity rules as extremely serious matters. Sanctions for such a breach may include academic sanctions from the instructor, including failing the course for any violation, to disciplinary sanctions ranging from probation to expulsion. When in doubt about plagiarism, paraphrasing, quoting, collaboration, or any other form of cheating, consult the course instructor.

## American with Disabilities Act

If you need accommodations because of a disability, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please inform me immediately. Please see me privately after class, or at my office.

To request academic accommodations (for example, a notetaker), students must also register with the [Office of Disability Services](http://disabilityservices.missouri.edu), (http://disabilityservices.missouri.edu), S5 Memorial Union, 882-4696. It is the campus office responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting academic accommodations, and for accommodations planning in cooperation

with students and instructors, as needed and consistent with course requirements. For other MU resources for students with disabilities, click on "Disability Resources" on the MU homepage.

Please provide your instructors with the appropriate documentation (Office of Disability Services) letter as soon as possible (**no later than the second week of classes**), so proctoring services can be timely arranged.

### Intellectual Pluralism

The University community welcomes intellectual diversity and respects student rights. Students who have questions concerning the quality of instruction in this class may address concerns to either the Departmental Chair or Divisional leader or Director of the [Office of Students Rights and Responsibilities](http://osrr.missouri.edu/) (<http://osrr.missouri.edu/>). All students will have the opportunity to submit an anonymous evaluation of the instructor(s) at the end of the course

### Examination Dates (Tentative)

First Midterm (Steffens)	Wednesday, September 16 (in class)
First Midterm (Pereyra)	Friday, September 18 (in class)
Second Midterm (Steffens)	Wednesday, October 14 (in class)
Second Midterm (Pereyra)	Friday, October 16 (in class)
Third Midterm (Steffens)	Wednesday, November 11 (in class)
Third Midterm (Pereyra)	Friday, November 13 (in class)
Final Exam (Steffens)	TBA (in class)
Final Exam (Pereyra)	Tuesday, December 15 at 1:00 pm (location TBA)