

ECON 1014 – Principles of Microeconomics - Online Summer 2017 * Course Syllabus

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TEXT

The textbook in this course is Cowen and Tabarrok, Modern Principles: Microeconomics 3/E. In addition, we will be making extensive use of learning software aligned with the textbook called LaunchPad. This course is part of the AutoAccess program designed to reduce the cost of course materials for students. You will be able to access the digital content for this course through Canvas on the first day of class automatically. Two charges, one for **\$72.99** and one for **\$6.00**, **will be charged to your student account on June 13, 2017** for the cost of the digital course materials. No trip to the bookstore is required, although there is an optional print loose-leaf available for sale at The Mizzou Store for \$50.

There are two ways to access the e-book from within the Canvas course page.

- There is a direct link to the e-book (*Cowen and Tabarrok – Modern Principles: Microeconomics 3/e*) in the “Modules” link in the folder titled “e-Book”.
- The e-book can also be accessed from the “Macmillan Higher Education” link by clicking on the “LaunchPad” logo at the top of the page.

If you are interested in learning more, Cowen and Tabarrok maintain a very interesting website:

www.seetheinvisiblehand.org

Short lectures by the textbook authors on topics in each chapter are available here:

<http://www.mruniversity.com/courses/principles-economics-microeconomics>

COURSE CONTENT

Econ. 1014 is a one semester survey of the principles of microeconomics.

COURSE FORMAT

This course will consist of the following components.

Chapter Notes

Each week, notes and other instructional materials for the required chapters will become available on Monday at 6am. Once this occurs, students are expected to read, study, and review all of the posted material. The notes are available in two formats – downloadable PowerPoint files with annotations in the “Notes” section of each slide (to read the annotations, you will need to download the file and open it in PowerPoint rather than viewing the slides through the Canvas interface) and links to Tegrity recordings that are voiceover lectures of the corresponding PowerPoint files. Students are free to access either or both notes formats, depending on their preferences. These two formats should be complementary and will allow students multiple modalities from which to learn the material. For the first week, I have also created a Tegrity recording going over the course format and policies that I highly recommend you view.

Learning Curve Tutorials

After studying the chapter, chapter notes, and other instructional material, the first graded task for each chapter is to complete the chapter’s LearningCurve tutorial. As with the e-book chapter, a link for each chapter’s tutorial can be found in the relevant weekly “Modules” folder. These tutorials consist of a set of adaptive questions covering the chapter material, i.e. you will get more questions/activities over topics that you are struggling with and fewer over topics that you understand well. Each chapter’s LearningCurve assignment is a completion grade that is due by Sunday at 6pm each week. As long as you make it to the end, you will receive full credit for the assignment, no matter how long it takes to make it through the tutorial.

Chapter Homework Assignments

Upon completion of the LearningCurve activities, the next graded task is to complete the chapter homework assignment. Similar to the above, links for each chapter’s homework problems can be found in the relevant weekly “Modules” folders. The homework assignments are completed online using the textbook’s LaunchPad interface (just like the LearningCurve tutorials). Any questions that arise during the completion of the homework assignments should be posted to the *Course Questions* forum on the discussion board, so that the instructor and teaching assistants (and other students) can help work through any difficulties. The homework assignments are graded on accuracy. As with the Learning Curve activities, the weekly chapter homework assignments must be completed by Sunday at 6pm each week. Note that you have unlimited attempts to complete the homework assignment and can also save your work and continue at any point up until the due date. Your highest scoring attempt will be the attempt recorded for grading purposes.

Exams

There will be two exams in this course – one during the fourth week of the course (June 26-July 2) and another during the eighth week of the course (July 24-July 28 – Note that this final week ends on **FRIDAY** rather than Sunday). The first exam will cover chapters 1-10, while the second exam will cover chapters 11-20. Once accessed, each exam allows two hours for completion. **YOU MUST COMPLETE THE EXAM IN ONE SITTING** (you cannot save and pick-up where

you left off later), so make sure to block off enough time to complete it. Answers to the exam questions become available AFTER all students have completed it (due to the potential for technical difficulties, this may sometimes be after the official exam closing time).

Extra Credit

Although I do my best to vet all of the questions in this class, sometimes errors do sneak through. If you find an error in any of the assignments, please notify me of it immediately. The first person to notify me of the error will earn 0.5% extra credit for that week. Please note that the 0.5% is a weekly maximum, so if you happen to discover more than one error in a given week you will still only earn 0.5% extra credit for that week.

GRADING

Your course grade will be based on two exams, 20 homework assignments (one for each chapter), and 20 (+1) LearningCurve exercises (one for each chapter, plus an additional introductory post on the discussion board).

	Percent of Grade
2 Exams	70.0
20 Homework Assignments	25.0
20 (+1) LaunchPad Exercises (LearningCurve)	5.0
Total	100.0

This course will use plus/minus grading on your final grade but not intermediate grades. You will get continuous feedback during the semester on your current grade standing on Canvas. However, the grades shown will just be: A, B, C, D, F. At the end of the semester, your final grade will use plus/minus grading (i.e., A+, A, A-, B+, B ...).

DISCUSSION BOARD

The discussion board feature of Canvas will be enabled for this course. There will be two forums in the discussion board. The first, *Introduce Yourself*, is where you should make an introductory post about yourself during the first week of the course. Note that this post **will count towards your grade as an additional LearningCurve assignment (hence the (+1) in the above grading table)**. In addition to a general introduction, please make sure to also answer the four questions listed in the forum description in your post.

The second forum is titled *Course Questions*. This forum is where you should post all general questions regarding the course material, assignments, etc. This is also where all homework questions should be asked. Only send me a message if your question involves an individual issue, e.g. specifics regarding your grade. I also encourage students to respond directly to other

student questions. Not only does this help out your fellow classmates, but it is also a great way to obtain a higher-level understanding of the course material.

IT ISSUES

If you have technical issues at any time during the course, you should first contact the relevant IT help line (note that Canvas help is separate from LaunchPad help). The instructor will not respond to any technical issues or provide extra time/back credit for assignments UNLESS YOU PROVIDE A TICKET NUMBER GIVEN TO YOU BY THE RELEVANT HELP LINE in your correspondence.

Canvas Help Contacts:

Phone: 1-573-882-5000

Chat: Available via the “Live Chat!” button at <https://doit.missouri.edu/tech-support/> .

Launchpad Help Contacts:

Online Form: <http://support.bfwpub.com/supportform/form.php>

Phone: 1-800-936-6899

Chat: Available in the Launchpad **Help** drop-down menu

Launchpad help is available Monday-Friday, 6AM-2AM and Saturday-Sunday, 8AM-2AM.
(Chat help is available 24/7.)

DISABILITY SERVICES

If you anticipate barriers related to the format or requirements of this course, please let me know as soon as possible.

If disability related accommodations are necessary (for example, extended time on quizzes, captioning), please register with the Office of Disability Services (<http://disabilityservices.missouri.edu>), S5 Memorial Union, 573- 882-4696, and then notify me of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. For other MU resources for persons with disabilities, click on "Disability Resources" on the MU homepage.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

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.

INTELLECTUAL PLURALISM

The University community welcomes intellectual diversity and respects student rights. Students who have questions or concerns regarding the atmosphere in this class (including respect for diverse opinions) may contact the Departmental Chair or Divisional Director; the Director of the [Office of Students Rights and Responsibilities](http://osrr.missouri.edu/) (<http://osrr.missouri.edu/>); or the [MU Equity Office](http://equity.missouri.edu/) (<http://equity.missouri.edu/>), or by email at equity@missouri.edu. All students will have the opportunity to submit an anonymous evaluation of the instructor(s) at the end of the course.

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Summer 2017**

Course Schedule, Reading Assignments and Important Dates Table

Notes: Each week goes from Monday through Sunday, except for the final week, which ends on Friday, July 28 per the eight-week summer session schedule.

Week / Start date	Reading assignments	Assignment	Due Dates (per assignment)
Week 1 06/05/2017	Chapter 1 – The Big Ideas of Economics	Introduce yourself on the Canvas discussion board <i>Introduce Yourself</i> forum	Open 06/05/2017, 6am Close 06/11/2017, 6pm
	Chapter 2 – The Power of Trade and Comparative Advantage	Chapters 1, 2, and 3 LearningCurve Tutorials	Open 06/05/2017, 6am Close 06/11/2017, 6pm
	Chapter 3 – Supply and Demand		Chapters 1, 2, and 3 HW Open 06/05/2017, 6am Close 06/11/2017, 6pm
Week 2 06/12/2017	Chapter 4 – Equilibrium: How Supply and Demand Determine Prices	Chapters 4, 5, and 6 LearningCurve Tutorials	Open 06/12/2017, 6am Close 06/18/2017, 6pm
	Chapter 5 – Elasticity and Its Applications	Chapters 4, 5, and 6 HW	Open 06/12/2017, 6am Close 06/18/2017, 6pm
	Chapter 6 – Taxes and Subsidies		
Week 3 06/19/2017	Chapter 7 – The Price System: Signals, Speculation, and Prediction	Chapters 7, 8, and 9 LearningCurve Tutorials	Open 06/19/2017, 6am Close 06/25/2017, 6pm
	Chapter 8 – Price Ceilings and Floors	Chapters 7, 8, and 9 HW	Open 06/19/2017, 6am Close 06/25/2017, 6pm
	Chapter 9 – International Trade		

<p>Week 4 06/26/2017</p>	<p>Chapter 10 – Externalities: When Prices Send the Wrong Signals</p>	<p>Chapter 10 LearningCurve Tutorial</p> <p>Chapter HW</p> <p>Exam #1 Covering Chapters 1-10</p>	<p>Open 06/26/2017, 6am Close 07/02/2017, 6pm</p> <p>Open 06/26/2017, 6am Close 07/02/2017, 6pm</p> <p>Open 06/26/2017, 6am Close 07/02/2017, 6pm</p>
<p>Week 5 07/03/2017</p>	<p>Chapter 11 – Costs and Profit Maximization Under Competition</p> <p>Chapter 12 – Competition and the Invisible Hand</p> <p>Chapter 13 – Monopoly</p>	<p>Chapters 11, 12, and 13 LearningCurve Tutorials</p> <p>Chapters 11, 12, and 13 HW</p>	<p>Open 07/03/2017, 6am Close 07/09/2017, 6pm</p> <p>Open 07/03/2017, 6am Close 07/09/2017, 6pm</p>
<p>Week 6 07/10/2017</p>	<p>Chapter 14 – Price Discrimination and Pricing Strategy</p> <p>Chapter 15 – Oligopoly and Game Theory</p> <p>Chapter 16 – Competing for Monopoly: The Economics of Network Goods</p>	<p>Chapters 14, 15, and 16 LearningCurve Tutorials</p> <p>Chapters 14, 15, and 16 HW</p>	<p>Open 07/10/2017, 6am Close 07/16/2017, 6pm</p> <p>Open 07/10/2017, 6am Close 07/16/2017, 6pm</p>
<p>Week 7 07/17/2017</p>	<p>Chapter 17 – Monopolistic Competition and Advertising</p> <p>Chapter 18 – Labor Markets</p> <p>Chapter 19 – Public Goods and the Tragedy of the Commons</p>	<p>Chapters 17, 18, and 19 LearningCurve Tutorials</p> <p>Chapters 17, 18, and 19 HW</p>	<p>Open 07/17/2017, 6am Close 07/23/2017, 6pm</p> <p>Open 07/17/2017, 6am Close 07/23/2017, 6pm</p>

<p>Week 8 07/24/2017</p>	<p>Chapter 20 – Political Economy and Public Choice</p>	<p>Chapter 20 LearningCurve Tutorial</p> <p>Chapter 20 HW</p> <p>Exam #2 Covering Chapters 11-20</p>	<p>Open 07/24/2017, 6am Close 07/28/2017, 6pm</p> <p>Open 07/24/2017, 6am Close 07/28/2017, 6pm</p> <p>Open 07/24/2017, 6am Close 07/28/2017, 6pm</p>
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