

Economics 2110:
Introductory Microeconomic Principles
Clemson University

Instructor: Michael Makowsky, Associate Professor, Department of Economics

Office: Powers 320R

Email: mdmakow@clemson.edu

Website: <http://www.michaelmakowsky.com/teaching>

Schedule: T-R 11:00am-12:15am meeting In Powers 225. The class will be taught entirely in person. I will, however, do my best to record lectures for students who have notified me of excused absences in advance.

Communication: Email is the best way to get in contact with me and is my principal means of communicating with the class. I make minimal (i.e. nearly zero) use of Canvas. **All students should regularly check their Clemson email account for important information.**

Office Hours: Thursdays 1:30pm to 2:30pm **held via Zoom.** These will be open sessions, preferably with multiple students. For private office meetings, we will simply arrange one-on-one Zoom calls with 15 minute blocks.

Course Objectives:

The lectures and readings in this course will familiarize students with the fundamentals of economics, economic theory, and the economic way of thinking. We will spend a lot of time developing an understanding of production and price formation in a market. We will discuss various market institutions such as the firm, advertising, profits and losses, futures speculation, and property rights, focusing on their role in the coordination of economic life. The meaning of life will be solved, explained, and optimized (time permitting).

Texts:

Cowen and Tabarrok: *Modern Principles of Microeconomics*, (Worth Publishers) **ISBN-10:** 1-4292-7841-2

The fifth edition is recommended, but the 3rd or 4th is perfectly adequate. Please note that the chapter ordering changes edition to edition, so the most important thing is to read the chapters that match the material in the lectures.

Homework:

All Homework will be submitted on paper by hand.

Grade Criteria and Policy:

Homework # 1:	5%	(due before 1 st midterm)
Midterm Exam #1:	20%	
Homework # 2:	5%	(due before 2 nd midterm)
Midterm Exam #2:	20%	
Homework # 3:	5%	(due before final exam)
Final:	45%	

These percentages are non-negotiable, barring *unavoidable* health or related personal circumstances.

Final course grades will be assigned on the following:

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

There will be no extra credit. No, I mean it. Seriously.

Attendance and Class Participation: Attendance will not be recorded or included in your grade. This a class, however, that often generates interesting and useful class conversations. Furthermore, while we have a textbook, class notes remain extremely useful material for preparing for exams. **You will be expected to participate in class in real-time.**

A note regarding questions (and whining):

I am more than willing to answer any questions after an exam. I am also willing to indulge a certain amount of whining about your grade. *But*, you must afford me **24 hours** after an exam/assignment has been returned if you expect any help or sympathy. The typical marathon of grading that precedes a returned exam leaves me in a less than generous demeanor. It is best to let this time pass.

Course outline (Approximate): The exams show up at the 1/3 and 2/3 points of the semester. The exams will always reflect the material covered to that point.

Chapter 1
Chapters 3-7
Midterm Exam #1
Chapters 2 and 8-14
Midterm Exam #2
Chapters 15-6, 18,22-23
Final Exam

Standard Syllabus Stuff

Attendance: Attendance is not required. I may introduce a voluntary sign-in sheet after a) the course withdrawal deadline, or b) the midterm. In such cases attendance would be taken into account for students with borderline grades (round up or down) or if any sort of academic adjudication is required. **That said, students who attend class tend to get higher grades on average *because learning*.** Students that must quarantine/isolate will not suffer any grade penalties association with their physical absence from in-person classes. Typical remedies for makeup work will be applied.

Flu/Sickness: Students should not attend classes or other university events from the onset of flu-like symptoms until at least 24 hours after the fever subsides without the use of fever reducing medications. Such absences will be considered excused absences; however, students are responsible for the material covered during the period of their absence

Specific COVID-19 related information: For a student who reports testing positive or is being asked to quarantine/isolate because of exposure to the virus, it will be up to the student to inform the instructor that they will be moving to online only instruction for at least the next two weeks. Students are directed to use the Notification of Absence link in Canvas to initiate this notification, which can be found under the “Help” button on the left navigation. Since I don’t emphasize Canvas, the direct link to the Notification of Absence form can be found through the Division of Student Affairs site. Additional communication via email is encouraged. Students will never be penalized in their grade for needing to move to online instruction.

Face Coverings: While in class face coverings and physical distancing are strongly encouraged, but not required. Please be familiar with the additional information on the Healthy Clemson website, such as the use of wipes for in-person classes. If an instructor does not have a face covering or refuses to wear an approved face covering without valid accommodation, students should notify the department chair.

Disruptions : If a student’s actions disrupt the class to the extent that an immediate response is needed, the instructor may call the Clemson University Police Department at 656-2222.

Accessibility: Clemson University values the diversity of our student body as a strength and a critical component of our dynamic community. Students with disabilities or temporary injuries/conditions may require accommodations due to barriers in the structure of facilities, course design, technology used for curricular purposes, or other campus resources. Students who experience a barrier to full access to a class should let the professor know, and make an appointment to meet with a staff member in Student Accessibility Services as soon as possible. You

can make an appointment by calling 864-656-6848, by emailing studentaccess@lists.clemson.edu, or by visiting Suite 239 in the Academic Success Center building. Appointments are strongly encouraged – drop-ins will be seen if possible, but there could be a significant wait due to scheduled appointments. Students who receive Academic Access Letters are strongly encouraged to request, obtain and present these to their professors as early in the semester as possible so that accommodations can be made in a timely manner. It is the student's responsibility to follow this process each semester. You can access further information here: <https://www.clemson.edu/academics/studentaccess/>.

Title IX: Clemson University is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender, pregnancy, national origin, age, disability, veteran's status, genetic information or protected activity in employment, educational programs and activities, admissions and financial aid. This includes a prohibition against sexual harassment and sexual violence as mandated by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

Course Withdrawal: Please note that the last day to drop the class is set by the University. Withdrawal after that date will require an assignment of a letter grade for the course.

Academic Integrity: As members of the Clemson University community, we have inherited Thomas Green Clemson's vision of this institution as a "high seminary of learning." Fundamental to this vision is a mutual commitment to truthfulness, honor, and responsibility, without which we cannot earn the trust and respect of others. Furthermore, we recognize that academic dishonesty detracts from the value of a Clemson degree. Therefore, we shall not tolerate lying, cheating, or stealing in any form. All students are expected to abide by Clemson University's policy on academic integrity. The policy is available online: [academic integrity](#). I will pursue the maximum allowable penalty for any violation of academic honesty or integrity.

Cancellations: Any exam that was scheduled at the time of a class cancellation due to inclement weather will be given at the next class meeting unless contacted by the instructor. Any assignments due at the time of a class cancellation due to inclement weather will be due at the next class meeting unless the instructor contacts students. Any extension or postponement of assignments or exams must be granted by the instructor via email or Canvas within 24 hours of the weather related cancellation.

Late starts: If the instructor is late for class, you may leave and consider class cancelled within 15 minutes of the starting time *unless another faculty member or administrator informs you the instructor will be showing up and teaching the class by a specific time.*