

**Tentative Syllabus for Econ 105**  
**Principles of Microeconomics**  
**Autumn 2020**

**Instructor:** Mohammad Mirhosseini

Email: mmirhoss@depaul.edu

**Office Hours:** Fridays 1:00 – 3:00 PM via Zoom. The link to join will be posted on D2L

**Textbook:** Gregory Mankiw, Principles of Microeconomics, 9th or 8th edition, South Western Cengage Learning

For many of you, my lecture notes are enough, but if you feel you need the book it can be purchased from the DePaul Bookstore, or online from <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/depaul.htm>

**Learning Objective:** This course is an introductory study of market mechanisms in allocation of productive resources. Topics include the study of opportunity costs, gains to trade, supply and demand, surplus and efficiency, elasticity, costs of production, perfect competition, monopoly, oligopoly, monopolistic competition, and government policies. In addition we will discuss applications of these economic concepts to selected present day issues in our society. By the conclusion of this course students should be able to frame everyday events in an economic context; understand the importance of incentives and trade-offs, and be able to use basic economic models to address many current issues.

Student work in this course will fulfill the Social Behavioral and Cultural Inquiry Learning Outcomes and Writing Expectations of DePaul's Liberal Studies Program. Students will analyze and reflect upon arguments about the contemporary world using economic theory, methods, and evidence. Students will also analyze economic interdependencies between society and its individuals.

To fulfill this writing expectation, students will be asked to do some writing assignments that will be announced during the quarter, which will add up to at least 10 pages.

**Requirements:** This is an Online:Hybrid course. Before I explain how this course will progress, I have to mention that you will need:

- Frequent access to a computer that connects to the Internet.
- A working email account that you check regularly (and that is updated in Campus Connect and D2L).
- Access to Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Power Point). Currently-enrolled students receive a subscription to Office 365 Education Plus. Students can install Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Outlook, OneNote, Publisher, Access, and OneDrive for Business for the duration of their enrollment. Additionally, students receive OneDrive storage for academic work.
- The ability to view video files.

**How this course will progress?** This course is presented in a weekly basis. Each week starts from Friday and ends the next Friday. Each Friday I will post my recorded lectures as well as the homework assignment on D2L. I highly encourage you to watch those lectures and work on your assignments before your assigned lecture time (the time that you are registered for in Campus Connect). During the assigned lecture time, in the middle of the week, I will provide a live lecture via Zoom . In that session I will present complementary materials, explain the parts that you still struggle, provide more examples, answer your questions about the materials, homework assignments or tests. In addition I can solve homework problems from the previous week if you want. These sessions might be recorded and posted on D2L as well. The weekly test will be available online from Thursday afternoon until Friday night, and you can take it at your convenience during that time period. Depending on the number of questions, you have 10 to 30 minutes to finish the test. You can take each test only once. The homework assignment is due by the last day of each week (Friday) at 4:00 PM. Submission folders will be available on D2L for you to submit your assignments. You can use Microsoft Word or simply write your answers using pen and paper and scan and submit it. Please make sure that your answers are possible to be read. In addition each week I will open a discussion forum on D2L for you to ask your questions about material covered in that week.

## Course Grading:

- Homework assignments: (35 points) Assignments will be due approximately once a week. I will post the homework assignments on D2L and you are expected to submit your answers on specific submission folders there before the deadline. Please pay attention to the deadlines because missing them comes with big penalties. I will try to fully grade your homework assignments, but occasionally I might only grade a part of your assignment and your grade for that assignment will be based on that partial grading.
- Writing assignments: (10 points) You will be asked to write short essays during the quarter. The topics will be announced later.
- Tests: (55 points) There will be weekly tests during the quarter, all of them online. You will be given a specific limited time to answer them. Tests will not be repeated if you miss or get a low grade on them.
- Bonus (5 points): For active involvements in discussions on D2L.