

**Syllabus for Econ 305**  
**Intermediate Microeconomics**  
**Spring 2022**

**Instructor:** Mohammad Mirhosseini

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Office Hours: Thursdays 5:00 – 6:00 PM, or by appointment

**Lecture:** Mondays Wednesdays 1:30–3:00 PM, at DePaul Center, Room 8209. You can also join the lectures by Zoom. The link will be posted on D2L.

**Prerequisites:** Principles of Microeconomics and basic knowledge of calculus.

**Text:** *Microeconomics and Behavior*, , Robert Frank , 9th Edition.

**Objective:** The main objective is to have a better understanding of the decisions made by individuals, and the outcome when those decisions interact. Our approach is to combine economic intuitions with mathematical tools and use graphs to demonstrate tractable solutions to economic problems. In addition, examples of some recent applications will be provided.

**Materials to be Covered:** In this course we cover topics similar to what you have already seen in the Principles of Microeconomics, but with a more rigorous approach. After a brief review of fundamental concepts of supply and demand, we analyze the theory of consumer behavior in detail. Then we study the supply side of economies in the theory of firms. In the final part of this course, we review different markets including competitive markets, monopolies, and if time permits market imperfections.

**Requirements:** This is a Flex course. The students can either attend in-person classes or join through Zoom. The following items are essential for this course:

- Frequent access to a computer that connects to the Internet.
- Access to DePaul email account; you need to check it regularly.

- Access to Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint). 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.

**Course Website on D2L:** This course makes extensive use of D2L (<http://d2l.depaul.edu>), the course management system used at DePaul University. If you have not used D2L before, please read the following training materials:

<https://resources.depaul.edu/student-success/technology/Pages/desire2learn.aspx>

**Homework and Quizzes:** Homework assignments will be given during the semester. You have to turn in your assignments on the due date right at the **beginning** of the lecture. No late submission is accepted.

**Exams:** There will be a midterm and a final.

**Final Exam:** Wednesday, June 8th, 11:30 AM to 1:45 PM.

**Midterm Exams:** Will be announced during the semester.

### **Course Grading:**

- Homework assignments, and quizzes: (25 points) 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. We might have occasional in-class quizzes.
- Participation: (8 points)
- Midterm Exam : (30 points)
- Final Exam (37 points)

**Grading scale:** The final Grading is based on: A = 93-100, A- = 90-92, B+ = 87-89, B = 83-86, B- = 80-82, C+ = 77-79, C = 73-76, C- = 70-72, D+ = 67-69, D = 60-66, F =  $\leq 60$

**Working Together:** Working together on homework assignments is fine and even recommended. But you have to make sure that you write up your own solution and understand it. The quizzes might contain questions similar to the assignments and if you fail the quiz you lose the points of the corresponding homework as well.

**Resources for students with disabilities:** Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss their specific needs. All discussions will remain confidential. To ensure that you receive the most appropriate accommodation based on your needs, contact the instructor as early as possible in the quarter (preferably within the first week of class), and make sure that you have contacted the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) by emailing [csd@depaul.edu](mailto:csd@depaul.edu) and/or visiting the virtual office during the pandemic. The virtual office will be staffed Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. (CST).

Virtual Office: [www.tinyurl.com/CSDVirtualOffices](http://www.tinyurl.com/CSDVirtualOffices)

**Online course evaluations:** Evaluations are a way for students to provide valuable feedback regarding their instructor and the course. Detailed feedback will enable the instructor to continuously tailor teaching methods and course content to meet the learning goals of the course and the academic needs of the students. They are a requirement of the course and are key to continuing to provide you with the highest quality of teaching. The evaluations are anonymous; the instructor and administration do not track who entered what responses. A program is used to check if the student completed the evaluations, but the evaluation is completely separate from the student's identity. Since 100% participation is our goal, students are sent periodic reminders over three weeks. Students do not receive reminders once they complete the evaluation. Students complete the evaluation online at [campusconnect.depaul.edu](http://campusconnect.depaul.edu).

**Sexual and relationship violence:** Academic relationships are based on communication, trust, and respect, and as a DePaul community, we share a commitment to take care of one another. Sometimes, material raised in class may bring up issues for students related to sexual and relationship violence or other trauma. In other instances, students may reach out to faculty as a potential source of help and support. It is important for students to

know that faculty are required to report information reported to them about experiences with sexual or relationship violence to DePaul's Title IX Coordinator. Students should also know that disclosing experiences with sexual or relationship violence in course assignments or discussion does not, in itself, constitute a formal report to the University and will not begin the process of DePaul providing a response.

Those seeking to report an incident of sexual or relationship violence to DePaul should:

- use the attached link to do so here ([https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?DePaulUniv&layout\\_id=4](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?DePaulUniv&layout_id=4))
- contact the Title IX Coordinator (312-362-8066 or [titleixcoordinator@depaul.edu](mailto:titleixcoordinator@depaul.edu)) or
- contact Public Safety (Lincoln Park: 773-325-7777; Loop: 312-362-8400)

Students seeking to speak confidentially about issues related to sexual and relationship violence should contact a Survivor Support Advocate in the Office of Health Promotion & Wellness for information and resources (773-325-7129 or [hpw@depaul.edu](mailto:hpw@depaul.edu)). More information is available at <http://studentaffairs.depaul.edu/hpw/shvp.html>. Students are encouraged to take advantage of these services and to seek help around sexual and relationship violence for themselves as well as their peers who may be in need of support.

**Enrollment/Withdrawal and other academic policies:** All students are required to manage their class schedules each term in accordance with the deadlines for enrolling and withdrawing as indicated in the University Academic Calendar. Information on registration policies can be found at DePaul Central.

- **Withdrawal:** Students who withdraw from the course do so by using the Campus Connection system ([campusconnect.depaul.edu](http://campusconnect.depaul.edu)). Withdrawals processed via this system are effective the day on which they are made. Simply ceasing to attend, or notifying the instructor, or nonpayment of tuition does not constitute an official withdrawal from class and will result in academic as well as a financial penalty.
- **Administrative withdrawal:** Administrative Withdrawal Appeals are submitted to and processed by the Dean of Students Office and allow students to be retroactively withdrawn from classes for medical, mental health or personal crises even after the term has ended. More information is available on the Division of Student Affairs website.

**Excused absence:** In order to petition for an excused absence, students who miss class due to illness or significant personal circumstances should complete the Absence Notification form through the Dean of Students' office. Students must submit supporting documentation alongside the form. The professor reserves the sole right to offer an excused absence and/or academic accommodations for an excused absence.

**Syllabus changes and errors:** The instructor may make changes and updates to the course syllabus and schedule as needed. Students will be notified of any changes. If you find any broken links, outdated information, or other content that just seems ?off? somehow, please let me know so I can fix it. I really do appreciate students helping me find and fix mistakes or confusing wording in my materials.

**Tentative Schedule:** Remember that all dates are tentative. I may adjust the schedule as we progress. The exact due dates will be announced on Blackboard during the semester.

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics and Activities</b>	<b>Chapter</b>
Week 1	3/28, 30	Introduction, Supply and Demand	Ch. 1 Ch. 2
Week 2	4/4, 6	Rational Consumer Choice	Ch. 3
Week 3	4/11, 13	Rational Consumer Choice	Ch. 3
Week 4	4/18, 20	Individual and Market Demand	Ch. 4
Week 5	4/25, 27	Application of R.C. and Demand Theories	Ch. 5
Week 6	5/2, 4	Midterm exam week	
Week 7	5/9, 11	Production	Ch. 9
Week 8	5/16, 18	Costs	Ch. 10
Week 9	5/23, 25	Perfect Competition	Ch. 11
Week 10	6/1	Monopoly	Ch. 12
Week 11	6/8	Final Exam: 11:30 AM - 1:45 PM	