



# Microeconomic Analysis for Business Decisions ECON 300 Course Syllabus

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## Instructor Contact Information



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## Course Overview

ECON 300 introduces and develops microeconomic tools that can be used to analyze and solve decision problems faced by individuals, firms, organizations, and governments. Students will become familiar with frameworks which can help firms make wise decisions and maximize profits, and how the actions of firms affect market outcomes. Students will learn how economic agents behave under a variety of market structures and governmental policies.

### Prerequisite Requirements

ECON 200 or ECON 201A-ECON 201B.

## Course Learning Outcomes

- Use intermediate microeconomic tools of analysis to create superior levels of insight and understanding
- Create recommendations to improve business success such as profitability or efficiency
- Connect intermediate microeconomic concepts to real life issues
- Communicate understanding by explaining observations to others and linking to course content

## Course Readings and Materials

Please note that, in order to successfully complete this course, you are responsible for purchasing the required readings listed on the next page.

### Required Readings:

- *Microeconomics*, Goolsbee, Levitt and Syverson, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. 2020, ISBN-13: 9781319105563
  - You will access the full version of the electronic textbook from the **Table of Contents** -> **Online Textbook** area of D2L (on the left of screen) through the Inclusive Access program. **Important:** Access will be activated on the first day of class, **Monday, December 20<sup>th</sup>**.
  - You automatically have access to the course materials FREE through **Tuesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>**. You must take action (even if you haven't accessed the materials) to opt-out if you do not wish to pay for the materials, and choose to source the content independently. The deadline to opt-out is **Tuesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>**. Please refer to the Inclusive Access FAQs at [shop.arizona.edu/inclusive](http://shop.arizona.edu/inclusive) for additional information.
- Selected articles found in D2L, a complete list can be found under the *Table of Contents* -> *Learning Modules* area in D2L.

### Required Webcam:

To take proctored exams through Examyty, you will need to purchase an external webcam with **at least a 5-foot USB cable**. Before purchasing your external webcam please ensure the technology is compatible with your specific device.

- An example of a suitable webcam is:  
<https://tinyurl.com/y4nsk8h4>



**Important:** you must complete the **Examyty Webcam Requirement Quiz** during the first week of class. This quiz is located in the *Table of Contents* -> *Learning Modules* -> *Week 1* area of D2L.

## Course Workload Expectations

This course is structured around 3 weeks. Given this extremely condensed time-frame, you should expect a considerably heavier than normal workload. The course workload is estimated as follows:

Course Item	Estimated Hours
Reading the text	8-10 hrs / week
Viewing lectures	5-7 hrs / week
Homework – quizzes, assignments	30 hrs / week

This averages to approximately **45** hours/week. These estimates will vary depending upon your existing knowledge level and/or time commitment. Preparing for exams will require additional time.

## Course Schedule

The expected weekly progress and deliverables are outlined in the course schedule. Please see the course schedule as posted on D2L.

There is a considerable amount of material covered in this class. It is essential that you stay current with all reading and homework assignments. Note **DUE Dates** on course deliverables.

### **Working Ahead of Schedule**

To maintain the integrity of the group learning environment, this course is not structured to allow students to work ahead.

## **Communications**

Please use the **Ask the Instructor** discussion forum on D2L to contact me for content related questions. All students can then benefit from my response. I will respond within 24 hours of your post Monday through Friday and 48 hours on Saturday and Sunday. If you have a question regarding your personal performance in the course, please email me directly using the address above. I will provide feedback on course work that needs to be manually graded (e.g., essay papers, projects) within 3-5 days of submission. You will be able to see results for automatically graded course work (online quizzes and exams) after the specified deadline.

## **Course Time Zone**

All dates and times mentioned in this course represent Arizona Time. Arizona does not observe Daylight Savings Time. You can use the following link to get the current local time in Tucson, Arizona:

<http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/city.html?n=393>

## **D2L Course Management System**

This course uses the UA D2L learning management system. You are **required** to use D2L with this class and are encouraged to check our D2L class course space daily.

You are also encouraged to have D2L email forwarded to your primary email account. The instructor will use D2L for course assignments, quizzes, exams, content distribution, and important announcements. The UA D2L system is available at: <https://d2l.arizona.edu/>.

## **Assignments and Assessments**

### **Discussions**

Students are expected to participate in online discussions throughout the course. Each week you will need to submit a discussion post that follows the instructions on D2L. Additionally, you will be required to reply to two other discussion posts. The goal is to show comprehension of material learned during the week. Instructions, due dates, grading rubrics, and submission instructions are available in the *Table of Contents -> Learning Modules* area of D2L (located on the left of the screen).

### **Quizzes**

Quizzes for this course are designed to be practice exercises that test and solidify your knowledge of concepts and application of chapter material. Quizzes have no time limit, and you may save the quiz and resume it at any time before its deadline. Question types can vary including multiple choice, short answer and fill in the blank. You are allowed one attempt. Quiz results will become available upon submission. Quizzes are located in the *Table of Contents -> Learning Modules* area of D2L.

### **Examiy Webcam Requirement Quiz**

There is an ungraded 2-question quiz required for all students to ensure that you have read and understood the Webcam requirement that are needed for your proctored exams. It is a requirement for all students to

complete this quiz to continue in this class. Full details about this quiz are located in the *Table of Contents* -> *Learning Modules* area of D2L.

### Exams

This course has **three** mandatory exams. Any material presented in assigned readings may be present on an exam, though they are not cumulative. Students will receive a grade of zero if they miss an exam and do not have a University approved reason for the absence. If students miss an exam 1 or exam 2 with an excused absence the remaining exams will be reweighted. If students miss exam 3 with an excused absence they will be required to take a make-up exam. The student must provide evidence and documentation deemed sufficient by the instructor that his or her absence is excusable prior to the exam date. It is the student's responsibility to notify me of an excused absence before an exam. If you wish to appeal an exam grade, you have 2 business days from the date exam grades are available to do so. You must send me an email and make an appointment to go over the issue.

Exam #	Format	Time Limit	Special Instructions
Exam 1	Online Proctored	75 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The exam is closed book, no notes.</li> <li>You are allowed to use a calculator (except for the smart phone and tablet ones).</li> <li>You are allowed to use a white dry erase board and eraser, and a dry erase marker.</li> <li>After completing the exam, you must wipe the white board clean.</li> </ul>
Exam 2	Online Proctored	75 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The exam is closed book, no notes.</li> <li>You are allowed to use a calculator (except for the smart phone and tablet ones).</li> <li>You are allowed to use a white dry erase board and eraser, and a dry erase marker.</li> <li>After completing the exam, you must wipe the white board clean.</li> </ul>
Exam 3	Online Proctored	75 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The exam is closed book, no notes.</li> <li>You are allowed to use a calculator (except for the smart phone and tablet ones).</li> <li>You are allowed to use a white dry erase board and eraser, and a dry erase marker.</li> <li>After completing the exam, you must wipe the white board clean.</li> </ul>

Proctored exams for this course **must** be taken through **Examity**. For information on Examity, please refer to the **D2L-Live-Standard-Test-taker-Guide.pdf** document located in the *Table of Contents* -> **Examity** area of D2L.

**Important:** Please schedule your exam **no later than one week** before the date when you want to take the exam. If you schedule your exam **less than 72 hours** prior to the exam date, you are unlikely to find a spot at your intended date and time.

Any proctored exam interrupted by equipment or Internet connectivity problems can be required to be repeated at the faculty's discretion. Instructions will be provided to the student and Examity. A new exam must be successfully taken within the time frame stipulated by the faculty. If the retest is not successfully completed within the time frame set by the faculty, the student will receive a zero for the exam.

### Required Webcam

Please pay particular attention to the information related to the **required** webcam provided in the **Course Readings and Materials** section of the syllabus. If you would like to test the webcam placement prior to the first proctored exam, please contact Examity following the instructions provided in the **Table of Contents -> Examity** area of D2L.

### Verifying Continued Connection to Examity

If you become disconnected from Examity, you will be locked out of the exam. If this occurs, it is your responsibility to reconnect to Examity immediately by using the **Chat** tool on the Examity website. You should also inform your Professor at the end of the exam. **Important:** Failure to reconnect to Examity immediately and failure to notify your Professor at the end of the exam are grounds for a failing grade.

## Turning in Assignments

All graded assignments and assessments will be submitted electronically through D2L. Specific submission instructions are provided for each assignment in the Table of Contents -> Learning Modules area of D2L.

## Late Assignment Policy

Late assignments will not receive points. Please allow yourself time to mitigate any computer glitches. In order to earn a passing grade in the course you will need to complete and submit every assigned assessment by the end of the course, even if this implies submitting an assignment late and earning no points toward the final grade.

## Course Grading

Course grades will be determined based on the following items on the next page.

Course Work	Points	Percentage
Discussions	100	10%
Quizzes	150	15%
Exam 1	250	25%
Exam 2	250	25%
Exam 3	250	25%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>100%</b>

In case a student has a university approved excuse for missing an exam, each of the two other exams will count for 37.5% of the grade. The approximate final course grade breakdown will be as follows:

Points	Percentage	Letter Grade
900-1000	90%	<b>A</b>
800-899	80%	<b>B</b>
700-799	70%	<b>C</b>
600-699	60%	<b>D</b>
0-599	<59%	<b>E</b>

## Class Schedule

To get the current local time in Tucson, AZ, refer to: <http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/city.html?n=393>

Week	Dates	Topic	Assignments	Due Date (by 11:59 PM AZ time)
1	12/20- 12/26	<b>Week 1 Zoom Sessions:</b> December 20 <sup>th</sup> – 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 9:00-11:50 AM (AZ time)		
		Adventures in Microeconomics	Discussion: Introduce Yourself	December 21 <sup>st</sup>
			<b>Examity Webcam Requirement Quiz</b>	
		Chapter 2 Quiz		
		Supply and Demand	Discussion 1: Original Post	December 22 <sup>nd</sup>
		Using Supply and Demand to Analyze Markets	Chapter 3 Quiz	December 23 <sup>rd</sup>
Discussion 1: Replies				
Exam 1	<b>Exam 1 (proctored)</b> Opens: <b>Dec. 27<sup>th</sup></b> 12:05 AM (AZ time); Closes: <b>Dec. 28<sup>th</sup></b> 11:59 PM (AZ time)	December 28 <sup>th</sup>		
2	12/27- 1/2	<b>Week 2 Zoom Sessions:</b> December 27 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> , 9:00-11:50 AM (AZ time)		
		Producer behavior	Chapter 6 Quiz	December 29 <sup>th</sup>
			Chapter 7 Quiz	
		Costs	Discussion 2: Original Post	
		Supply in a Competitive Market	Chapter 8 Quiz	December 30 <sup>th</sup>
			Discussion 2: Replies	
Exam 2	<b>Exam 2 (proctored)</b> Opens: <b>Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup></b> 12:05 AM (AZ time); Closes: <b>Jan. 4<sup>th</sup></b> 11:59 PM (AZ time)	January 4 <sup>th</sup>		

3	1/3-1/11	<b>Week 3 Zoom Sessions:</b> January 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> and 10 <sup>th</sup> , 9:00-11:50 AM (AZ time)		
		Market Power and Monopoly	Chapter 9 Quiz	January 5 <sup>th</sup>
			Discussion 3: Original Post	
		Market Power and Pricing Strategies	Chapter 10 Quiz	January 6 <sup>th</sup>
			Discussion 3: Replies	
		Final Exam	<b>Final Exam (proctored)</b> Opens: <b>January 10<sup>th</sup></b> 12:05 AM (AZ time); Closes: <b>January 11<sup>th</sup></b> 11:59 PM (AZ time)	

## Incomplete Policy

If you experience extraordinary circumstances beyond your control, which prevent you from completing the course within the scheduled 3-week timeframe, you must request an incomplete by emailing the Instructor **before the end of the course**. Please clearly explain the reasons for the request and provide relevant documentation. Please be aware that you must be receiving a passing grade at the time of the request. If granted an incomplete, you should review the related policy stipulations at <https://www.registrar.arizona.edu/grades/incomplete-i-grade>

## Academic Policies and Institutional Resources

### Academic Policies and Procedures

As a University of Arizona student, you are expected to become familiar with and abide by the university-wide policies and procedures. You can find complete, up-to-date information at: <https://www.eller.arizona.edu/academic-programs/policies/online-ugrad>

### Academic Integrity

Upon accepting admission to the University of Arizona, you immediately assumed a commitment to uphold the Code of Academic Integrity. Complete copies of these policies can be found online at:

- The University of Arizona: <https://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/policies/code-academic-integrity>
- Eller College of Management: <https://eller.arizona.edu/programs/undergraduate/advising/policies-expectations/integrity-guide>

**Any instances of academic dishonesty may result in a grade of E for the course.**

While it is our sincere hope that you will not engage in academic misconduct, it seems prudent to clarify in advance the policy on dishonest behavior.

**Reminder: this course has a zero-tolerance policy on cheating.**

### Online Collaboration/Netiquette

In Eller Undergraduate Online courses, you will primarily communicate with instructors and peers virtually through a variety of tools such as discussion forums, email, and web conferencing. The following guidelines will enable everyone in the course to participate and collaborate in a productive, safe environment.

- Be professional, courteous, and respectful as you would in a physical classroom.

- Online communication lacks the nonverbal cues that provide much of the meaning and nuances in face-to-face conversations. Choose your words carefully, phrase your sentences clearly, and stay on topic.
- It is expected that students may disagree with the research presented or the opinions of their fellow classmates. To disagree is fine but, to disparage others' views is unacceptable. All comments should be kept civil and thoughtful. Remember that this course abides by university policies regarding disruptive behavior: <https://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/student-rights-responsibilities/disruptive-behavior>. Violations of the instructors' copyright violate the Code of Academic Integrity and may result in course sanctions.
- Compose your messages and posts in a word processing tool, and check your spelling and grammar before submitting your post / email.
- Students who are uncooperative, rude, abusive to a TA, instructor, staff members, or other students, whether in class or outside class, will be penalized.

### UA Eller UG Online Student Support

The instructor is available to assist with **content-related** issues. You may, at any time, email the instructor. This course also provides an **Ask the Instructor** discussion forum. You are encouraged to post content-related questions to this forum at any time. The instructor monitors this forum on a regular basis and will respond in a timely fashion. It is common for other students to participate in answering questions posted in the **Ask the Instructor** forum. You should feel free to contribute to the solution if you can provide knowledge or guidance related to the question.

The following are guidelines for requesting support:

- **General Course Questions:** Use the **Ask the Instructor** discussion forum for questions regarding course materials or policy.
- **Personal Course Questions:** Email the instructor to discuss grades or personal concerns.
- **Course Registration & Curriculum Questions:** Please refer to the <https://ugrad.eller.arizona.edu/online/contact> web site for the appropriate contact information.
- **D2L Support Questions:** Click on <https://help.d2l.arizona.edu/content/contact-d2l-support-1> to submit your tech support request.

### Disability Accommodations

At the University of Arizona, we strive to make learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on disability or pregnancy, you are welcome to let me know so that we can discuss options. You are also encouraged to contact Disability Resources (520-621-3268) to explore reasonable accommodation.

If our class meets at a campus location: Please be aware that the accessible table and chairs in this room should remain available for students who find that standard classroom seating is not usable.

### Library Support

The University of Arizona Libraries is dedicated to providing the research tools you need at any time. For an abbreviated list of resources directly related to a specific course, select the **Library** link (located in the *Table of Contents* on the left of the screen). If you need any assistance, please contact Jason Dewland at [jasondewland@arizona.edu](mailto:jasondewland@arizona.edu) and include your University of Arizona NetID.

### Workload and Course Requirements Subject to Change

Workload and Course Requirements are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor with proper notice to the students.

### Errata



The instructor reserves the right to revise the syllabus as necessary to correct typographical errors, factual errors, omissions, or other material included herein as needed to correctly reflect the requirements of the course.