

**Intermediate Microeconomics**  
ECO 3101 Section 0136  
Time: Mondays and Wednesdays 7:25am-9:20am  
Location: Matherly 115  
Spring 2024

**INSTRUCTOR**

Michelle A. Phillips, Ph.D.  [michellephillips@ufl.edu](mailto:michellephillips@ufl.edu)  (352) 392-5017

**Office Hours:**

Mondays 11:20am-12:10pm in MAT 336

Wednesdays 11:20am-12:10pm and 2:55pm-3:45pm in MAT 336

*Or by appointment (will also hold extra office hours to be announced before exams)*

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Pre requisites: Elementary knowledge of calculus is a requirement for this course. Students must also already be familiar with the vocabulary, concepts, and graphs presented in basic microeconomics. PR: ECO 2023 and MAC 2233 or AEB 3103.

This course examines the standard theory of microeconomics. The behavior of households, firms, and their interaction in markets is analyzed. A good understanding of microeconomics is important for managerial decision making and to understand or design public policy. The main objective of this course is to provide insight on how economists model and analyze real world problems, and to introduce students to the mathematical and graphical tools that economists apply.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK**

Microeconomics by Pindyck and Rubinfeld, 9<sup>th</sup> edition. More information regarding this will be given in class.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

In class assignments: Assigned regularly, always due in class

Exam 1<sup>1</sup>: Wednesday, February 7

Exam 2<sup>2</sup>: Monday, March 25

Exam 3<sup>3</sup>: Wednesday, April 24

**EVALUATION OF GRADES**

Your grade will be determined by your performance on the following:

In class activities	25%
Exam 1	25%
Exam 2	25%
Exam 3	25%

**GRADING POLICY**

The following scale will be used to determine your final grade:

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<sup>1</sup> Make up exam date (see make up policy on page 3 for valid excused exam absences): Tuesday, April 30, 8pm-10pm location: course classroom

<sup>2</sup> Make up exam date (see make up policy on page 3 for valid excused exam absences): Tuesday, April 30, 8pm-10pm location: course classroom

<sup>3</sup> Make up exam date (see make up policy on page 3 for valid excused exam absences): Tuesday, April 30, 8pm-10pm location: course classroom

Letter Grade	Range
A	100% to 94%
A-	< 94% to 90%
B+	< 90% to 87%
B	< 87% to 84%
B-	< 84% to 80%
C+	< 80% to 77%
C	< 77% to 74%
C-	< 74% to 70%
D+	< 70% to 67%
D	< 67% to 64%
D-	< 64% to 61%
E	< 61% to 0%

\*\* Important: There will be no rounding under any circumstances. I consider fairness to be one of the most important aspects of my teaching philosophy and will not raise grades for non-academic reasons.

#### **CLASS ATTENDANCE AND MAKE UP POLICY**

Class attendance is expected and encouraged. In class activities are part of your grade. Exam absences will only be approved if they are accompanied by a valid excuse (following the UF catalog).

From the catalog: “In general, acceptable reasons for absence from or failure to participate in class include illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, professional conferences), military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays, and participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic competition or debate. Absences from class for court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena) must be excused.” Note that I require proof for all exam absences and I sometimes check to make sure the proof is real.

#### **In-class Work Policy:**

Late in-class work will not be accepted under any circumstances. Please do not email me if you miss in-class work. Forgetting to upload your in-class work is equivalent to missing it. Uploading the wrong file (or a corrupted file) is equivalent to missing it. Do not leave the classroom until you upload your work and check to make sure you uploaded the correct file!

I will drop 4 in-class work assignments at the end of the term, no questions asked.

What if I miss more than 4 in class assignments with valid reasons?

If you missed more than 4 in-class assignments with valid reasons for the 4+ absences (for a list of valid reasons, please see the UF absence policy) you can take an in-class assignment make up assessment on April 30, 8-10pm in our classroom, if you follow the directions below.

Directions for taking the make up in-class assessment:

Step 1: Submit proof of a valid excuse for your missed assignment via Canvas within 7 days of the missed in-class assignment. You have to do this for every missed in-class assignment. Do not email me regarding absences for in-class assignments, the procedure for this is done via Canvas, not email.

Step 2: If you missed more than 4 in-class assignments and submitted proof for them, I will verify the proof during the last week of class and let you know if you qualify for the make-up.

Step 3: Attend our classroom on April 30, 8-10pm and take the make up assessment for in-class assignments. This assessment will be cumulative and you will be allowed to bring up to 2 pages of notes (paper notes, no electronics allowed). I will check your notes to make sure they are class notes and not anything else before you take the assessment. The grade you get on this assessment will be used to replace the 4+ missed in-class assignments.

### **Make Up Exam Policy:**

Make up exams will be provided for students who miss an exam due to extreme, documented circumstances. These can only be taken on: Tuesday, April 30, 8-10pm. It is your responsibility to notify me of an exam absence via email at most 1 week after the absence took place. The make up exams will only be given on Tuesday, April 30, 8-10pm. Exams missed due to illness require a doctor's note.

### **Missing Multiple Exams:**

If you miss more than one exam, I can help walk you through Medical Withdrawal.

### **DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS**

Students requesting classroom accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Disability Resource Center. The DRC will provide documentation to the student, who must then provide this documentation to me. Their phone number is 392-8565. If you are taking exams with the DRC, I highly recommend that you reserve the room for all of your exams early on in the semester. The DRC has very strict rules regarding room reservations. **My office is not quiet because it is next to advising. For this reason, I provide disability accommodations through the DRC.** Getting a room at the DRC is the way to get accommodations for this class and the rules require reservations to be **made at least 5 business days in advance**. It is the student's responsibility to follow these rules to be able to use the DRC for exams and receive accommodations for this class. If you do not follow the DRC procedures to schedule an exam and miss the deadline, I will not postpone your exam because you failed to reserve the room on time. I highly recommend getting room reservations done early in the term so you don't have to worry about missing any deadlines. If you don't know the procedures, feel free to come talk to me. I am familiar with the process and will be more than happy to help you navigate through it. But I cannot help once a deadline has been missed, the DRC has strict rules about room reservations. I highly recommend using accommodations if you have them rather than waiting to see if you need them. Accommodations cannot be provided retroactively, it is your responsibility to notify me about them with enough time for me to be able to provide accommodations via the DRC.

### **COURSE EVALUATION**

Students are expected to provide feedback regarding this course by completing online evaluations at <https://bluera.ufl.edu>. I will provide some time in class during which I will step out of the classroom for these to be submitted towards the end of the term.

### **CLASS DEMEANOR**

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and to fellow students. Please avoid the use of cell phones during class. Opinions held by other students should be respected in discussion, and conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be held at minimum, if at all. Please be professional in e-mails to me and your classmates. I will not respond to unprofessional emails (example: whens da test ;)

## UNIVERSITY HONESTY POLICY

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TA in this class.

## COUNSELING AND WELLNESS CENTER AND OTHER RESOURCES

Contact information for the Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies. Alachua Crisis Center: 352-264-6785. National Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1-800-273-8255.

## COURSE WEBSITE

We will be using Canvas. The address is: <http://elearning.ufl.edu/>. You log-in using your Gatorlink ID and password and the course should automatically appear as one of your e-learning options. If it does not, check to make sure you are properly registered for the course. If that is not the issue, contact the UF Computing Helpdesk at: <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/>. Do not contact me about access issues. I cannot help you and the help you do need will only be delayed if you do. Most course materials and grades will be posted here.

## IMPORTANT:

1. You are expected to apply what you learn in class during exams. Exams will not be the same as the homeworks or quizzes. You will be expected to be able to apply the framework learned in class to other contexts.
2. If you email me to ask something that is either on the syllabus or on a Canvas announcement, I will direct you to the syllabus or Canvas announcement.
3. I provide curves to exams when necessary. For this reason I do not round grades up at the end of the term under any circumstances. I am aware that certain jobs, and even graduation require you to have a grade above a certain level. I will be more than happy to help you study and prepare for exams, but I will not, under any circumstances, raise your grade because you need a high grade for a job or graduation. Grades are earned, not negotiated. Furthermore, one course is not to blame for you missing a grade cut off. Preparing just for the last exam is not sufficient. I will help you prepare for exams if you ask for help throughout the term. I cannot help you if you come to my office the last two weeks of class trying to learn an entire semester of lectures in a few weeks.
4. I will not repeat lectures during office hours. It is your responsibility to attend lectures and to understand your handwriting. If you do not attend, it is your responsibility to obtain class notes from a classmate. Office hours are for asking questions about the material and are not a substitute for class.
5. I will answer emails within 2 business days from the day in which I receive them. If you email me on a Friday, you should not expect a reply until Monday.
6. After each exam, we will spend some time going over the exam questions. I will go over the rubric and you will know exactly why points were taken off. With the exception of cases where the points have been added wrong, if you want me to regrade an exam question, you must tell me how the grade differs from what the rubric says. I cannot bend the rules of the rubric. I value fairness.
7. All Exams are in class and are closed book. The exams consist of short essay questions and problems. Partial credit will be given for partially correct answers in your exams, so make sure you answer every question. I will provide a calculator for exams, you cannot use your own calculator. Cellular phones may not be used during the exams as calculators or for any other reason. Exams will be curved if the class average is below 70%. Some exams may (or may not) have multiple choice questions.
8. In-class activities are due in class. They are to be turned in to Canvas. You can turn in a picture (JPEG, PNG) or PDF or word file. You can work in groups of up to 3 people. If you work in a group, all of your names should be written on top of the page and all 3 members will get the same grade. You must, however, ALL 3 upload the in-class assignment. You will not be allowed to upload an in-class assignment if you were not physically present in class.
9. Expectations: You are responsible for all the material covered in class, and all the chapters covered from the textbook. You are expected to read all the covered chapters. It is hard to do well in this class if you do not read the book.

10. If my office hours are busy, I will limit each student's visit to 15 minutes so that I can see everyone. You are welcome to get back in line after your 15 minutes are up.

**11. The best way of learning the material in this course is by solving problems. Additional problem sets are available on the website with answers for extra practice. It is important to solve these. I highly recommend working on these before attempting homeworks, quizzes, and exams. I also highly recommend working with classmates to figure out class work.**

Some lecture slides, notes or exercises used in this course may be the property of the textbook publisher or other third parties. All other course material, including but not limited slides developed by the instructor, the syllabus, assignments, course notes, course recordings, and examinations or quizzes are property of the University or of the individual instructor who developed them. Students are free to use this material for study and learning. Republishing or redistributing this material, including uploading it to web sites or linking to it through services like iTunes or CourseHero, violates the rights of the copyright holder and is prohibited. There are civil and criminal penalties for copyright violation.

#### **Health Counseling, Emergencies, Services:**

**U Matter, We Care:** If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

**Counseling and Wellness Center:** <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc>, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

**Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS):** Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

**University Police Department** at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>.

**UF Food Pantry:** For students experiencing food insecurity. <https://pantry.fieldandfork.ufl.edu/>

#### **Recording of class:**

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A "class lecture" is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To "publish" means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

**If I make any major changes to the syllabus, I will announce them via email and will list each change here: This is syllabus version 1.0.**

**Calendar:** Exam dates are fixed and will not change. All dates for material are tentative since I sometimes go faster or slower depending on student questions.

Topics will be covered in the order listed below, but I reserve the right to remove or add topics. Please read the book chapters in this order. Note: Spot in class activities will be given throughout the term. They are due during class and are unannounced due to the nature of spot quizzes.

M = Monday, W = Wednesday, NL=No Lecture, EX=Extra (if missed assignments or Exam)

L1	M Jan 8	Syllabus, Consumer Behavior 3.1
L2	W Jan 10	Consumer Behavior 3.1, 3.2
NL	M Jan 15	<i>Holiday</i>
L3	W Jan 17	Consumer Behavior 3.3, 3.5
L4	M Jan 22	Consumer Behavior 3.5, Demand 4.1, 4.2
L5	W Jan 24	Demand 4.2, 4.3
L6	M Jan 29	Demand 4.3, 4.4, Production 6.1
L7	W Jan 31	Exam 1 Review (Exam 1 covers Chapters 3 and 4)
L8	M Feb 5	Production 6.1, 6.2
L9	W Feb 7	<b>EXAM 1</b> (Chapters 3 and 4)
L10	M Feb 12	Production 6.2, 6.3, 6.4
L11	W Feb 14	Production 6.4, Cost of Production 7.1, 7.2, 7.3
L12	M Feb 19	Cost of Production 7.3, 7.4
L13	W Feb 21	Cost of Production 7.4, 7.5, Profit Max and Supply 8.1
L14	M Feb 26	Profit Max and Supply 8.2, 8.3
L15	W Feb 28	Profit Max and Supply 8.4
L16	M March 4	Profit Max and Supply 8.5, 8.6, 8.7, Chapter 2 (review on your own)
L17	W March 6	Profit Max and Supply 8.7
NL	M March 11	<i>Spring Break</i>
NL	W March 13	<i>Spring Break</i>
L18	M March 18	Exam 2 Review (Exam 2 covers Chapters 6, 7, 8)
L19	W March 20	Analysis of Competitive Markets 9.1, 9.2, 9.3
L20	M March 25	<b>EXAM 2</b> (Chapters 6, 7, 8)
L21	W March 27	Analysis of Competitive Markets 9.4, 9.5
L22	M April 1	Analysis of Competitive Markets 9.6, Market Power 10.1, 10.2, 10.3
L23	W April 3	Market Power 10.3, 10.4, Pricing and Market Power 11.1
L23	M April 8	Pricing and Market Power 11.2, 11.3, 11.4
L25	W April 10	Pricing and Market Power 11.4, 12.1, Monop. Comp. and Oligopoly 12.2, 12.3
L26	M April 15	Monop. Comp. and Oligopoly 12.3, 12.4
L27	W April 17	(If have time) Externalities and Public Goods 18
L28	M April 22	Exam 3 Review (Exam 3 Covers Chapters 9, 10, 11, 12 and maybe 18)
L29	W April 24	<b>EXAM 3</b> (Chapters 9,10,11,12 and maybe 18)
EX	Tu April 30	8pm-10pm Exam Make up Day and In-Class Activity Make Up Assessment <sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Note: April 30 is the make up for any exam missed. It is also the make up for the in-class activities if you miss more than 4