# Econ 201: Intermediate Microeconomics
## Spring 2017 Syllabus

**Professor:** Christina DePasquale  
**Office:** Rich 320  
**Class Email:** econ201emory@gmail.com  
**Class Location:** White Hall 103  
**Class Time:** Tu/Th, 2:00 - 3:50PM  
**Office Hours:** Weds, 11:00AM - 2:00PM  
**Online Office Hour:** Weds, 7:00PM - 8:00PM

---

### IMPORTANT DUE DATES
(Note: All due dates are Thursdays, except the Final Exam which is a Wednesday. Homework assignments are due at the beginning of class (2:00PM))

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXAMS</th>
<th>HOMEWORK</th>
<th>EXAMS</th>
<th>HOMEWORK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm I: Feb 16</td>
<td>HW1: Jan 26</td>
<td>Midterm II: Mar 23</td>
<td>HW2: Feb 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm II: Mar 23</td>
<td>HW3: Mar 2</td>
<td>Final Exam: May 3 (3-5:30PM)</td>
<td>HW4: Mar 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam: May 3 (3-5:30PM)</td>
<td>HW5: April 6</td>
<td>Final Exam: May 3 (3-5:30PM)</td>
<td>HW6: April 20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Required Text:** *Intermediate Microeconomics* by Hal Varian, Ninth Edition. Paperback or Hardcover is fine. *If you buy an earlier edition please note that while most of the material is largely the same, page numbers and chapters may differ. In addition, I will often suggest end-of-chapter problems for review—these too may differ across editions.*

**Recommended Resource:** *Workouts in Microeconomics, 8th* edition, by Hal Varian. You can purchase this book, or an earlier edition is available for at:

http://econ.ucsb.edu/~tedb/Courses/GraduateTheoryUCSB/workouts.pdf

This is strictly for your practice, so the edition largely doesn't matter. When I suggest problems, however, I will refer to those in the 8th edition.

**Recommended (but not required) Supplies:** 1) Straightedge (i.e., a ruler), 2) Colored Pencils, and 3) Graph Paper. You may find these supplies helpful when graphing.

**Course Description:** The purpose of this course is to expand and build upon the fundamental microeconomic concepts covered in ECON101. These intermediate economic concepts will be applied to a wide range of private decision making and public policy issues. While many of the underlying ideas presented in the course should be familiar to students, the intermediate treatment will be more formal and mathematically rigorous than in principles of economics courses.
Student Learning Outcomes: By the end of the semester students should be able to do the following:

1. Use calculus and other mathematical techniques to solve microeconomic optimization problems.
2. Understand how to apply microeconomic models to both consumer and producer decision making.
3. Solve microeconomic optimization problems under different market structures and in the presence of risk.

These objectives will be achieved through regular class attendance, active participation, thoughtful completion of problems sets, and, of course, adequate preparation for exams.

Course Format: During class meetings, I will work from lecture slides while doing additional work on the document camera as necessary. Copies of the lecture slides will be provided at the start of class and will also be uploaded to Canvas. Scans of document camera material will also be uploaded to Canvas. I encourage all students to ask questions. Important announcements and the posting of homework assignments will be accompanied by either a Canvas-generated email or an email from myself. Students are expected to check Canvas and their email regularly.

Instructor Contact: Please use the class email address (econ201emory@gmail.com) to ask me any class-related questions. I will respond to emails on school days within 24 hours. I will work to respond to holiday and weekend emails in the same timeframe, but responses may be slower. Please note: any student who has need for accommodations based upon the impact of a disability should contact me as soon as possible. Contact the Office of Disabilities Support Services to coordinate appropriate accommodations.

Office Hours: My office hours are held on Wednesdays from 11:00AM to 2:00PM in Rich 320. I will also hold an additional online office hour on Wednesday evenings from 7-8PM on Canvas to further accommodate student schedules. Online office hours can be accessed by going to the class site on Canvas and then into the “Chat” function. I will be online during that hour to answer any questions students may have.

Assignments and Exams

Homework: There will be six homework assignments in the course, which will each be graded out of 20 points. In total, they will make up 20% of the course grade. The assignments are due at the start of class (2:00PM). Homework assignments will be available on Canvas at least one week before they are due. Students may work in groups of up to four on the assignments. Only one assignment per group needs to be turned in, as long as all group members’ names appear on it and their levels of contribution are equal. Late assignments will not be accepted.

Midterm Exams: There will be two midterm exams held during class time. The first midterm will be held approximately one-third of the way through the course on Thursday, February 16. The second midterm will be held approximately two-thirds of the way through the course on Thursday, March 23. The class before each exam will be dedicated to student questions and review. The second midterm will focus on topics covered since the first midterm, though core topics discussed throughout the class will also appear. Students may bring one 8.5”x11” sheet of paper with writing (or typing) on both sides to use during each exam. I will collect these papers along with the exams. Each of these midterms will account for 25% of the course grade.

Final Exam: A final exam will be held during the University’s final examination week on Wednesday, May 3 from 3-5:30PM. The exam will be cumulative, but approximately half the test will be given to topics covered after the second midterm. Students may bring one 8.5”x11” sheet of paper with writing on both sides to use during the exam. These will be collected along with the exam. The final will account for 30% of the course grade. Leading up to this exam, I will hold additional office hours outside of the normal time. These will be announced towards the end of the semester.
Grading:
Grades are calculated as follows: Homework (20%), Midterm I (25%), Midterm II (25%), Final Exam (30%). The following standard scale is then used to determine your final grade.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>92.5-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>89.5-92.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87.5-89.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>82.5-87.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>79.5-82.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77.5-79.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>72.5-77.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>69.5-72.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67.5-69.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>59.5-67.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Below 59.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Late Assignments and Makeup Exams:
Late homework assignments will not be graded and no makeup exams for the midterms will be offered. A student who fails to take the midterm at the scheduled time must obtain written permission from the Office of Undergraduate Education. Should the Office of Undergraduate Education grant permission for a student to miss the midterm, the score on the final exam will substitute for the score on the missed midterm.

Academic Integrity:
From the Code of Conduct:

The honor code is in effect throughout the semester. By taking this course, you affirm that it is a violation of the code to cheat on exams, to plagiarize, to deviate from the teachers instructions about collaboration on work that is submitted for grades, to give false information to a faculty member, and to undertake any other form of academic misconduct. You agree that the teacher is entitled to move you to another seat during examinations, without explanation. You also affirm that if you witness others violating the code you have a duty to report them to the honor council.

Please see the code of conduct for additional information: http://catalog.college.emory.edu/academic/policies-regulations/honor-code.html
**BRIEF/TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:**

- Introduction and Calc Review
- Preferences
- Utility
- Budget Constraint
- Choice
- Demand
- Revealed Preference
- Slutsky Equation
- Consumer Surplus
- Market Demand

*Midterm I: Feb. 16*

- Technology
- Profit-Max
- Cost Min
- Cost Curves
- Firm and Industry Supply
- Monopoly

*Midterm II: Mar. 23*

- Monopoly Behavior
- Oligopoly
- Game Theory
- Asymmetric Info
- General Equilibrium
- Auctions

*Final Exam: Wed. May 3, 3-5:30PM*