

ECON 6020 - MICROECONOMICS I

Spring 2016
Tuesday 6:00-9:00pm
BAS S270

Instructor: Jason DeBacker

Office: BAS N306

Office Hours: Tuesday 9am-11:30am, Thursday 9:30am-12pm; or by appointment

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Textbook:

- *Intermediate Microeconomics with Calculus*, by Hal R. Varian , Norton, 2014.

Webpage: Announcements, problem sets, and additional readings will be posted to the class website which can be found at: <http://mtweb.mtsu.edu/jdebacker/Micro1.html>.

Course Description: The objective of this course is provide a Master's-level treatment of microeconomic theory. We will apply calculus to solve constrained optimization problems of individuals and firms. We will derive functions for supply and demand and consider their interaction in a competitive market equilibrium. In addition, we will consider the strategic interactions of individuals and firms in applications of game theoretic models.

Semester Plan: The semester plan, as well as the exam dates, are attached to this document. As the semester proceeds, there may be changes in the dates certain material will be presented. I will announce any changes to the schedule and then post them on the course webpage. The exam dates will not change.

Class Preparation: Students are expected to have read the relevant materials prior to their presentation in class and to review material covered in the previous classes. I expect every student to be able to participate in classroom discussions.

Homework: There will be 10 problem sets over the semester. I encourage you to work in group, but each member must submit his/her own copy. Homework will be collected at the beginning of the class on the given due date. Submission after the due date will not be accepted. Problem sets will be graded on a three point scale:

- 3 = complete and accurate solutions
- 2 = complete, but incorrect solutions
- 1 = incomplete
- 0 = no attempt

Exams: There are three exams in the course; two midterm exams and a final exam. These exams will consist of a mixture analytical problems and short answer questions that test your ability to apply the microeconomic theory that you will learn through the lectures, textbook, and homework. Missed exams generally will be treated as zeroes. The exception is if you have a family emergency or serious personal illness. Documentation of the emergency or illness will be required, and you must make arrangements promptly to take the exam at another time.

Grade Determination: Your grade will be based on the following components: midterm exams (20% each), final exam (30%), and problem sets (30%).

The following grading scale will be employed:

A = 92.5 and up

A- = 90.0-92.4

B+ = 87.5-89.9

B = 82.5-87.4

B- = 80.0-82.4

C+ = 77.5-79.9

C = 72.5-77.4

C- = 70.0-72.4

D+ = 67.5-69.9

D = 62.5-67.4

D- = 60.0-62.4 F = 59.9 and below

Grades will be calculated exactly as above. Note that there are no opportunities for “extra credit.” Please do not ask for special favors or consideration of individual circumstances in the determination of your grade.

Attendance: Attendance will not be monitored and does not directly affect your grade. However, it is very likely that missing class will adversely affect your grade in an indirect way.

Reasonable Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Middle Tennessee State University is committed to campus access in accordance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Any student interested in reasonable accommodations can consult the Disability & Access Center (DAC) website www.mtsu.edu/dac and/or contact the DAC for assistance at 615-898-2783 or dacemail@mtsu.edu. ADA accommodation requests (temporary or permanent) are determined only by the DAC. Students are responsible for contacting the DAC to obtain ADA accommodations and for providing the instructor with the Accommodation Letter from the DAC.

Academic Conduct: Middle Tennessee State University takes a strong stance against academic misconduct. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, and fabrication.

1. Plagiarism. The adoption or reproduction of ideas, words, statements, images, or works of another person as one's own without proper attribution. This includes self-plagiarism, which occurs when an author submits material or research from a previous academic exercise to satisfy the requirements of another exercise and uses it without proper citation of its reuse.
2. Cheating. Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or aids in any academic exercise or test/examination.
3. Fabrication. Unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise.

Students guilty of academic misconduct, either directly or indirectly, through participation or assistance, are immediately responsible to the instructor of the class. In these instances, the faculty member has the authority to assign an appropriate grade for the exercise or examination, or to assign an F in the course, as is proportional to the nature and extent of academic misconduct.

NOTE: The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.

Semester Schedule:

Date	Topic	Chapter in Varian	Problem Set Due
January 19	Math Review, Micro Review	Appendix, 1	
January 26	Consumer Theory	2, 3, 4	#1
February 2	The Consumer's Problem	5, 6	
February 9	Comparative Statics	7, 8	#2
February 16	Consumer Surplus and Market Demand	14, 15	#3
February 23	Finish Demabnd		#4
March 1	Midterm Exam #1		
	<i>Spring Break,</i>	<i>March 8</i>	
March 15	Equilibrium, Producer Theory	16, 19, 20	
March 22	Cost Curves	21, 22	#5
March 29	<i>Missed Class</i>		
April 5	Market Supply	23, 24	#6
April 12	Midterm Exam #2 , Game Theory	29	#7
April 19	Externalities	35	#8
April 26	Public Goods , Review	37	#9
May 3	Final Exam, 6:00-8:00pm	Cumulative	