E201: Introduction to Microeconomics

Section: 1742  9:30-10:45 TR and Section 1744 11:15-12:30 TR

Instructor:  Professor Jim Walker
Office:  Wylie Hall 240
Phone:  855-2760
E-mail:  econjw@indiana.edu
Office Hours:  Tuesday and Thursdays 1:45-3:00

Class Website: http://www.indiana.edu/~econjw/jw-e201.html  - The web-site will be used regularly during the semester to post class information, exam information, homework, etc.

Teaching Assistants: To be posted on the Website
TA Office Hours: To be posted on the Website


Optional Text (choosing one is recommended but not required):

Web Text: http://www.econweb.com  - Purchase subscription at bookstores or on-line.

GRADES: Your course grade will depend on performance in the following areas.

(A) 4 Semester Exams - each weighted at 16% of your final grade
(B) Final Exam - weighted at 26% of your final grade (Note, the location for this exam will be announced at the end of semester.)
(C) Collaborative Learning - 7%
(D) Attendance - 3%

EXAMS: Exams are multiple choice.

Exam Dates:
Semester Exam 1       Wednesday, September 19, 7:00-8:45 P.M.
Semester Exam 2       Wednesday, October 10, 7:00-8:45 P.M.
Semester Exam 3       Thursday, November 1, 7:00-8:45 P.M.
Semester Exam 4       Wednesday, November 28, 7:00-8:45 P.M.
Final Exam            Monday, December 10, 12:30-2:30 P.M.

The final examination for this course is scheduled for Monday, December 10, from 12:30-2:30 P.M. It is imperative that your schedule permits you to take the final at this time. If you are enrolled in E201 and A215 or Bus S305, you have a conflict. Anyone missing the final exam without medical documentation will automatically have 10% deducted from there makeup final exam. If a student does not take the final exam, a grade of zero will be given for that exam.

The last day for an automatic "W" is Wednesday, October 24. This is also the last day to get a withdrawal slip signed without a special petition.

If you are a handicapped student requiring special consideration in the administration of exams, arrangements must be made and approved by Professor Walker by September 11.

Indiana University guidelines are followed on issues of academic dishonesty.
**Make-up for Semester Exams:** If it is necessary to miss any exam, the student must contact Professor Walker (before the exam if possible) at his office, office phone, or via e-mail. If this is not possible, contact Professor Walker as soon as possible after the exam.

Students missing any semester exams will take a **comprehensive make-up exam** at the end of the semester (the week prior to the final exam). Any student missing an exam and not receiving an official excuse will receive a grade of zero for that exam. Any student requiring the make-up exam is responsible for contacting Professor Walker to make arrangements for the exam. The weight of the make-up exam will be determined by the weight of the exam or exams missed during the semester. **The policy on missing one exam is fairly lenient. Any student missing more than one exam must have well documented health reasons for missing the exams.**

**COLLABORATIVE LEARNING SESSIONS:** Collaborative learning (CL) is one hour-per week. The student is responsible for handing in homework exercises, following a homework format detailed on the class website, and participating in the learning session. These sessions focus on practice exam questions and discussion questions.

Multiple sections of CL will be offered. Participation in CL is strictly **voluntary**, but **highly** recommended. It is your responsibility to attend the CL session regularly and participate actively! Complete participation earns you a full credit of 7%. Partial participation earns you partial credit. Full participation implies you attend regularly (1 un-excused absence will be allowed), bring prepared assignments, and participate in discussions in a mature and professional manner. The first two CL weeks will be “trial periods” for CL, allowing students to participate and judge whether they want to choose this option. Attendance will be recorded during this trial period. After the trial period, choosing the CL option is a final decision. That is, students are not allowed (except under extreme extenuating circumstances) to drop the CL option later in the semester.

**Reading and homework assignments** will be announced in class and posted on the class web-site. Those participating in CL will take homeworks to CL. Those not participating in CL are advised to do the homeworks. Answers to homework problems will be posted on the class website. Makeup work is allowed for CL if the student has a valid excuse for the absence. Makeup work includes turning in homework and completing the makeup assignment (see class website) within one week of the missed CL.

Graduate student Luba Habodaszova will be coordinating CL. For all questions related to CL, email Luba at “luhaboda.”

In the event that you choose **not to participate** in collaborative learning, your final exam will be weighted an additional 7%.

**ATTENDANCE:** Attendance will be taken each class day. You are expected to purchase a packet of scantron scoring sheets from one of the bookstores. They are part of the class packet. You are responsible for bringing a scantron sheet to each lecture already filled out - last name first, followed by your first name and your ID number. Fill out scantron sheets using a #2 pencil!

We will use these sheets for “practice exercises” in class, as well as for attendance purposes. **It is considered an act of academic dishonesty to submit the sheet for another student or to use any other means to submit the attendance sheet if you have not attended the class** (for example, coming in at the very end of class and submitting a sheet).

You will be given 2 “free absences” for the semester and attendance will not be recorded on exam days. Each absence beyond 2 will be counted proportionately against the 3% points you receive for attendance. For example, suppose there are 20 lectures in which attendance is recorded. That means there is a maximum of 18, after the 2 free absences. Suppose a student misses 11 lectures in total. After the 2 free absences, they will have missed 9, or 1/2 of the 18. This means they would get 1.5% points. Note that any absences beyond the 2 free absences could potentially lower your letter grade in the course. **Use your 2 free absences wisely.** Any excused absence will require make-up work in the form of writing an essay. This information will be posted on the class website.
If you choose not to receive credit for attendance, you must sign the “no attendance” form by Thursday 9/13. See Professor Walker if you want to choose this option. Those who have signed the “no attendance” form will have their final exam weighted an additional 3%.

**EXTRA-CREDIT:** Under no circumstances will extra-credit work be given to individual students. However, during the semester there will be optional class exercises in which extra credit points can be earned. There will be 3 decision making exercises, each worth up to 1% point that is added to your final average for the class, for a possible total of 3% points. There will also be an extra credit reading/writing assignment based on reading the book The Choice. This assignment will be worth up to 2% points. The details of all extra-credit assignments will be posted on the class website.

**GRADING SCALE:** At the end of the semester, you will have weighted scores adding up to 100% points or less (not counting extra-credit). Your final letter grade for the course will be based on the following scale - expressed as a percentage.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>(97-100)</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>(85-87)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>(74-76)</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>(64-66)</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>(Below 55)</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>(92-96)</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>(81-84)</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>(70-73)</td>
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<td>D</td>
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<td>A-</td>
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<td>B-</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>(67-69)</td>
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<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>(55-59)</td>
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A letter grade will be assigned depending on your average in the course, including scores on exams and extra-credit assignments. Rounding: I will round up if the fractional part of your average is equal to or above .5. I will round down if the fractional part of your grade is below .5. For example, 87.50 rounds up to 88 and an A- in the course. While, 87.49 rounds down to 87 and a B+ in the course.

**Grading Example:** Consider the grade of a hypothetical student with the following hypothetical grades.

- Semester Exam 1: 80% correct -- weighted at 16% implies a score of 12.8 % points
- Semester Exam 2: 83% correct -- weighted at 16% implies a score of 13.28 % points
- Semester Exam 3: 70% correct -- weighted at 16% implies a score of 11.2 % points
- Semester Exam 4: 90% correct -- weighted at 16% implies a score of 14.4 % points

Full participation in collaborative learning and attendance -- implies 10 % points

Final exam: 80% correct -- weighted at 26% implies a score of 20.8 % points

*Total accumulated points equal 82.48 - yielding a final course grade of B*

Participation in "extra-credit" -- assume hypothetically that participation in assignments yields 3.2 extra credit % points

*Total accumulated points (with extra credit) equal 85.68 - yielding a final course grade of B+*

**CLASS PARTICIPATION AND CONDUCT:** Attending class regularly, being prepared for class, and participation in class are important to your performance in this class. Your conduct should be responsible, taking into account the impact of your actions on fellow classmates and the instructor.

This is a large class! Any level of “chatting” with friends, reading newspapers, leaving early, and/or eating in class are disruptive. If for some reason you have to leave early on a given day, please sit in the back of the class, leave quietly, and notify Professor Walker’s assistants of this need. For a given student, this will be allowed as long as the need is very infrequent. Use the time in class wisely, appropriately, and efficiently!