

ECO 2302. Principles of Microeconomics

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Credit Hours/Time Dedicated (per week): 3 credits/9 hours of time commitment (class time, reading, quizzes, studying)

Classroom/Time: on-line

Prerequisites: None

Required Class Materials

We are going to use an e-book and the **Achieve** platform from Macmillan. The textbook is:

Tyler Cowen & Alex Tabarrok, *Modern Principles: Microeconomics*, 5th edition. Macmillan.

Students must buy the E-Book and Achieve Access through the link in Blackboard (click on Achieve Registration).

Course Description

Principles of Microeconomics deals with the interactions between individual households and business firms in a free market economy like the American economic system. In this course, students will learn how prices are determined in competitive free markets, how individual households and firms make decisions and benefit from free trade, and how prices and gains from trade are affected by other market structures, government intervention, and/or market failures.

Learning outcomes

1. The student will understand basic economic concepts including scarcity and choice, opportunity cost, marginal analysis, comparative advantage.
2. To develop the student's understanding of the neoclassical theory of the microeconomic supply and demand.

3. To help the student see the relevance of microeconomic theory to current issues in government and society.
4. The student will understand the differences between various market structures.
5. The student will understand the circumstances under which the market system will not provide an efficient solution.
6. The student will understand patterns of trade, gains from trade, and the consequences of trade policy.

Teaching Methods/Course Format

This is an asynchronous on-line course. Students are expected to complete all the assigned readings, learning curves, and homework before their respective deadline.

Grading

2 online exams (midterm and final exam)	50% (25% each)
Learning curves (drop 2). Due before midnight each Sunday	25%
Homework (drop 2). Due before the midterm/final exam	25%

Each of the on-line exams covers 6 chapters of the material. Each exam is composed of a mixture of definitions, multiple choice questions, short answer questions, and math problems.

There is a Learning Curve (LCs) evaluation for each chapter of the textbook we cover and are available through Achieve (the textbook companion site). Each evaluation is due each Sunday before midnight (11:59 pm Central Time). LCs are pass/fail. If you get 100 points in the evaluation, you pass; otherwise, you fail. However, you can keep trying until you get 100. Just make sure you do it before the deadline. Last, I will drop your two lowest scores (fail) or you can choose to skip 2 LCs.

Homework is due before midnight of the day before the exam. You can use your homework to study; though, homework has a penalty of 5% of the grade every time you take the homework evaluation. So, use it wisely.

Course Schedule

Week	Topic
Week 1	Introduction. The Big Ideas
Week 2	Demand & Supply
Week 3	Equilibrium
Week 4	Elasticity
Week 5	Taxes & Subsidies
Week 6	Price Ceilings and Floors
Week 7	Midterm Review
Wednesday Oct 09	Midterm
Week 8	Costs and Profit Max.
Week 9	Perfect Competition
Week 10	Monopoly and Price Disc.
Week 11	Oligopoly & Game Theory
Week 12	Externalities & Public Goods
Week 13	Asymmetric Information
	Final exam review
TBA	Final Exam

Grading Policies and Procedures

If you find an error in the way you have been graded, please type up a written request for my consideration, and return it together with the problem or exam in question to me. Any changes to exam or problem set grades must be requested **BEFORE THE LAST DAY OF CLASS**.

Students who miss an exam as the result of required participation in a university activity, a death in the immediate family, or a serious illness (COVID quarantine without a positive test does not count) will receive a make-up exam upon request but no later than 2 weeks after the incident. Students who miss an exam for any other reason will receive a zero score for the exam. If you miss an exam, please contact me within 48 hours to be eligible to receive a make-up assignment. Prof. Mora has discretion over the composition of any make-up exams.

I will drop 2 of your learning curve assignments and homework lowest grades. This means that you can be sick (or just skip the assignments) for up to two weeks without losing any points. I, therefore, do not offer any make-up assignments for the Learning curve, or homework. Keep in mind that each exam and homework are worth 100 points while the Learning Curve are “Fail or Pass”.

Grading scale

Percent Range (Final Score)	Letter Grade
100 - 90	A
89 - 89	B
79 - 70	C
69 - 60	D
59 and below	F

My expectations from you:

1. Check your e-mail frequently and complete all the assignments before their respective deadline.
2. Make sure you are on top of the other resources offered in Achieve if you need additional help; there is lots of stuff. You can watch videos, solve end-of-chapter problems, do practice quizzes, etc.
3. Send me an e-mail with a date and time you would like to schedule a virtual appointment if you are having difficulty with the material. The earlier in the semester you seek my help, the better I will be able to help you.

What you can expect from me:

1. I am always willing to help you.
2. I will grade assignments fairly and return them in a timely manner.
3. I will respond to e-mail or written requests within 48 hours of receiving them.
4. 5. I will treat you respectfully and fairly.
6. I will not make any changes to the expectations set in this syllabus.

Sul Ross State University Important Information

1. Official Communications

Official outside-of-class-meeting communications will be delivered to the students via their SRSU e-mail. Students are responsible to check their e-mail daily. Not having checked messages is not a valid excuse for missed course work. Communications can also be done by appointment. IT support regarding blackboard is listed in the image below.



Who should I contact?

<p>Online Support Desk</p> <p>☎ 888.837.6055</p> <p>✉ blackboardsupport@sulross.edu</p> <p>Available: 24/7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Logging into Blackboard• Questions about Blackboard tools/software• Trouble with tests/quizzes/assignments• Error messages on Blackboard• Online course video problems	<p>Lobo Technology Assistance Center (LTAC)</p> <p>☎ 888.837.2882</p> <p>✉ techassist@sulross.edu</p> <p>Available: Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Logging into your mySRSU/Banner/SRSU email• Campus computer, computer lab, or campus Wi-Fi issues• Security concerns with your SRSU or VPN account• Questions about Office 365 or OneDrive
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Or by clicking at <https://www.sulross.edu/bb/>.

2. Policy on Academic Misconduct

Please refer to:

https://d1mg6ms3faonj.cloudfront.net/wpcontent/uploads/2020/09/student_handbook_2019-2020_revision_12.7.2020.pdf

Students should familiarize themselves with the SRSU Student Code of Conduct. Cheating, plagiarism, and/or other form of academic misconduct are **NOT TOLERATED** in class. Any student found guilty of such misconduct will be subject to disciplinary actions. Including, but not limited to, **zero** score on his/her class activities.

3. Special Needs

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Mary Schwartz, M. Ed., L.P.C., in **Counseling and Accessibility Services**, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8691. E-mail: mschwartz@sulross.edu. **All medical information is treated confidentially.**