# ECON 2306: Introduction to Microeconomics

Distance Sections: 006, 007, 008

**Syllabus**

## Instructor Information

Instructor: Timothy A. Wunder

Office: COBA 319

Hours:

Phone: 817-272-3257

Email: tim.wunder@uta.edu
Response Time: I will respond to general class inquiries within one week.

## Class Expectations

1. I expect that you will read this syllabus and abide by the information in it. Continuation in this class implies that you have read this syllabus and agree to the terms within.
2. I expect that you will complete the assignments and tests within the appropriate time frames as is laid out in the calendar at the end of this syllabus. You should be spending about 7 hours each week on the course, reading the text, watching the lecture videos, mastering the key concepts, and completing practice and graded assignments.
3. I expect academic integrity. Cheating on exams, plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty will be dealt with in the severest possible manner. It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University.

"Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts." (Regents’ Rules and Regulations, Series 50101, Section 2.2)

1. You need to be aware that the four exams in this class and the top three highest scores will count towards your grade. You will be able to take these exams via a lockdown browser but be sure you mark the dates on your calendar.
2. All assignments will be open for completion up until the closing date which is listed in the calendar below. Late assignments may be accepted at professor’s discretion. No assignment will be accepted past 5 days late. There will be NO late exams allowed.
3. You should expect to gain a basic understanding of elementary models of the micro-economy as well as an understanding theoretical reasoning behind firm and individual behavior.
4. At the end of this class you as the student should be able to do the following (Student Learning Outcomes)
	* Perform supply and demand analysis to analyze the impact of economic events on markets.
	* Use the theory of consumer behavior to comprehend how consumer actions impact upon demand.
	* Explain the theory of the firm that serves to explain supply.
	* Distinguish between market models, including perfect competition and monopoly.

## Prerequisites

There are no prerequisite courses required. Basic competency in graphing is needed.

## Text and Materials

The text for this class is Economics Today by Roger LeRoy Miller. This book will be essential in understanding the concepts in class. Secondary requirements will be to maintain a good understanding of the issues in the current media. My recommendation for a source on this is to read Business Week, some other news magazine, or the Wall Street Journal or New York Times.

## Grading

There are a total of 500 points available in this class. Final grading will be in the following form:

90+ (450 points or more) A

80-89 (400 – 449 points) B

70-79 (350 – 399 points) C

60-69 (300 – 350 points) D

Below 60 (below 300 points) F

I reserve the right to lower these boundaries but I will never raise them.

## Graded Assignments

| **Graded Assignment** | **Points Possible** | **Total Points** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| \* Midterm Exams (3) | 100 | 300 |
| \* Cumulative Final | 100 | 100 |
| Brief Cumulative Skills Assessment | 20 | 20 |
| Checkpoint Quizzes (5) | 20 | 100 |
| Short Answer Assignment (5) | 10 | 50 |
| Group Discussions (3) | 10 | 30 |
| **TOTAL POINTS** | **\* 500** |

**\* Note, the top three highest scores on the 3 midterm exams and cumulative final will be taken, so the total points possible will end up being 500.**

This class will have the following ways to achieve points:

1. There will be **three midterm exams** each worth 100 points. The exams are scheduled in the syllabus calendar below. Exam 1 will cover materials in lesson one through five, exam 2 will cover materials in lessons six through nine and exam 3 will cover lessons ten through thirteen. These midterm exams will each contain 33 multiple choice questions (each worth three points and you will get one point for free)
2. There will be a multiple choice **cumulative final** worth 100 points that can be used to replace a low test score. If this final has a lower score than the midterms it will be dropped. If you miss one of the other exams, for any reason, this test MUST be taken to replace the missed exam. If you took all three midterms this exam can be used to help improve your grade by replacing a low midterm grade (note if you do not score higher on the final than on the midterm the final will be the test that is dropped).
3. There will be a **brief cumulative skills assessment** worth 20 points that will be taken online during the last week of class. This assessment will consist of 20 simple multiple choice questions that should be easy to answer if the student has mastered the materials in this class.
4. There will be **five multiple choice checkpoint quizzes** that you will be able to complete via blackboard worth 20 points each. You will be allowed three attempts at the quiz questions. Your **best attempt** will be the quiz that will be graded and counted.
5. There will be **five short answer assignment questions**. These assignment questions will each count for 10 points. These assignment questions are intended to be tools to assist you in the preparation for the exams. Review the rubric for each short answer assignment before beginning and submitting your work. The rubrics may be seen by clicking the assignment link and clicking the View Rubric button.
6. There will be **three group discussions** each worth 10 points. Each of these discussions will take place via blackboard forums and you will be randomly assigned to a discussion group. You will be graded in these discussions according to participation. To get full credit you must post a comment and reply at least twice. Each reply must be on topic, clear, logical, and help to further the conversation. Replies must also follow netiquette guidelines set forth on the Start Here page of Blackboard. Differences of opinion are welcome however polite discourse is required. If the above criteria are met, but you post only one reply, you will receive partial credit (5 points). If any of the above criteria are not met (for example, your reply is off topic or doesn’t help to further the conversation), you will receive no credit (0 points). Additionally, inappropriate commentary will result in you receiving no credit for the discussion. Continued inappropriate behavior may result in you not being allowed to participate in the discussion forums and the loss of all potential points from these discussions.

***Note***: In Blackboard, graded assignments within the lessons will be denoted with a yellow background and red icon (with the exception of the exams which are located on a separate Exams page).

**Assignment Feedback:** Practice quizzes in Blackboard provide immediate feedback upon submission. Midterms provide feedback after the due date. You will receive grades and feedback on discussions and short answers within two weeks of the due date.

## Opportunities for Practice

The class will have the following opportunities for self-check practice. These are all optional, but highly recommended.

1. There is a **StudyMate tool** in each lesson that you can use to practice key concepts. The StudyMate tool allows you to practice with terms and definitions and multiple choice questions with your choice of flash cards, crosswords, matching, and more. There are links within the lessons or you may use the StudyMate Practice link in the course menu to access these at any time. You may also download the free StudyMate app for [Android](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.respondus.studymateclass), [iPhone/iPad](http://itunes.apple.com/app/studymate-lms-edition/id365544608?mt=8), or [Kindle Fire](http://www.amazon.com/Respondus-Inc-StudyMate-LMS-Edition/dp/B007JNYURK/ref%3Dsr_1_2?s=mobile-apps&ie=UTF8&qid=1331649910&sr=1-2).
2. In each lesson, you will see **practice tests for each chapter**. These tests allow you to practice the types of multiple choice questions arising out of the lesson that you will likely see on the exam. You have unlimited attempts with these practice tests. There are millions of combinations of questions so each attempt will have differing questions to make sure you are mastering the ideas, not a specific question. You may view the correct answers after attempting the quiz one time.
3. In the Blackboard content area, Practice Tests, you will find a section that has a **practice test** for each midterm. These practice tests are nearly identical to what your midterms will look like in terms of types of questions, break down of topics, and difficulty. You have unlimited attempts with these practice tests. There are millions of combinations of questions so each attempt will have differing questions to make sure you are mastering the ideas, not a specific question. You may view the correct answers after attempting the practice tests one time.
4. In many of the lessons you will also see **assignment practice questions**. These will help you prepare for the graded short answer assignments and quizzes/exams. After you complete the practice questions, you may mark that you have reviewed the questions and will be provided with the answers.

## Class Calendar

(all times and dates set to DFW local time) each week starts on that Sunday.

| **Week of** | **Lesson Availability and Assignment Due Dates** |
| --- | --- |
| August 20 | First day of classes August 24Lesson 1 available August 24*Discussion 1 (Due August 26th 11:59 pm)* |
| August 27 | Lesson 2 available August 27*Short Answer 1 (Due September 2nd 11:59 pm)* |
| September 3 | Lesson 3 available September 3 *Checkpoint Quiz Lessons 1-3 (Due September 9 11:59 pm)* |
| September 10 | Lesson 4 available September 10*Short Answer 2 (Due September 16 11:59 pm)* |
| September 17 | Lesson 5 available September 17*Checkpoint Quiz Lessons 4&5 (Due September 23 11:59 pm)* |
| September 24 | Review and take exam**Midterm 1 (Must be completed no later than September 30 11:59 pm)** |
| October 1 | Lesson 6 available October 1*Discussion 2 (Due October 7 11:59 pm)* |
| October 8 | Lesson 7 available October 8*Checkpoint Quiz Lessons 6&7 (Due October 8 11:59 pm)* |
| October 15 | Lesson 8 available October 15Short Answer 3 (Due October 21 *11:59 pm)* |
| October 22 | **Lesson 9 available October 22*****Checkpoint Quiz Lessons 8&9 (Due October 18*** *11:59 pm)* |
| October 29 | Review and take exam**Midterm 2 (Must be completed no later than November 4 11:59 pm)** |
| November 5 | Lesson10 available November 5*Short Answer 4 (Due November 11 11:59 pm)* |
| November 12 | Lesson 11 available November 12Discussion 3 (Due November 18 *11:59 pm)* |
| November 19 | Lesson 12 and Lesson 13 Available November 19*Short Answer 5 (Due November 25 11:59 pm)**Checkpoint Quiz Lessons 10-13 (Due November 25 11:59 pm)* |
| November 26 | Review and take exam**Midterm 3 (Must be completed no later than November 29 11:59 pm)** |
| December 3 | Assessment available December 3 (Due December 6 11:59 pm) |
| *Final Exam Dates: December 11, 12, and 13.*  | **Final (Must be completed no later than December 13 11:59 pm)** |

## University Required Information

### Attendance

UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients “begin attendance in a course.” UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Blackboard. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients.

### Drop Policy

Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance**. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

### Disability Accommodations

UTArlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA),* and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.* All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of **a letter certified** by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD).Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

**The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD)** [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability).

Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) [www.uta.edu/caps/](http://www.uta.edu/caps/) or calling 817-272-3671 is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

### Non-Discrimination Policy

*The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit*[*uta.edu/eos*](http://www.uta.edu/hr/eos/index.php)*.*

### Title IX Policy

The University of Texas at Arlington (“University”) is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated.*For information regarding Title IX, visit* [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX) or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or [jmhood@uta.edu](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cbbrought%5CDocuments%5CCurrent%20Courses%5CFall%202016%5CUTA%5Cjmhood%40uta.edu).

### Academic Integrity

Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents’ Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at <https://www.uta.edu/conduct/>.

### Electronic Communication

UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

### Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>.

### Student Feedback Survey

At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students’ anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

### Final Review Week

For semester-long courses**,** a period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

### Student Support Services

UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include [tutoring](http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/current/academic-support/learning-center/tutoring/index.php), [major-based learning centers](http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/college-based-clinics-labs.php), developmental education, [advising and mentoring](http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/advising.php), personal counseling, and [federally funded programs](http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/current/academic-support/mcnair/index.php). For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>.