

**Economics 1A**  
**Introduction to Microeconomics**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Analysis of the allocation of resources and the distribution of income through a price system; competition and monopoly; the role of public policy; comparative economic systems

**COMMUNICATION**

All content and homework related questions should be posted in the chat room on <http://canvas.ucdavis.edu>. All of the TAs and the instructor are watching this chat room and your questions will be answered more efficiently.

**READINGS**

*Required text:* Principles of Microeconomics by Gregory Mankiw. Feel free to use any version available. If you are subscribing to Universal Access, the electronic version is available on the course website “bookshelf”.

*Current Events:* I will expect you to read or listen to the news during the session.

*Further Material:* Additional readings and media will be found in the modules section of the course site as the course progresses.

**GRADING**

*Distribution of Points:*

Your final grade in the course will be determined by the following:

- 2% Course Introduction Survey - *completion gives you the full 2%*
- 4% Course Preparation Exercise – *completion gives you the full 4%, designed to prepare you for success in the class. The more sincerely you complete the exercise (no calculator), the greater the value for you. You will have access to resources appropriate to your needs.*
- 8% Lecture Prep (lowest 2 scores dropped) - *Questions on the reading in each topic (due before class most Tuesdays and some Thursdays) There will be no excused assignments.*
- 10% Homework (lowest score dropped) - *to further your understanding of the topic material. There will be no excused assignments.*
- 8% Writing Assignments - *Discussion (post on the discussion board once per topic) – the lowest score will be dropped. As a result, there are no excused assignments.*
- 8% In Class Participation – *During each lecture, students will be asked to solve a problem or respond to a question in their notes. Students will upload their responses to Gradescope by 11:59pm on the day of lecture to get credit. The lowest 6 participation assignments will be dropped. There will be no excused assignments.*

Exams to Test Understanding: Multiple Choice and Short Answer

- 20% 80 min Midterm 1 (bring a pink scantron)
- 20% 80 min Midterm 2 (bring a pink scantron)
- 20% 80 min Final Exam (bring a pink scantron)

### *Exam Policy:*

There will be no make-up exams. If you miss a midterm exam due to a university excused illness, your final exam ranking will determine the score used for your missed midterm. If you miss a final exam as a result of a university excused illness and you have completed all prior course material at a passing quality, you will receive an incomplete in the course. You must have documentation of any university excused illness.

### **HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS**

Homework can be found by clicking the “Assignments” tab on the course website. It will help you practice the material and solidify concepts for the exams and life. The homework assignments will be due on Sundays. The lowest homework score will be dropped. **No late assignments will be accepted for any reason, there will be no exceptions** There will be no excused assignments as a result of illness or your own technical difficulties (internet down, bad connections etc...) so it will be important to attempt all assignments.

### **LECTURE PREPARATION**

This is designed to keep you current on the reading for the course. They will be due most Tuesdays and a couple of Thursdays. Lecture Prep assignments can be found by clicking the “Assignments” tab on the course website. The lowest two lecture prep scores will be dropped. **No late assignments will be accepted for any reason, there will be no exceptions.** There will be no excused assignments as a result of illness or your own technical difficulties (internet down, bad connections etc...) so it will be important to attempt all assignments.

### **TECHNOLOGY NOTE**

Laptops are not recommended in lecture, nor are cell phones, however, tablets laid flat are OK.

See the following articles regarding technology and student success to understand my motives... **Advantages of taking notes by hand and not on a laptop:**

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/a-learning-secret-don-t-take-notes-with-a-laptop/> **Advantages of putting away your cell phone:**

<http://cep.lse.ac.uk/pubs/download/dp1350.pdf>

### **ADDITIONAL NOTE**

If you have a physical disability, any difficulty with the English language, or other special needs that are relevant to your success in this class please see me early in the quarter. I will help you get access to resources that may help you manage any special concerns you might have in the course.

**COURSE OUTLINE (Tentative! Topics could spill into the following lecture)**

<b>Topic 1: Introduction</b>	<u>Readings:</u> Mankiw Chapters 2 & 3
<b>Topic 2: Demand and Supply</b>	<u>Readings:</u> Mankiw Chapter 4
<b>Topic 3: Elasticity</b>	<u>Readings:</u> Mankiw Chapter 5
<b>MIDTERM 1 ON TOPICS 1-3</b>	
<b>Topic 4: Efficiency and Equity</b>	<u>Readings:</u> Mankiw Chapter 7
<b>Topic 5: Government Actions in Markets</b>	<u>Readings:</u> Mankiw Chapters 6 & 8
<b>Topic 6: Externalities</b>	<u>Readings:</u> Mankiw Chapter 10
<b>MIDTERM 2 ON TOPICS 4-6</b>	
<b>Topic 7: Costs of Production</b>	<u>Readings:</u> Mankiw Chapter 13
<b>Topic 8: Perfect Competition</b>	<u>Readings:</u> Mankiw Chapter 14
<b>Topic 9: Monopoly</b>	<u>Readings:</u> Mankiw Chapter 15
<b>FINAL EXAM ON TOPICS 7-10</b>	

# The University of California, Davis CODE OF ACADEMIC CONDUCT

## Honesty, Fairness, Integrity

This Code of Academic Conduct exists to support high standards of behavior and to ensure fair evaluation of student learning. Students who violate the Code of Academic Conduct are subject to disciplinary sanctions that include censure, probation, suspension, deferred separation or dismissal from the University of California. Unless specifically authorized by the instructor in writing, misconduct includes, but is not limited to the following:

- > Academic misconduct on exams or other coursework
  - Copying or attempting to copy from another student, allowing another student to copy, or collaborating with another student on an exam.
  - Displaying or using any unauthorized material such as notes, cheat-sheets, or electronic devices
  - Looking at another student's exam
  - Not following an instructor's directions regarding an exam.
  - Talking, texting or communicating during an exam
  - Altering assignments or exams for re-grading purposes
  - Bringing pre-written answers to an exam
  - Having another person take an exam for you, or taking an exam for another student
  - Theft of academic work
  - Unexcused exit and re-entry during an exam period
- > Plagiarism
  - Taking credit for any work created by another person. Work includes, but is not limited to books, articles, experimental methodology or results, compositions, images, lectures, computer programs, internet postings
  - Copying any work belonging to another person without indicating that the information is copied and properly citing the source of the work
  - Using another person's presentation of ideas without putting such work in your own words or form and giving proper citation
  - Creating false citations that do not correspond to the information you have used
  - Plagiarizing one's own work
- > Unauthorized collaboration
  - Working together on graded coursework without permission of the instructor
  - Working with another student beyond the limits set by the instructor
  - Providing or obtaining unauthorized assistance on graded coursework
- > Misuse of an instructor's course materials or the materials of others:
  - Posting or sharing any course materials of an instructor without the explicit written permission of that instructor
  - Purchasing or copying assignments or solutions, to complete any portion of graded work, without the instructor's permission
  - Unauthorized use of another student's work
- > Lying or fraud:
  - Giving false excuses to obtain exceptions for deadlines, to postpone an exam, or for other reasons
  - Forging signatures or submitting documents containing false information
  - Making false statements regarding attendance at class sessions, requests for late drops, incomplete grades, or other reasons
- > Intimidation or disruption:
  - Pressuring an instructor or teaching assistant to regrade work, change a final grade, or obtain an exception such as changing the date of an exam, extending a deadline, or granting an incomplete grade
  - Refusing to leave an office when directed to do so
  - Physically or verbally intimidating or threatening an instructor, teaching assistant or staff person, including yelling at them, invading personal space, or engaging in any form of harassment
  - Repeatedly contacting or following an instructor, teaching assistant, or staff person when directed not to do so
  - Misusing a classroom electronic forum by posting material unrelated to the course

- Interfering with an instructor's or teaching assistant's ability to teach a class, or interfering with other students' participation in a class

by interrupting, physically causing a disruption, or excessive talking

## Upholding the UC Davis Code of Academic Conduct

Students, faculty, and University administration all have a role in maintaining an honest and secure learning environment at UC Davis.

- > The success of our Code of Academic Conduct depends largely on the degree that it is willingly supported by students. Students:
  - Are responsible to know what constitutes cheating. Ignorance is not an excuse.
  - Are required to do their own work unless otherwise allowed by the instructor.
  - Are encouraged to help prevent cheating by reminding others about this Code and hold each other accountable by reporting any form of suspected cheating to the University.
- Shall respect the copyright privileges of works produced by faculty, the University, and other copyright holders.
- Shall not threaten, intimidate or pressure instructors or teaching assistants, or interfere with grading any coursework.
- Shall not disrupt classes or interfere with the teaching or learning environment.
- > Faculty members and instructors are responsible for teaching courses and evaluating student work, and are governed by University of California and UC Davis policies and regulations. Regulation 550 of the Davis Division of the Academic Senate addresses academic misconduct. Faculty and instructors:
  - Will provide students with a course outline containing information about the content of the course, amount and kind of work expected, examination and grading procedures and notice of the Code of Academic Conduct.
  - Should monitor examinations to help prevent academic misconduct.
  - Shall report all suspected cases of cheating and other misconduct to the Office of Student Support and Judicial Affairs

(<http://ossja.ucdavis.edu/>).
- > The University has delegated authority and responsibility to the Office of Student Support and Judicial Affairs (OSSJA) for the adjudication and resolution of academic misconduct cases. OSSJA maintains records of academic misconduct. The University:
  - Shall educate faculty and students about the Code of Academic Conduct.
  - Shall provide physical settings such as classrooms and labs for examinations that minimize opportunities for academic misconduct.
- Shall assist and train faculty and teaching assistants about how to prevent and address academic misconduct.
- > Submitting Reports and Judicial Procedures
  - The Code of Academic Conduct governs academic conduct at UC Davis.
  - Faculty have sole authority, as granted by the Academic Senate, to evaluate a student's academic performance and

assign grades. If academic misconduct is admitted or is determined by adjudication to have occurred, instructors may assign a grade penalty no greater than "F" for the course in question. If a report is pending at the end of an academic term, instructors should assign a temporary grade of "Y" for the course until the report is resolved.

- A faculty/student panel, convened by OSSJA, shall conduct formal hearings to adjudicate contested cases of academic misconduct, unless the right to a formal hearing has been withdrawn. The right to a formal hearing may be withdrawn because of a prior finding of misconduct.
- Instructors and teaching assistants may direct a student to leave a class immediately if the student's behavior is disruptive.
- Instructors, teaching assistants and staff persons should contact police (752-1230 or 911) if they feel physically threatened.