

S201: Introduction to Microeconomics - Fall 2009
Section: 2405 2:30-3:45 MW Wylie Hall 101

Instructor: Professor Jim Walker

Office: Wylie Hall 240 Phone: 855-2760 E-mail: walkerj@indiana.edu

Office Hours: To be announced. Also, meetings can be made by appointment via email.

Class Website: <http://www.indiana.edu/~econjw/jw-f09-s201.html> - **The web-site will be used regularly during the semester to post class information, exam information, homework, etc.**

Required Texts:

Microeconomics: Introductory Concepts, Principles, and Questions, 17th edition (Walker)
The Economics of Public Issues, Miller, Benjamin, North (16th Ed.)

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

Paperback or CD: **Foundations of Microeconomics** (Bade and Parkin)

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) **3 Semester Exams** - each weighted at 20% of your final grade
- (B) **Final Exam** - weighted at 30% of your final grade (Note, the location for this exam will be announced at the end of semester.)
- (C) **Collaborative Learning** -7%
- (D) **Attendance and presentations**- 3%

EXAMS: Exams are multiple choice. All dates given below are **tentative**, except for the final. **You** are responsible for confirmation of these dates.

Tentative Exam Dates:

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|-----------------|------------------|
| Semester Exam 1 | Wednesday, 9/30 |
| Semester Exam 2 | Wednesday, 10/28 |
| Semester Exam 3 | Wednesday, 12/2 |
| Final Exam | Thursday, 12/17 |

The final examination for this course is scheduled for Thursday, December 17, 2008 from 10:15 a.m. -12:15 p.m. It is imperative that your schedule permits you to take the final at this time. There will be no make-up exams for the final exam, except in the event of an unpredictable occurrence. The final exam is required of all students. Anyone who misses the final exam without medical documentation (or other similar documentation) will automatically have 10% deducted from their make-up final exam. If a student does not take the final exam, a grade of zero will be given for that exam.

Grading note: If it will improve a student's grade, their final exam score will be substituted for their lowest semester exam score.

Make-up for Semester Exams: If it is necessary to miss any exam, the student must contact Professor Walker as soon as possible (before the exam if possible) **via e-mail**.

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 (2 unexcused absences will be allowed), bring prepared assignments, and participate in discussions in a mature and professional manner. A student missing more than 2 CL session will receive a CL grade that is the proportion of their attendance score relative to the maximum possible attendance score. Makeup work for CL will be allowed only in the circumstances of a very good excuse and on a very limited basis.

In the event that you choose **not to participate** in collaborative learning, your "CL grade" will be based on your final exam score.

Reading and homework assignments will be 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 after the CL sessions.**

Attendance and Presentations: Attendance will be taken most class days. You will be given 2 "free absences" for the semester and attendance will not be recorded on exam days. Absence beyond 2 class periods will be counted proportionately against the 3% points you receive for attendance. There will also be team presentations and class discussions related to readings from the public issues book, as well as a few exam questions from the readings.

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. These exercises will have a combined maximum possible total of **300 points**. At the end of the semester your total extra-credit points will be given a weight in the grade book of .01 -- (EXTRA-CREDIT POINTS x .01). This means that a person can change their final grade average from 0-3 points with extra-credit.

The last day for an automatic "W" is Wednesday, October 28, 2009. This is also the last day to get a withdrawal slip signed without a special petition.

If you desire classroom/testing accommodations for a disability, contact your instructor outside of class. Present the written supporting memorandum of accommodation from the Office of Disability Services for Students (www.indiana.edu/~iubdss). Requests for accommodations must be made no less than two weeks in advance of need. No accommodation should be assumed until authorized by your instructor.

Indiana University guidelines are followed on issues of academic dishonesty.

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 of 100 points.

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|----|-----------|----|---------|----|---------|----|---------|---|------------|
| A+ | (97-100) | B+ | (85-88) | C+ | (73-76) | D+ | (61-64) | F | (Below 53) |
| A | (93- 96) | B | (81-84) | C | (69-72) | D | (57-60) | | |
| A- | (89 - 92) | B- | (77-80) | C- | (65-68) | D- | (53-56) | | |