

# DePaul University

## Department of Economics

Eco 105: Principles of Microeconomics  
Section 604  
Spring 2025

**Brian A. Thompson**  
*Course Syllabus*

### Contact Information

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### Class Meeting Times & Location

Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:10am-11:40pm  
Lewis Center Room 1210

Office/Lab Hours: Mondays 4:00pm-5:00pm and Tuesdays 4:00pm-5:00pm  
and by appointment

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:

<https://depaul.zoom.us/j/96219768180?pwd=dk1VUFJTbDIUZnQxRFc5SVduckFjdz09>

Password: 783002

Principles of Microeconomics. Basic theories of micro (or individual) economic units; the theory of consumer demand, the firm, and distribution; pricing and production in competitive, monopolistic and oligopolistic industries. MAT 130 or equivalent is a prerequisite for this class.

Expected Outcomes: Successful work in this course will enable students to:

1. Understand and Apply the Concept of Opportunity Cost:
  - Define opportunity cost and apply it to individual and business decision-making.
2. Analyze Markets using Supply and Demand:
  - Explain the laws of supply and demand, determine market equilibrium, predict how supply and demand shifts affect market prices and quantities.
3. Evaluate Elasticity:
  - Interpret price elasticity of demand, and explain how price elasticity influences consumer and producer/business decisions.
4. Examine Consumer and Producer Behavior:

- Analyze how consumers and producers make choices considering their constraints and available information.
- 5. Assess Market Structures:
  - Compare and contrast the characteristics and market outcomes of different market structures, including perfect competition and monopoly..
- 6. Identify and Analyze Market Failures:
  - Recognize instances of market failure, such as externalities and public goods, and evaluate potential government interventions to correct these inefficiencies.
- 7. Explore the role of government in the economy including issues of equity and efficiency.

**Required Text:**

Principles of Microeconomics, 13th Edition, Case, Fair; Oster, Pearson, 2020.

***The Cengage MyLab access component is required for this class. The access component is used for homework problems sets and additional practice activities.***

Additional reading selections may be recommended by the instructor during the semester. The Wall Street Journal and other related business publications and news sources are recommended reading throughout this course.

**Critical Analysis Presentation**

The Critical Analysis paper assignment will consist of a short article or essay that describe situations requiring analysis using economic theory. Students must identify and describe the most critical points of the situations and based on their knowledge and research, provide an appropriate analysis and or recommendation. The assignments will directly relate to specific topics being covered in class at that time. Students will submit a **maximum 5-page** document that clearly and concisely meets the objectives of the assignment. Students will be expected to provide appropriate support for their analysis. Students should use APA formatting standard for their assignment where a reference page should be included. The Critical Analysis paper assignment is worth up to 150 points each and will be completed in groups. Groups will be randomly assigned and posted in D2L.

**Considerations for Critical Analysis Paper & Discussion Board Posts**

Content & Summary: Student clearly defines core issues and relates content to the main idea.

Analysis & Support: Economic analysis is evident and the students' ideas are presented clearly and supported.

Composition Quality: The assignment lacks significant spelling and grammatical errors.

## Quizzes

There will be two quizzes during the quarter . Each quiz will be worth 100 points.

## Examinations

There will be a Midterm examination worth 150 points and a Final Examination worth 200 points.

Exam 1 will cover Chapters 1-6 (multiple choice and true/ false)

The Final Exam will be cumulative and cover Chapters 1-14 (multiple choice and true/false).

## MyLab Problem Sets

The MyLab problem set assignments are designed to help synthesize content covered in class and in the textbook. Students will complete the assignments based on the class schedule posted below. All assignments will be available for students to work ahead, but late assignments will be reduced by 5% per day after the due date. Late homework assignments will only be accepted up to the last review session date prior to the corresponding exam. For example: Chapters 3-4 homework will not be accepted after 5/6. There up to three attempts for each of the problem sets and the system takes the average of all attempts in calculating the final score for the respective problem set.

## Discussion Engagement

There are 1-2 Discussion Board assignment periods where you will follow the steps listed below. Additionally, there will be other opportunities to participate in open discussions during class (Open discussion count towards engagement scores). Each discussion board will be open for (14) days. The topics will vary and relate to content being covered at the time. Please follow the format listed below when completing the discussion board assignment:

1. Address the original discussion board question
2. Respond to one of your classmate's original posts
3. Respond to a question that I will pose regarding your original discussion board post
4. Respond to the response of one of your classmate's posts (i.e. the response that someone posted regarding your original post)

**\*\*\*Please do not wait until the absolute last minute to post your discussion board response, as this will delay others from successfully completing their assignments on time. Also, please avoid casual comments such as "I agree with ...." That is a great point..." Your comments should add value to the discussion in a meaningful way. I do not respond to original posts made in the last 48 hrs before the assignment is due. Please make sure you use this 12-day window of time to make your initial post.**

## Class Engagement

Class engagement is important and contributes to your grade in this course. Quality is preferred over quantity in that you should look for opportunities to demonstrate your understanding of the material through responding to and raising questions that stimulate further discussion.

## Evaluation Criteria

- Quizzes (3) 100 pts.
- Final Exam (1) 250 pts
- Critical Analysis Presentation (Group) 150 pts.
- Discussion & Engagement 100 pts.
- My Lab Problem Sets 200 (Total Points)

## Grading Scale

A = 930 – 1000pts.

A- = 900 - 929pts.

B+ = 870 - 889pts.

B = 830 - 869pts.

B- = 800 – 829pts.

C = 700 – 779pts.

D = 600 – 699pts.

F = 559pts. or less

## Course Schedule

<b>Week 1</b>	<b>Topics:</b>	Class Introduction & Overview
<b>4/1 &amp; 4/3</b>	<b>Chapters 1-2</b>	The Scope and Method of Economics, The Economic Problem: Scarcity and Choice, Demand, Supply, and Market Equilibrium
	<b>Assignment Due</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Week 2</b>	<b>Topics:</b>	Demand, Supply, and Market Equilibrium, Demand and Supply Applications, Elasticity
<b>4/8 &amp; 4/10</b>	<b>Chapters 3-4</b>	
	<b>Assignment Due</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Week 3</b>	<b>Topics:</b>	Elasticity, The Capital Market & Investment Decision
<b>4/15 &amp; 4/17</b>	<b>Chapters 5 &amp; 11</b>	*(Please read Chapter 6 pages 113-126 only)
	<b>Assignment Due</b>	<b>Chapters 1 &amp; 2 Problem Sets Due 4/17</b>
<b>Week 4</b>	<b>Topics</b>	Monopoly & Antitrust Policy, Oligopoly
<b>4/22 &amp; 4/24</b>	<b>Chapters 13-14</b>	

**Assignment Due**

**Chapters 3-4 Problem Sets Due 4/24**

**Week 5  
4/29 & 5/1**

**Topics:**

**Quiz Review**

**Quiz 1 Due 5/1 (Chapters 1-4)**

**Assignment Due**

**Chapters 5 & 11 Problem Set Due 5/1**

**Week 6  
5/6 & 5/8**

**Topics:**

Oligopoly Cont., Critical Analysis Presentations

**Assignment Due**

**Critical Analysis Presentations (See Schedule in D2L)**

**Chapters 13-14 Problem Sets Due 5/8**

**Week 7  
5/13 & 5/15**

**Topics:**

Monopolistic Competition, Externalities, Public Goods, & Common Resources Critical Analysis Presentations

**Chapter 15 & 17**

**Assignment Due**

**Critical Analysis Presentations (See Schedule in D2L)**

**Quiz #2 Due 5/15 (5, 11, & 13)**

**Week 8  
5/20 & 5/22**

**Topics:**

Externalities, Public Goods, & Common Resources Cont., Uncertainty & Asymmetric Information, Critical Analysis Presentations

**Assignment Due**

**Critical Analysis Presentations (See Schedule in D2L)**

**Chapters 15 & 17 Problem Sets Due 5/22**

**Week 9  
5/27 & 5/29**

**Topics:**

Oligopoly & Monopolistic Competition\*\*

**Chapters 14 & 15\***

\*\* (Please read Chapter 15 pages 312-323 only)

**Assignment Due**

**Quiz #3 (Chapters 14, 15, & 17) Due 5/29**

<b>Week 10</b> <b>6/3 &amp; 6/5</b>	<b>Topics:</b>	<b>Final Exam Review</b>
	<b>Assignment Due</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Week 11</b>	<b>Topics:</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>
	<b>Assignment Due</b>	<b>Final Exam 6/12 8:30am (All covered chapters)</b>

### **Assignment Submission**

Documents submitted for this course should be double spaced following APA formatting. Please do not use a font larger than 12, and please ensure that the margins on your assignments are 1". Late assignments will not be accepted. Please submit your document in a MS Word doc. or docx format. Any conflicts in submitting assignments must be addressed before the due date of the assignment.

### **Academic Honesty**

Students are expected to submit their own original work. Any ideas, phrases, statements, etc., that are not the original work of the student must be properly cited in each submission. Students that submit work that is not their own will receive a "0" for the assignment.

### **Desire-2-Learn (D2L)**

D2L will act as a repository for class material and related references. All of the assigned readings will appear in D2L under the corresponding week (File or corresponding link).

### **Academic Integrity Policy**

As a condition of their enrollment in this course, students are expected to understand and abide by DePaul University's Academic Integrity Policy (AIP) as outlined in [http://offices.depaul.edu/oaa/faculty-resources/teaching/academic-integrity/Documents/AcademicIntegrityPolicy\\_2012.pdf](http://offices.depaul.edu/oaa/faculty-resources/teaching/academic-integrity/Documents/AcademicIntegrityPolicy_2012.pdf) A violation of the AIP will result in sanctions, including a failing grade for the course.

**Dean of Student's Office**

The Dean of Students Office (DOS) helps students in navigating the university, particularly during difficult situations, such as personal, financial, medical, and/or family crises. DOS assists students with Absence Notifications to faculty, Late Withdrawals, and Community Resource Referrals. They also have resources and programs to support health and wellness, violence prevention, substance abuse and drug prevention, and LGBTQ student services. You may contact DOS at <http://studentaffairs.depaul.edu/dos/>.

**Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD)**

Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss their specific needs. All discussion will remain confidential. To ensure that you receive the most reasonable accommodation based on your needs, contact me as early as possible in the quarter (preferably within the first week or two of the course) and be sure to contact one of the CSD offices for support and additional service. Lincoln Park: Student Center 370, (773)325-1677; Loop: Lewis Center 1420. (312)362-8002.