

Econ 10010/20010: Principles of Microeconomics

Summer 2025

University of Notre Dame

Course Details

Instructor: Coleson Weir

Email: cweir2@nd.edu

Office: Jenkins and Nanovic Hall (JNH) 3018

Office Hours: Tuesday 4-5 p.m. and Friday 12-2 p.m. or by appointment (JNH 3005)

Class Meeting Times: Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday from 10:30 am - 12:45 pm

Class Location: Jenkins and Nanovic Hall B044

Class Site: canvas.nd.edu

Course Overview

This undergraduate course serves as an introduction to the study of microeconomics. Economics is all about how individuals and society make tradeoffs and allocate scarce resources – i.e., “who gets what, how, and why.” In this course, we use microeconomic theory as a framework to understand how economists model markets, what makes markets work (and not work), how consumers and firms make decisions, and more. More broadly, this course will provide a basic foundation in “how to think like an economist” – how to use economic intuition and simple models to shed light on complicated, real-world problems, in a way that is different from any other social science.

Tentative Course Outline (Subject to Change)

Date	#	Topic	Assignment Due
Wednesday 6/18	1	Intro, Opportunity Cost, Trade	
Thursday 6/19	2	Markets, Supply, and Demand	Reaction #1
Monday 6/23	3	Markets, Supply, and Demand	Quiz #1
Tuesday 6/24	4	Equilibrium Analysis	Problem Set #1
Wednesday 6/25	5	Elasticity	
Thursday 6/26	6	Price Controls	Reaction #2
Monday 6/30	7	Taxation and Subsidies	Problem Set #2, Quiz #2
Tuesday 7/1	8	Externalities	
Wednesday 7/2	9	Public Goods, Coase Theorem	
Thursday 7/3	10	Producer Theory	Reaction #3
Monday 7/7	11	Firms in Competitive Markets	Problem Set #3, Quiz #3
Tuesday 7/8	12	Firms in Competitive Markets, Monopolies	
Wednesday 7/9	13	Monopolistic Competition	Reaction #4
Thursday 7/10	14	Oligopoly, Game Theory	Problem Set #4, Quiz #4
Monday 7/14	15	Game Theory	
Tuesday 7/15	16	Catch Up/Special Topics	Problem Set #5
Wednesday 7/16	17	Student Presentations/Review Session	
Thursday 7/17	18	Final Exam	

Course Material

1. A phone/tablet with access to Poll Everywhere software

Requirements and Grading Rubric

- A. Attendance and Participation (10%)** Attendance is required. The only exceptions are absences which are excused due to official University-sanctioned activities, illness, or unforeseen emergencies. In general, you should communicate with me prior to any excused absence, and follow up by providing documentation to verify the reason for the absence. I will work with you, either by providing a recording of the lecture and/or through a personal appointment, to ensure that you are caught up on any material missed due to an excused absence.

Everyone is expected to participate in class. A large portion of lecture time will be devoted to discussion and in-class exercises, so the more that you engage with the material during class, the more that you (and your classmates) will get out of this course.

Along with asking and answering questions during lectures, we will use Poll Everywhere to facilitate engagement. During lecture, I will often present multiple-choice questions and you will use the Poll Everywhere app to respond. Prior to our first class, you will receive information on how to activate your Poll Everywhere account and setup the Poll Everywhere app for your phone or tablet.

Your Attendance and Participation grade will be based on the percentage of Poll Everywhere questions that you *answer* – not the percentage that you answer correctly. To allow for technical problems and other issues, there will be a curve on your Poll Everywhere score (not to exceed a total score of 100%).

- B. Reaction Statements (5%)** Each week I will provide an article, podcast, or other media content on a topic relevant to the lecture, with specific prompts for you to respond to. You are expected to write about 2 paragraphs in response to these prompts. Reaction statements are to be completed individually. In class, I will ask several students to present what they have prepared. You should expect to present at least once during the semester. Reaction statements will be due at the start of class.
- C. Problem Sets (20%)** There will be 5 problem sets assigned throughout the course. You are encouraged to work in groups on the problem sets, but you must turn in your own solutions. The problem sets are designed to help you grasp and apply the concepts discussed in class. Late problem set submissions will receive at most half credit. All problem sets are due at the start of class each Tuesday.
- D. Presentations (10%)** Each student will be required to participate in one 2-person presentation after at the end of the semester. Each pair of students will choose an article and then present the article. Each presentation should be about seven minutes, and students may not be able to cover all the material in

the article.

- E. Quizzes (25%)** Every week there will be a quiz. All quizzes will take place in the last 30-45 minutes of class time. For each quiz you may use a simple four function calculator and a single 3 x 5-inch notecard (“cheat sheet”) containing your own handwritten notes (can use one side only). There are four quizzes in total, but I will drop your lowest score when calculating your grade. There are no makeup quizzes for unexcused absences. If you miss a quiz due to an unexcused absence, that miss will be counted as your lowest score and will be dropped. You will receive a zero for each additional quiz you miss due to an unexcused absence.
- F. Final Exam (30%)** The final exam will take place on the last day of class (July 17, 2025) at our usual meeting time and in our usual classroom. Per ND rules, you must have a valid excuse from the Dean to take the final exam at a time other than the scheduled time. Other university exam policies can be found online (<https://al.nd.edu/advising/academic-policies/final-exams/>). If you miss the final exam and do not have an excuse from the Dean, you will receive a score of 0% on your final. For the final, you may use a single 8.5 x 11-inch sheet of paper (“cheat sheet”) containing your own handwritten notes (can use one side only).

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

A	93-100
A-	90-92.99
B+	87-89.99
B	83-86.99
B-	80-82.99
C+	77-79.99
C	73-76.99
C-	70-72.99
D	60-69.99
F	0-59.99

I will be using the gradebook on the course website through Canvas. This will allow you to keep close track of your performance in the course.

Email Communications

I will communicate class announcements through announcements on Canvas. You can set up notifications from Canvas to be sent to you via email. For all email communications, please use your @nd.edu address. I will do my best to respond to your emails within 24 hours.

Phone/Laptop Policy

This course is designed so that you do not need a laptop during lecture. Research shows that in-class laptop use has a negative impact on learning outcomes and overall course performance. Therefore, laptops are not permitted during class. Additionally, phone/tablet use is not permitted in class, except as a means to access “Poll Everywhere”. If you are observed using a

phone or laptop during class, your participation score will be reduced.

If you think that taking notes on a tablet would be especially beneficial for you, please talk to me during the first week of class and we can discuss an exception.

Academic Honesty

You are expected not to engage in academic dishonesty. One of the goals of this course is to prepare you to do well in advanced economics courses and build the basic foundations of regression analysis for research projects and future careers, so it is essential that you develop a solid understanding of the material. To that end, while collaboration on problem sets is encouraged in this course, copying is not. Students are expected to understand and abide by the University's honor code.

Support for Mental Health:

The University Counseling Center (UCC) provides cost-free and confidential mental health services to help you manage personal challenges that threaten your emotional or academic well-being. Remember, getting help is a smart and courageous thing to do. For more resources, please see ucc.nd.edu. For course-related concerns, you can also speak with me at any time.

Disability Services:

It is the policy and practice of the University of Notre Dame to provide reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. Students who have questions about the Office of Disability Services or who have, or think they may have, a disability are invited to contact the Office of Disability Services for a confidential discussion in the Sara Bea Center for Students with Disabilities or by phone at (574) 631-7157. Because the University's Academic Accommodations Processes generally require students to request accommodations well in advance of the dates when they are needed, students who believe they may need an accommodation for this course are encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Services at their earliest opportunity. Additional information about Disability Services and the process for requesting accommodations may be found at supportandcare.nd.edu.

Inclusive Classroom:

The University of Notre Dame is committed to social justice. I share that commitment and strive to maintain a positive learning environment based on open communication, mutual respect, and non-discrimination. In this class, we will not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, economic class, disability, veteran status, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, color, or national origin. Any suggestions as to how to further such a positive and open environment will be appreciated and given serious consideration.

Title IX:

Lauren's Promise: I will listen and believe you if someone is threatening or harassing you.

Lauren McCluskey, a 21-year-old student at the University of Utah and the daughter of economist Jill McCluskey was murdered on Oct. 22, 2018 by a man she briefly dated. I am committed to doing what I can to make sure this does not happen again.

If you are in immediate danger, call 911. If you are experiencing sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, or harassment you can report it to me. You should be aware that I am a mandatory reporter,

which means that I am required to report these instances to the university's Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Title IX Coordinator to investigate. You can also learn about your options (on-campus and off-campus, confidential and not) at <http://titleix.nd.edu>.

The University of Notre Dame provides services for those who have been affected by sexual assault, sexual misconduct, dating or domestic violence, stalking and any conduct that creates a hostile environment. For help and further information including contact information for on and off-campus resources, please consult <https://titleix.nd.edu/support-resources>.