

# ECNS 204 – MICROECONOMICS

Spring 2023

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<b>Office:</b>	103A Linfield Hall	<b>Office Hours:</b>	R 3:00 – 5:00 (or by appointment)
<b>Teaching Assistant:</b>	Maxwell Ellingsen	<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:maxelli1201@gmail.com">maxelli1201@gmail.com</a>
<b>TA Office Hours:</b>	W 11:00 – 12:00		
<b>Teaching Assistant:</b>	Ethan Gilpin	<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:ethangilpin@gmail.com">ethangilpin@gmail.com</a>
<b>TA Office Hours:</b>	R 11:00 – 12:00		

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**Course Description:** This course introduces the microeconomic framework used to understand decisions of individuals and firms. The material will offer an economic perspective on a wide range of issues related to the interaction of consumers, firms, and governments. Building on the knowledge acquired in ECNS 101, this course will dive deeper into the foundations of microeconomic models and present more rigorous problems and applications.

**Prerequisites:** ECNS 101 (Economic Way of Thinking), Math 121 (College Algebra)

## Textbook and Materials:

1. **Mankiw, Principles of Microeconomics, current edition:** Optional, older editions are acceptable. All required material will be covered in class.
2. **D2L:** I will post notes and other course materials on this page. In addition, all homeworks and quizzes will be posted and should be submitted via D2L.

## Assignments and Grading:

- **Homework:** Homework will be due nearly every week. All assignments will be posted on the course website. Full credit for a genuine attempt at the homework, no credit for partially completed assignments.
  - Homeworks will not be corrected – see posted answer keys for correct answers.
  - Two assignments will be accepted late *until the last day of class*. Please let me know via email if you submit an assignment late.
- **Experiments:** Throughout the course, we will conduct experiments that relate to our lecture material. Experiments will be graded primarily on in-class participation and performance. Dates are subject to change and will be announced at least a week in advance.
- **In-class exercises:** You will work collaboratively with other students in the class to solve problems related to the course material. You will be evaluated on your effort (by turning in an attempt at the assignments) and your engagement with others in your group.
- **Quizzes:** To keep you on track with the course and check your initial understanding of each week's new material, a short quiz (on D2L) will be due each Sunday by 11:59pm. You may use any materials you like (notes, videos, textbook, etc.). Quizzes will be auto-graded. The lowest two quiz scores will be dropped.

- **Midterm and Final:** There are two exams in this course, a midterm and a final. As specified by Student Code 310.D of the *MSU Student Conduct Code*, students must take exams when scheduled. If an unavoidable scheduling conflict arises, students should inform me at least one week prior to the exam to take it early. I do not allow make-up exams.

**Grading Policy:** Homework (10%); in-class exercises (10%); experiments (10%); quizzes (20%), Midterm (25%), Final (25%).

**Grading Scale:** A (93-100), A- (90-92), B+ (87-89), B (83-86), B- (80-82), C+ (77-79), C (73-76), C- (70-72), D+ (67-69), D (63-66), D- (60-62), F (<60). All grades rounded up from .45, e.g., 89.45 = 90.

**Extra Credit and Late Work Policy:** There will be no extra credit assignments to make up for missed assignments or low grades. Montana State University has a generous withdrawal deadline of November 17th (i.e., when you can drop the course with a “W”). If you are worried about your grade, get in touch with me as soon as possible. Unless otherwise indicated, late work is not accepted (though, exceptions can be made with instructor permission). Email me if circumstances arise that require additional time to complete assignments.

### Undergraduate Econ Study Rooms, TA, and Tutors

- **Undergraduate Study Rooms:** There is an undergraduate economics study room in Linfield Hall 404 and a computer room in Linfield Hall Room 409A. They are open Monday - Friday from 8 am to 5 pm.
- **Teaching Assistants:** In addition to my office hours, a TA is available to help you with the material and homework. Office hours are listed above and you may email them for assistance as well.
- **Smartycat tutoring:** The office of student success provides low cost and free tutoring sessions by former ECNS 202/204/251 students. Visit SUB 177 or go online at [msusmartycats.com](http://msusmartycats.com).

### Additional Information:

1. If you desire accommodations for a disability, please contact me to discuss. Requests for accommodations for disability must be received and authorized by me no less than two weeks in advance of need in order to allow adequate time to review and make appropriate arrangements. No accommodation should be assumed until authorized.
2. I follow the policies in the MSU Policy and Procedure Manual with regard to cheating, plagiarism, and academic dishonesty. A grade of zero will be given for any assignment or examination on which the student is in violation of a policy, and the incident will be reported to the Office of the Dean of Students. I reserve the right to refuse to sign a drop form if cheating has been committed on an examination.
3. I expect you to follow the MSU Student Conduct Code. No form of harassment is tolerated.
4. I adhere to the policies in the MSU Catalog on assigning grades of incomplete. I only award a grade of incomplete upon the student proving there was such a hardship that would render it unjust to hold the student to the time limits previously assigned for the completion of his/her work.
5. Any student desiring to observe a religious holiday must contact me before the absence. Regarding assignments due on a religious holiday, it is preferable that they be submitted before observance; however, the due date will be extended to the next school day following the holiday if the student chooses.

6. I adhere to the policies in the MSU Catalog on change of grades. Final grades will not be changed except in the case of clerical error on my part or if it was fraudulently obtained. A change of final grade does not mean allowing additional time to complete the work of a course or allowing the student to submit work or to take or retake examinations after the conclusion of the semester.
7. I encourage students to come to my office hours and get assistance on understanding various concepts. Please keep me informed of any extraordinary circumstances that may hinder your academic success in this course. If you cannot attend my office hours due to scheduling conflicts, please email me to set a time that is convenient for you.
8. The information in this syllabus, including the schedule and grading information is not concrete. Any changes to the syllabus will be discussed in class.
9. MSU strives to create a culture of support and recognizes that your mental health and wellness are equally as important as your physical health. When you experience difficulties emotionally, mentally, and personally, there are several resources on campus:
  - [Medical Services](#)
  - [Suicide Prevention](#)
  - [Substance Use](#)
  - [Counseling & Psychological Services](#)
10. Lauren's Promise: **I will listen and believe you if someone is threatening you.** Lauren McCluskey, a 21-year-old honors student athlete, was murdered on Oct. 22, 2018, by a man she briefly dated on the University of Utah Campus. We must all take actions to ensure this never happens again. Any form of sexual harassment or violence will not be excused or tolerated at Montana State University. If you are experiencing sexual assault, relationship violence, or stalking, you can take the following actions:
  - If you are in immediate danger, call 911.
  - Report it to me, and I will connect you to resources.
  - Seek confidential sources of support and help: