

Spring 2004

Prof. J. Kohlhase

ECON 2304, Section 12239
Microeconomics Principles--Kohlhase Section

Class: Our class meets in room 110 Agnes Arnold Hall (AH), 1:00-2:30pm MW. My section is one of several offered by the Department of Economics, and even though all sections use the same text, each section is unique. This syllabus describes the details of how my section works and what material will be covered during the course. My section will make extensive use of the online economics resource, Aplia, for which there is a \$21 fee payable online to Aplia (see below). There is another syllabus, the “department” syllabus, which outlines important administrative dates—available from my personal web site and the Economics department web site.

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Tutors: Economics graduate students and advanced undergrad econ majors are available to help you in the Economics Undergraduate Center, room 208-D McElhinney (M). Hours will be posted on the door of 208.

Course Evaluation:

20% Midterm I (Wednesday March 3, 2004)
20% Midterm II (Wednesday April 7, 2004)
40% Final (Saturday May 8, 2004, 2-5pm)
6% In-class quizzes (Wed. March 31, Mon. April 26)
14% --online homework sets, approximately one each week. You may drop your one lowest homework score.
--one online experiment (required), to be held during class time on Wed. Feb. 4 on the computer and in the location of your choice.

Exams: Exams will consist of multiple choice questions and short-answer problems. Quizzes and on-line homework will consist of multiple-choice questions. *Students must have their ID card for admission to exams.*

Textbooks: Buy the Mankiw microeconomics text (3rd edition) or the “combination” text as described on the department syllabus. The Study Guide (by David Hakes) is “bundled” with the texts and its use is optional, but highly recommended.

Online homework website: You will be asked to do several homework sets using the online economics resource, Aplia. The \$21 fee can be paid online or via check (see directions online). Please set up your account as soon as possible by following the steps outlined in the attached handout entitled “Directions for Aplia Access.” The handout is also posted on my web site. Basically you will access the Aplia web site <http://econ.aplia.com>, enter my course keycode J5XG-VJJT-98VF, and follow the directions online. You may need to update some of your software to display the graphics in Aplia correctly. The Aplia website provides directions for how to do so.

Text website: The purchase of the textbook also includes complimentary access for 12 months to the Mankiw Xtra! web site <http://mankiwxtra.swlearning.com>. Set up your account using the serial number from the black insert card located in the table of contents of the text. The web site contains a variety of learning materials including chapter summaries, practice quizzes, graphing tutorial and more. Using the site is optional, but highly recommended.

Course Policies:

All exams, quizzes and homeworks are mandatory. One homework (lowest score) may be dropped. No late assignments accepted. The online Aplia homework sets have a built in due date and time monitored by computer—answers will not be accepted after that time. Please check the Aplia web site for homework deadlines. No makeup quizzes; no makeup exams. Any absence from a quiz or exam for medical reasons must be documented by your physician. Any other absence from a quiz or exam must be approved by me in advance in writing. Unapproved absence from any exam or quiz counts as a zero.

All quizzes and exams are covered by the Honesty code of UH (see Student Handbook).

Course Outline

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading in Mankiw text</u>
1. Introduction	1, 2
2. Production Possibility Frontier (PPF) and Gains from Trade	3
3. Demand and Supply	4
4. Elasticity	5
5. Government Policy and Markets --price controls, taxes	6

6. Measuring Efficiency in Markets	7
7. Welfare Effects of Taxation	8
8. International Trade	9—only pages 175-182
9. Firms and Costs	13
10. Supply Curve for a Competitive Firm	14
11. Monopoly	15
12. Monopolistic Competition	17
13. Oligopoly	16
14. Labor Markets	18—only pages 391-403
15. Externalities	10—only pages 203-209
16. Income Inequality and Poverty	20