

ECON 103: Introduction to Microeconomics

Fall 2023

TA Information

Name: Max Greenberg
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Office: Gordon Hall 105
Office Hours: Thursdays 2:00–4:00 PM

Section Information

Time: Fridays 12:20–1:10 PM
Room: Machmer Hall W-11

If you aren't able to make the regularly scheduled office hours in a given week, you may schedule a separate meeting by reaching out via email!

Discussion Section Expectations

This discussion section is intended to help you reinforce your understanding of the material covered in Professor Friedman's course. For most of our meetings, we will begin by reviewing the content covered in the week's lectures. This will be your best opportunity to ask questions about the course material! Please do not hesitate to ask a question for fear of looking dumb; the course material we will be covering is new and challenging, and at the end of the day we are all here to learn. For the rest of our meeting time, we will work through practice problems together—from your homework if an assignment was due the previous week, or from quizzes and previous homeworks if not.

As you may have seen on the syllabus, 10% of your final grade in this course is up to the discretion of the TAs. For the sake of grade transparency, I intend to allocate this 10% as follows:

- Every discussion section you attend will add 1% to your final grade.
- Every office hours session you attend (and ask at least one course-relevant question at) will add 1% to your final grade.

Once you reach the full 10%, further attendance will not count directly towards your grade. That said, I still *strongly* encourage you to attend as many discussion sections as you are able to, as doing so will surely have a positive *indirect* effect on your grade as well!

Quizzes and Homeworks

Quizzes taken in class will be graded and returned in section the same week. Quiz grades will also be posted on Canvas, but potentially with some delay. If you cannot attend section but would still like a paper copy of your graded quiz for your records, feel free to pick it up either at my office hours the following week or at the end of the next discussion section.

Homeworks should be submitted on Canvas in some format I can access (Microsoft Word document, PDF file, \LaTeX code, or anything else remotely reasonable). You are allowed and encouraged to work in groups of 2 on the numerical portions of the homeworks, with the idea that working together will lead to better learning outcomes all around. If you choose to do so, only one student needs to turn in a copy on Canvas, but remember to include the names of both group members! Both Professor Friedman and I strongly prefer that you form these groups within your section. Not only are study groups a great way to make new friends, but if you form groups across sections with different TAs, it may not be feasible for us to coordinate to ensure both group members get the same grade without significant delays.

Respect Policy

The foundation of a successful student-TA dynamic is mutual respect. I promise to respect you and your time by...

- Being prepared: I will keep pace with the course and prepare relevant section materials to help you learn the course content and succeed on quizzes and exams.
- Being prompt: I will return your homeworks and exams, graded thoughtfully, within a reasonable time frame.
- Being flexible: I am willing to give you as much flexibility as I am allowed when it comes to turning in assignments, be it because of a family emergency, health issues (mental or physical), or even just a really packed week. If you feel you need an extension, just ask and I will do my best to oblige.
- Being responsive: I am more than happy to adjust how section is conducted if there is something you think could be changed for the better—please let me know!

Conversely, I ask that you respect me and my time by...

- Being patient: if you email me, give me at least 24 hours to reply.
- Being communicative: if you're confused about anything from lecture or section, please let me know. I can't help you if I don't know you need help!
- Being attentive: if you choose to come to section (you should!), make the most of this time by paying attention and taking notes as you would in lecture.
- Being respectful of my boundaries: if you would like to talk outside of section or office hours, reach out and schedule a time to meet.

I look forward to working with you over the course of the semester!