

St Mary's College of Maryland
Principles of Microeconomics 102.1, 102.2 and 102.3

Fall 2024

Kent Hall 311

102.1 Tu and Th 12:20-1:35pm

102.2 Tu and Th 1:45-3:00pm

102.3 Tu and Th 3:10-4:25pm

PROFESSOR: Dr Anderson Tami-Patiño (actamipatino@smcm.edu)

My office: Kent Hall 103

Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 -11:00 am.

My first name is Anderson, and my last name is Tami-Patiño. Pronouns: he/him.

I just finished my PhD in Economics at Florida International University. Part of my dissertation analyzes the effects of a policy implemented by the Colombian government that sprayed a herbicide over illicit crops. My focus is on how it affects educational outcomes of children.

Apart from teaching and research I also enjoy doing other activities, especially playing soccer, riding the bicycle, dancing. I like to be very competitive. I hate losing a game. Apart from that I also like cooking, driving, and listening to music.

TEACHING ASSISTANT: Bailey Jayne (bejayne@smcm.edu)

She will take class notes that will be shared to students who missed a class. Please send her an email to request the notes. Also, she can schedule study sessions especially around exams. We will announce the times and rooms when getting close to exams.

My name is Bailey Jayne (she/her) my email and contact information is bejayne@smcm.edu. I'm a sophomore year student at SMCM, studying Economics and Chinese language. I took this course last year and really enjoyed it! I hope you will too. Outside of school, I probably have too many hobbies!! I enjoy staying active through hiking, riding my bike, or weight lifting. I also enjoy lots of craft activities like crocheting and sewing. I look forward to getting to know you all and helping you learn throughout this semester!

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This class uses multiple strategies. It is a lecture in which the instructor explains some of the topics, but at the same time students are expected to apply some of those concepts in class. Students are also expected to do autonomous work in the form of reading, aspect which is going to be assessed.

The main purpose of the course is to introduce you to some fundamental concepts in microeconomics. Microeconomics is a branch of economics whose purpose is to analyze the economic behavior of individuals, firms and the government: why individuals consume specific goods; why firms invest in training their employees; how the government can change people's choices; etc.

The second purpose is that you can understand and use those concepts when making an economic analysis.

You will see that economics is like psychology in trying to understand how people make decisions, however unlike psychology, economics is focused on just a group of those decisions. For example, economists are not interested in understanding what people feel when they buy something, but why they chose to buy good A over good B.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- 1) Explain the basic premises and tools of economic thinking.
- 2) Use economic thinking to explain choice in a world of scarcity.
- 3) Analyze how buyers and sellers interact in a free and competitive market to determine prices and quantities of goods.
- 4) Understand the role of the government in a market economy.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: In ECON 102, students will:

- 1) Construct basic theoretical models of microeconomic behavior.
- 2) Explain how scientific methodologies are used to study and interpret human behavior.
- 3) Employ theoretical models to analyze real-world events.

TEXT: Principles of Microeconomics, by Betsey Stevenson & Justin Wolfers.

Our course is set up with Inclusive Access. This means that a fee will be charged to enrolled students through your college account which covers the cost of the online textbook and online homework platform Achieve. You will access both your textbook and the electronic course assignments through our learning management system, Blackboard.

ENGAGED LEARNING: In this course I will employ some exercises to improve awareness and understanding of one's own thought processes. These activities are explained in section 3 of course requirements.

OFFICE HOURS: Office hours are not mandatory, but I suggest students to come whenever they have a question, a comment about the class or any other academic activity. You can come in person to my office hours (Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 -11:00 am), but if the timing does not work, please send me an email so we can schedule a meeting in person or zoom.

Please be polite when sending an email.

BLACKBOARD: Blackboard (Bb) is the starting point for course resources. There are many resources available through the Achieve platform and on the “Resources” tab on Bb to support your success in this course. Taking full advantage of these resources will help you master course material.

COURSE POLICIES:

1. Students are allowed to use cellphones and laptops except on exams. However, they must be muted.
2. Be respectful and formal when sending emails:
 - a) Use a clear and relevant subject line,
 - b) Start with a proper greeting,
 - c) Introduce Yourself (I am [Your Full Name], a student in your ECON 102 class, section []),
 - d) Be concise,
 - e) Be polite and professional,
 - f) Sign off appropriately.

3. Attendance does not count directly in the final grade, but it counts indirectly through the in-class assignments.
4. Be respectful of all the people in the classroom.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. **READING (72 pts out of 480):** Students must read before class. There will be a set of questions that assess the reading process of each student every week. It is important that students have an idea about the concepts explained in each chapter as the focus of the class is on applications of those concepts.

These assignments will be completed through Achieve, which you will access through Blackboard. You will get the respective feedback the next day after the due date.

Late submission is not accepted as students will always have access to the reading assignments. At the end of the semester, the Achieve assignment with the lowest score will be dropped.

2. **IN CLASS ASSIGNMENTS (192 pts out of 480):** YOU WILL ALWAYS NEED A CELLPHONE OR COMPUTER. We will use iclicker. We will set up this app during the first class.

The learning process can also be fostered by trying to apply the concepts learned in class. That is why there will be in class assignments every class.

Some questions will be through iclicker, and others will be in paper. It depends on the topic of the class.

Students can ask for guidance to me or other students while doing these assignments. Asking for guidance is normal, in fact, it is a way that students know things they are good at, and things they need to improve. Students get the feedback and the grade of the respective question during the class.

Students must attend the class. If you can't attend a class you should tell me in advance, preferably in person. In the case of an emergency, please send me an email no later than 5 days (including Saturday and Sunday) of the missed activity. If it is a valid excuse¹ you will have the chance to do the assignment, which will be different to the one actually used in class. This policy will be valid only for the first 3 missed in class assignments; additional missed assignments will earn a zero.

At the end of the semester, the two lowest in class assignment scores will be dropped.

3. **KL (Know – Learn) charts (Extra 24 pts out of 480)** Students will be asked to complete the KL charts. The first chart of the respective week will ask you what you know. The second chart of the respective week will ask you what you learned, whether what you learned matters, how you can apply that concept to a real world situation and the level of difficulty of those topics

The objective of this activity is that students monitor the progress they have made, and things they can do to improve.

This activity will be an extra credit. Your final score can increase 5 points out of 100. I will only grade its submission, not the content. Late submission is not accepted.

4. **EXAMS (216 pts out of 480).** There will be three exams, each of them will be 15% of the total grade, and all of them will be in person.

Cellphones and smartwatches are not allowed. You are only allowed to use a pen or pencil, a calculator, and a piece of paper. I will only provide paper; you should bring all other items.

¹ Illness, family emergency, or university sanctioned events.

You are not allowed to leave the room until you finish the exam. I will remind everyone to go out if they need to just before they start their exams.

Students can expect the grades no later than 8 days of presenting the exam. Also, feedback on the most difficult questions will be provided 8 days after the exam.

For exams you should let me know in person at least one week before the exam if you have any problem with attending school. In the case of an emergency, please send me an email no later than 5 days of the missed activity. You must provide a valid excuse (see footnote 1). The student must do the make-up exam no later than 8 days of the missing exam. The set of questions will be different.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance is not mandatory, and I won't be taking attendance. However, it is necessary to do the in-class assignments. Please be aware that in-class assignments have a big impact on the final grade.

Reading assignments: 72 pts

Reading assignment chapter 1: **5 pts**
Reading assignment chapter 2: **5 pts**
Reading assignment chapter 3: **5 pts**
Reading assignment chapter 4: **5 pts**
Reading assignment chapter 5: **5 pts**
Reading assignment chapter 6: **5 pts**
Reading assignment chapter 7: **6 pts**
Reading assignment chapter 8: **6 pts**
Reading assignment chapter 9: **6 pts**
Reading assignment chapter 10: **6 pts**
Reading assignment chapter 13: **6 pts**
Reading assignment chapter 14: **6 pts**
Reading assignment chapter 15: **6 pts**

In class assignments: 192 pts

In-class assignment week 1: **13 pts**
In-class assignment week 2: **13 pts**
In-class assignment week 3: **13 pts**
In-class assignment week 4: **13 pts**
In-class assignment week 5: **14 pts**
In-class assignment week 6: **14 pts**
In-class assignment week 7: **14 pts**
In-class assignment week 8: **14 pts**
In-class assignment week 9: **14 pts**
In-class assignment week 10: **14 pts**
In-class assignment week 11: **14 pts**
In-class assignment week 12: **14 pts**
In-class assignment week 13: **14 pts**

Exams: 216

Exam 1: **72 pts**
Exam 2: **72 pts**
Final exam: **72 pts**

Total points for final grade: 480

Extra points. KL charts: 24 pts (each chart gives 1 pt)

The grading scale is

Letter	Range%	Letter	Range%	Letter	Range%
A	441 or above	B	393-421	C	345-373
A-	432 – 440	B-	384 – 392	C-	336-344
B+	422-431	C+	374-383	D	288-335
				F	0-287

ACCESSIBILITY AND OTHER RESOURCES:

- 1) Office of Student Support Services: All students with physical, learning, and/or other disabilities are encouraged to contact the Office for Academic Services for specific information and assistance. St. Mary's College of Maryland provides services for students under the American with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. For additional information contact the Office of Accessibility Services also in Glendening Hall (phone 240 895 2250)
- 2) Office of Student Success Services (OS3): The Office of Student Success Services is a student-centered team that provides the College's talented and diverse students coaching, programs, referrals, and support to help them persist and graduate.
- 3) Wellness Center: The Wellness Center is staffed by a team of medical and mental health professionals to assist you in addressing your physical and mental health concerns. In order to provide you with the highest quality of care, the Wellness Center utilizes an integrated treatment approach. Our multi-disciplinary team of clinicians works collaboratively to optimize your wellness through seamless prevention and intervention. The Wellness Center values the privacy of students and the confidentiality of the personal and health information entrusted to us. Information is shared between services at the Wellness Center on a strict "need to know" basis. The Wellness Center Health and Counseling Departments collaboratively cross refer students within our particular scope of practice on student need. Read our Wellness Center Scope of Services [here](#).
- 4) Writing Center: The Writing and Speaking Center is a place where writers and speakers come together to talk about the craft of communication. You set the goals, and we'll help you meet them. Your peer tutors will be students like you, from many majors and with many interests. Peer tutors are here to both help you talk out your ideas and help you see what you've said. Email: apheatwole@smcm.edu. Located on the first floor of the Main Library.
- 5) Inclusive Diversity, Equity, Access and Accountability (IDEAA): is a reflection of the College's commitment to providing an inclusively diverse campus community where our students, staff, and faculty can thrive. Through innovative programming and the coordination of initiatives and resources, IDEAA will transform St. Mary's College of Maryland into a nationally recognized institution known for implementing inclusive and equitable practices to achieve academic and/or professional success for all campus community members.
- 6) Title IX (Office against sex discrimination). What is Sex Discrimination? Sex Discrimination means exclusion from participation in or being denied the benefits of any education program or activity on the basis of sex, including sex stereotypes, sex characteristics, sexual orientation, gender identity, and pregnancy or related conditions. Sex-Based Harassment is a form of Sex Discrimination that includes the following types of conduct: quid pro quo harassment, hostile

environment harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking. Whenever you feel you are a victim or you know someone is a victim if this type of discrimination, you can contact Michelle Carter through her email: mmcarter@smcm.edu. She will always protect the identity of the victims.

ACADEMIC HONESTY: “St. Mary's College of Maryland is committed to the ideals of honesty, personal integrity, and mutual trust. Academic integrity is a responsibility of all students, members of the faculty, and administrative officers. All students are expected to uphold the highest ideals of academic integrity throughout their career at St. Mary's.” (SMCM college catalogue)

Academic honesty is taken seriously in this class. You should familiarize yourself with the policies regarding academic honesty and academic misconduct in [To the Point](#), the student handbook. Any instance of cheating will result in a grade of zero for that assignment, whether you received or gave unauthorized assistance, and may lead to additional sanctions.

Class schedule (This is tentative. It can change depending on whether we are going faster or slower, or in case of emergencies)

Week	
1	TU (08/27) and TH (08/29): Setting up iclicker. Chapter 1 The Four Core Principles of Economics Assignments: Know chart 1. Due date: Aug 28 at midnight Learn chart 1. Due date: Sep 2 at midnight Reading assignment chapter 1. Due date: Sep 2 at midnight In-class assignment week 1
2	TU (09/03) and TH (09/05): Chapter 2 Demand and Consumer Choice Assignments: Know chart 2. Due date: Sep 4 at midnight Learn chart 2. Due date: Sep 9 at midnight Reading assignment chapter 2. Due date: Sep 4 at midnight In-class assignment week 2
3	TU (09/10) and TH (09/12): Chapter 3 Supply and Producer Choice Assignments: Know chart 3. Due date: Sep 9 at midnight Learn chart 3. Due date: Sep 16 at midnight Reading assignment chapter 3. Due date: Sep 10 at midnight In-class assignment week 3
4	TU (09/17): All day advising. NO CLASSES TH (09/19): Chapter 4 Equilibrium: Where Supply Meets Demand Assignments: Know chart 4. Due date: Sep 16 at midnight Learn chart 4. Due date: Sep 23 at midnight Reading assignment chapter 4. Due date: Sep 16 at midnight In-class assignment week 4
5	TU (09/24): Chapter 4 Equilibrium: Where Supply Meets Demand TH (09/26): Chapter 5 Elasticity: Measuring Responsiveness Assignments: Know chart 5. Due date: Sep 23 at midnight Learn chart 5. Due date: Sep 30 at midnight Reading assignment chapter 5. Due date: Sep 23 at midnight In-class assignment week 5

6	<p>TU (10/01): First Exam</p> <p>TH (10/03): Review of first exam and Chapter 5 Elasticity: Measuring Responsiveness</p> <p>In-class assignment week 6</p>
7	<p>TU (10/08): Fall reading Days. NO CLASSES</p> <p>TH (10/10): Chapter 6 Taxes, Price Controls, and Quantity Regulations</p> <p>Assignments: Know chart 6. Due date: Oct 2 at midnight Learn chart 6. Due date: Oct 14 at midnight Reading assignment chapter 6. Due date: Oct 9 at midnight In-class assignment week 7</p>
8	<p>TU (10/15) and TH (10/17): Chapter 7 Welfare Economics: Evaluating Market Efficiency</p> <p>Assignments: Know chart 7. Due date: Oct 14 at midnight Learn chart 7. Due date: Oct 21 at midnight Reading assignment chapter 7. Due date: Oct 14 at midnight In-class assignment week 8</p>
9	<p>TU (10/22) and TH (10/24): Chapter 8 Comparative Advantage and Gains from Trade</p> <p>Assignments: Know chart 8. Due date: Oct 21 at midnight Learn chart 8. Due date: Nov 4 at midnight Reading assignment chapter 8. Due date: Oct 21 at midnight In-class assignment week 9</p>
10	<p>TU (10/29): All day advising. NO CLASSES</p> <p>TH (10/31): Chapter 9 International Trade</p> <p>Reading assignment chapter 9. Due date: Oct 30 at midnight</p> <p>In-class assignment week 10</p>
11	<p>TU (11/05): Chapter 10 Externalities and Public Goods</p> <p>TH (11/07): Chapter 13 Inequality, Poverty, and Social Insurance</p> <p>Assignments: Know chart 9. Due date: Nov 4 at midnight Know chart 10. Due date: Nov 6 at midnight Learn chart 9. Due date: Nov 11 at midnight Learn chart 10. Due date: Nov 11 at midnight Reading assignment chapter 10. Due date: Nov 4 at midnight Reading assignment chapter 13. Due date: Nov 6 at midnight In-class assignment week 11</p>
12	<p>TU (11/12): Second Exam</p> <p>TH (11/14): Review of second exam and Chapter 14 Market Structure and Degrees of Market Power</p> <p>Assignments: Know chart 11. Due date: Nov 13 at midnight Learn chart 11. Due date: Nov 22 at midnight Reading assignment chapter 14. Due date: Nov 18 at midnight In-class assignment week 12</p>

13	<p>TU (11/19): Chapter 14 Market Structure and Degrees of Market Power</p> <p>TH (11/21): Chapter 15 Entry, Exit, and Long-Run Profitability</p> <p>Assignments: Know chart 12. Due date: Nov 20 at midnight Learn chart 12. Due date: Dec 2 at midnight Reading assignment chapter 15. Due date: Nov 20 at midnight In-class assignment week 13</p>
14	<p>TU (11/26): Chapter 15 Entry, Exit, and Long-Run Profitability</p> <p>TH (11/28): Thanksgiving recess. NO CLASSES</p>
15	<p>TU (12/03) and TH (12/05): Review of topics</p>
16	<p>Dec 9. Time: 7:00pm to 9:15pm. Final exam (102.1)</p> <p>Dec 10. Time: 9:00am to 11:15am. Final exam (102.2)</p> <p>Dec 11. Time: 2:00pm to 4:15pm. Final exam (102.3)</p>