

Econ 151

Professor:	Chad Sparber
Office:	233 Persson Hall
Office Hours:	Thursday: 4:00 - 5:00 Friday: 8:00 - 10:00
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Email:	csparber@mail.colgate.edu
Website:	http://people.colgate.edu/csparber/
Classroom:	208 Persson
Meetings:	T & R: 2:45 - 4:00 pm
Textbook:	O'Sullivan, Sheffrin, and Perez, "Survey of Economics, Principles and Tools" (3rd Edition)
Optional:	On Reserve: Deborah J Bauer, "Study Guide" (for 2nd ed.) www.myeconlab.com
Course Objectives:	1) Introduce students to an "economic" way of thinking. 2) Help students understand and evaluate economics discussions in popular media (that is, identify "real world" applications of economics). 3) Expose potential majors to the quantitative tools frequently employed to analyze the economy.
Chapter Coverage:	1-4) Basics of Microeconomics 5-8) Market Structure (Ch 8 deemphasized) 9) Market Failure 10) Labor Market 11) Basics of Macroeconomics 13) Long-run Macro 12, 14-17) Short-run Macro and Macro Policy Note: We will move more quickly during the Macro portion of the course, and we will cover some chapters "out of order."
Grading:	15% Homework 25% * 2 Midterms 35% Final Exam Written requests are required for re-scoring exams and will be considered for the two midterms only. Requests must be received within one week after exams have been returned to the class.

Homework: You will have approximately one assignment to submit each week. Homework is designed to complement the course objectives. Most will contain conceptual and algebraic material, as well as questions about articles published by popular media. You are welcome to work with your classmates, but each student must submit a unique assignment. In addition to required homework, optional material is available in the "Study Guide" and at www.myeconlab.com, which may inspire exam questions.

LATE HOMEWORK IS NOT ACCEPTED. I do not give credit (or time extension) for homework that is missing, even if your assignment is missing due to illness or family obligations. I will, however, drop your lowest homework score without question.

Important Dates: January 30 - Last day to add/drop
February 14 - Exam 1
March 13 - Exam 2
March 26 - Last day to drop (with grade of W)

Final Exam Self-Scheduled

Learning Services: I would like this class to be a positive and inclusive learning environment for all students. If you have a particular need or concern, please let me know so we can discuss how to make this course a successful learning experience for you. If you are a student who may need special accommodations, please contact Lynn Waldman, Director of Academic Program Support and Disability Services in the Center for Learning, Teaching and Research (ext. 7375). FYI, The Center for Learning, Teaching and Research is open to all students who would like academic assistance.

Honor Code: Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses. I encourage collaborative effort on regular homework, but each student must submit a unique assignment. *Do not consult homework assignments from previous semesters for help on your own assignments.*

Exams should represent each student's own work, and questions should be directed to me. Please see me, the University Academic Honor Code, or the Colgate Student Handbook if clarification is necessary.

Common Questions about Course Organization

This class is mostly lecture based. Why?

A class of 35 students is more conducive to lecture format than to cooperative group work that you might see in other classes. I think it is important that Colgate students are able to learn in many different environments. While you might not prefer lecture classes, in the future you might find yourself having to learn in this type of setting. It is best that you know how to do it.

I should also stress that, despite the lecture format, I encourage students to interrupt and ask questions any time you need clarification. We move fast, but I'm happy to slow down to improve your understanding. I very much enjoy class participation, even if it is not part of the official grading.

Why are exams so hard?

My tests ask you to take what you have learned so far, and then apply it to a new situation. Sometimes you might be asked to combine multiple topics you have learned in the course into one question. By its nature, this is very hard! Rest assured, however, that the grades in the section are consistent with the grades in the other Intro to Econ sections.

Is outside work available?

Absolutely. I can give you additional sample problems if you'd like.

Why aren't homeworks due in class? I often forget to turn them in on Friday.

We do about a chapter per week, so both Tuesday's and Thursday's lectures are helpful for completing your assignments. If you prefer to turn in your work early, you are free to do so.

Why don't we go over old homeworks and exams in class?

This is what office hours are for. I enjoy office hours, so if you need extra help, please come see me.