

STRING THEORY

SCHOOL OF DESIGN

Math 245.C5: MicroEconomics

Winter 2025

Total Hours: 45

Quarter Credits:4.5

Faculty Name: [add name]	Office Hours: [Day(s)] [Times](or by appointment)
Email: [add email] Phone: [add phone]	Class Hours: [Day(s)] [Times](or by appointment)

Course Description: Focusing on the impact of economics on Design, Technology, and Entrepreneurship initiatives, students study basic economic principles with particular emphasis upon microeconomic theory and problems. Among topics considered are the economics of the design shop and/or technology start up firm, the price system, resource allocation, the distribution of income, domestic economic problems, international trade, economic development, and comparative economic systems. Specific projects will emphasize the role of innovation in the microeconomic landscape.

Prerequisites: Math 245.C4 Elementary Statistics for Entrepreneurship

IDEATE Program Educational Objectives Alignment: This course is designed to help students achieve the following IDEATE Program Educational Objectives:

- Access future opportunities
- Apply knowledge to Design Challenges
- Think critically and creatively
- Navigate diverse landscapes

Completion of this course will yield the following student learning outcomes:

- Map the Design Ecosystem
- Construct core knowledge
- Plan strategically

Course Learning Goals: The course is designed around the following learning goals. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Gain an understanding of economic principles and how they apply to real-world problems.
- Gain an understanding of how individuals make their consumption decisions.
- Gain an understanding of how institutions make their production decisions.
- Apply knowledge of microeconomics to authentic design and business challenges.

IDeATE Competencies and Mastery Credits:

Competencies	Course Specific Mastery Credits
Inquiry	Research: Selecting sources that support answering a particular research question with relevant, credible information that distinguishes between fact and opinion Identifying how a source is situated within the world of its origin (time period, location, socio-political climate, cultural conditions, etc.) and explaining how the perspectives within the source shape and/or are shaped by those conditions.
Design	Project Management: Planning, performing, steering, and completing the work of a team to achieve specific goals and meet success criteria by a specified time.
Critical Thinking	Logic and Reasoning: Using logic and reasoning to justify a response or explain a phenomenon
Core Knowledge	Core Humanities: Mastery of course standards designed for authentic application, including projects and college level courses in such disciplines as English Composition, Economics, Ethics, Sociology, Public Speaking, Fine Arts, and other disciplines that leverage cultural and humanities knowledge.
Collaboration	Global Fluency: Fluently manages knowledge of self, diverse cultures, and interpersonal relationships to increase intercultural adaptability.
Communication	Conventions: Using discipline-appropriate conventions to support clear expression of ideas and information
Engagement	Career Planning: Making sense of one's strengths and needs and planning for one's desired future after graduation.

Course Materials:

Required Texts and Materials:

1. *Microeconomics: A Very Short Introduction* by Avinash Dixit
2. *The Undercover Economist* by Tim Harford

Suggested Resources:

1. *Microeconomics* by Douglas McTaggart, Christopher Findlay, and Michael Parkin

Mastery Grading System:

3.8 - 4.0 Exceeds Mastery	3.0 - 3.7 Mastery	2.0 - 2.9 Developing	1.0 - 1.9 Insufficient Evidence
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Whole number mastery grades (1 - 4) are recorded for each mastery credit aligned to each product, performance, or assessment, with points used to compute a synthesized mastery course grade for each student at the end of each quarter. Students must earn a mastery course grade of 3.0 or higher to receive credit for a course and evidence readiness for any future learning for which this course serves as a prerequisite in the IDeATE program.

Course Schedule (subject to change, with notice):

Week #	Topics/Experiences	Content	Products/Performances/ Assessments
Week 1	Microeconomics Concepts		Chapter Quiz #1 Socratic Seminar 1
Week 2	Supply and Demand		Chapter Quiz #2 Journal Entry #1
Week 3	Market Equilibrium		Chapter Quiz #3 Journal Entry #2
Week 4	Elasticity		Chapter Quiz #4 Journal Entry #3
Week 5	Consumer and Producer Surplus		Chapter Quiz #5 Microeconomics Solo Project
Week 6	Consumer Theory	<i>Microeconomics: A Very Short Introduction</i> Chapter 3	Chapter Quiz #6 Microeconomics Solo Project
Week 7	International Trade		Chapter Quiz #7
Week 8	Production and Costs		Chapter Quiz #8 Microeconomics Group Project
Week 9	Markets	<i>Microeconomics: A Very Short Introduction</i> Chapter 4	Chapter Quiz #9 Microeconomics Group Project

Week #	Topics/Experiences	Content	Products/Performances/ Assessments
Week 10	Market and Policy Failures	<i>Microeconomics: A Very Short Introduction</i> Chapter 5	Socratic Seminar 2 Narrative Reflection

Submission Dates:

SUBMISSION DATE	PRODUCT/PERFORMANCE/ASSESSMENT DUE
TBD Week 1	Chapter Quiz #1
	Socratic Seminar 1
TBD Week 2	Chapter Quiz #2
	Journal Entry #1
TBD Week 3	Chapter Quiz #3
	Journal Entry #2
TBD Week 4	Chapter Quiz #4
	Journal Entry #3
TBD Week 5	Chapter Quiz #5
	Microeconomics Solo Project
TBD Week 6	Chapter Quiz #6
	Microeconomics Solo Project
TBD Week 7	Chapter Quiz #7
TBD Week 8	Chapter Quiz #8
	Microeconomics Group Project
TBD Week 9	Chapter Quiz #9
	Microeconomics Group Project
TBD Week 10	Socratic Seminar 2
	Narrative Reflection

IDeATE PROGRAM POLICIES:

Academic Integrity: IDeATE students and professors uphold academic integrity as one of our highest priorities, and the String Theory School of Design investigates any allegation of violations of academic integrity. Violations include, but are not limited to: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, and other forms of academic misconduct. Students who believe they have been wrongly accused or sanctioned have a right to an appeals process.

Attendance Requirements:

Students are expected to attend all classes, and must notify professors if they are not able to attend class for any reason. It is the student's responsibility to inquire about experiences, content, and work missed due to that absence. For further information on the attendance policy, please consult the IDeATE Program catalog.

Course Change Policy: IDeATE program faculty reserve the right to make changes to the course during the quarter to best actualize course learning goals. Changes will be announced to individual classes and conveyed in writing in advance of the change.

Accessibility and Disability Accommodations: Students with disabilities requesting accommodations and services need to complete an Accessibility Form, along with documentation from a licensed medical professional with a diagnosis of disability (defined as an impairment and/or condition that substantially limits a major life activity for 6+ months). Temporary adjustments are available for individuals with short-term impairments, i.e., those due to accident or injury. Please see the String Theory School of Design IDeATE Program course catalog for more details.

Course Drops and Withdrawals: Enrolled students may drop a course through the end of Week 1, and may withdraw from a course through Week 7. Please be aware of the potential financial and academic implications of course drops and withdrawals. Please see the String Theory School of Design course catalog for more details. Once registered, it is your obligation to attend, drop, or withdraw. Dropping will remove the course from your transcript. Withdrawing will result in a “W” on a student’s transcript.

Commitment to Inclusive Practices: The String Theory School of Design welcomes individuals from diverse backgrounds and perspectives, and promotes an inclusive and respectful environment that enriches the school community and the educational and employment experience of its members. To report an incident, sexual misconduct, discrimination or harassment based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, disability, gender identity or expression, age, veteran status, or any other protected category or identity, please follow current guidance in the String Theory School of Design IDeATE Program course catalog.

Professor’s Welcome:

[add a note of welcome that creates a sense of belonging]

Course Specific Expectations:

[add a narrative paragraph or bulleted expectations no more than a half page in length]