

Econ 142 Discussion
Wednesday 2:00pm – 2:50pm
Wescoe 4062

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Office: 239 Snow Hall

Office Hours: T 10am – 11:30am

R 11am – 12:30am

Or by appointment

Discussion class will follow what is covered in the lectures, however we will not have time to go over everything in discussion. Typically we will work on the more difficult material and practice applying it. You are not required to do any additional work outside of class for discussion. But it will be easier to follow what we do cover, and more beneficial to you, if you are also attending the lectures and keeping up with the course material.

Each discussion class is worth 10 points. 5 points are for attendance and 5 points are based on work done in class and participation. The purpose of in class assignments will be to help you learn the material. Usually, as long as you are making effort, you will get the full 10 points for each class. Your two lowest discussion class grades will be dropped. If you need to miss a class, email me (preferably before or shortly after the missed class). It will usually be possible to attend another discussion class in the same week you are missing, to avoid losing points for attendance.

Tips for Doing Well in Econ 142 with Professor Becker:

- Read the textbook before going to the lecture. Focus on getting a sense of what the main concepts are and particularly on understanding the terminology.
- Even if you do not read the textbook before lecture, definitely read it before the exams. Professor Becker's exams usually have 7 multiple choice questions, which are almost always based directly on material in the textbook. The multiple choice questions are worth half the test grade.
- Hand write your lecture notes. If you do use a computer, have paper and pen out and ready to use. The lecture will frequently cover different types of graphs and sometimes cover equations, which can be difficult to type.
- Practice drawing the graphs we talk about in class before exams. We will spend a lot of time on graphs. You will need to know how to draw the graphs, what labels go where, and the different things that will cause something on the graph to change. It would be unusual to be able to get down everything you need on your first try, so it is better to practice.
- Ask for help if you're having a hard time. I am always available by email, and during office hours, and am happy to answer any of your questions about material covered in discussion or lecture.