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ECO 211: Introductory Microeconomics OER Curation

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ECO 211: Introductory Microeconomics OER Curation

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Overview

Scope Notes

The search sought out materials that provide an introduction to microeconomics aimed at undergraduate students. ECO 211 focuses on the interactions among households, producers, and governments in market economies. Students learn to apply fundamental methods of economic analysis to topics, such as household spending and saving patterns, pricing, profits, and organization, wages, income distribution, investment decisions, health care, government taxes, and regulation of markets. The most commonly used textbooks for introductory microeconomics courses are expensive both to rent and purchase by students, and this curation seeks satisfactory replacement materials that are free and openly licensed.

Current textbooks and materials

N. Gregory Mankiw, Principles of Microeconomics, Cengage (2021). ISBN: 9781305971493
\$250

William A. McEachern, Microeconomics: A Contemporary Introduction, 11 ed., Cengage,
ISBN: 978-1305505537 \$275

Search Notes

The search consulted OpenStax, OER Commons, Merlot, Open Textbook Library, Pressbooks, and BC Campus. There are many adaptations of the classic OpenStax microeconomics textbook. Additional OER textbooks and supplemental materials were found in the search.



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Gap Analysis

There are no obvious gaps. There are many strong options for microeconomics open educational resources. However, individual instructors may wish for different materials or want additional supplemental materials. If the resources below do not meet the interests of an individual instructor, a course specific OER curation may be done to locate a better fitting OER.

Promising OER Options

Principles of Microeconomics

- Steven A. Greenlaw and David Shapiro, Principles of Microeconomics, 2nd ed., OpenStax (2021).
- Available from [OpenStax](#)
- PDF, online, Kindle, iBook
- CC BY
- Comments: This OER covers the scope and sequence of most introductory microeconomics courses, and includes many current examples. The text is in its second edition and has been revised to increase clarity, update data, and current events. In addition to the core textbook, OpenStax offers instructor resources and student resources. Even if the textbook isn't adopted, the supplemental materials could provide useful study materials for students. Additionally, guided notes that correspond to this OER are available from [OER Commons](#).

Principles of Microeconomics (UVic)

- Emma Hutchinson, Principles of Microeconomics, University of Victoria (2021).
- Available from [BC Campus](#)
- PDF, Kindle, Common Cartridge, XML, OpenDocument
- License: CC BY
- Comments: This OER is an adaption of the OpenStax Principles of Microeconomics. This version is organized into 8 topics and includes over 200 multiple choice questions, eight case studies, and over 200 editable figures.

Principles of Microeconomics (Saylor)

- Libby Rittenberg and Tim Tregarthen, Principles of Microeconomics, Saylor (2022).
- Available from [BC Campus](#)
- PDF, Word, Website
- CC BY
- Comments: This OER approaches microeconomics with clarity and an intention to make learning more enjoyable for students. The chapters are arranged in a modular format with chapters breaking down to three main content sections in order to be more

manageable. Additionally, each section contains learning objects, summaries, examples, and problems.

Principles of Microeconomics (Lyryx)

- Doug Curtis and Ian Irvine, Principles of Microeconomics, Lyryx (2020).
- Available from [Open Textbook Library](#)
- PDF, online, ebook, hardcopy
- CC BY-NC-SA
- Comments: This OER is an adaption of Microeconomics: Markets, methods, and models by the same authors. The text provides an introduction to microeconomic theory, and uses equations that do not utilize calculus. Each chapter includes problems to test student's understanding of the material. The text uses examples and policy from Canada and around the globe, which may be either an advantage or disadvantage of the text depending on the instructor's course goals.

Stretch Resource Options

Microeconomics: Theory through Applications

- Russel Cooper and Andrew John, Microeconomics: theory through applications, Saylor foundation (2011).
- Available from [Open Textbook Library](#)
- PDF, online
- CC BY-NC-SA
- Comments: This OER is designed to center student needs and expectations with the goal of motivating students to study economics and see that it relates to their own lives. The text covers 17 chapters from defining microeconomics, personal decisions, pricing, and Wall Street. However, the material is somewhat dated at ten years old with a chapter focused on eBay and craigslist that may not translated as currently as an instructor may desire.

Intermediate Microeconomics

- Patrick M Emerson, Intermediate Microeconomics, Oregon State University (2019).
- Available from [OpenOregon](#)
- PDF, EPUB, MOBI, XML, Common Cartridge
- CC BY-NC-SA
- Comments: This OER is slightly more advanced and provides a comprehensive microeconomic theory text that uses real world policy questions to illustrate the information in each chapter. The text uses two mathematical approaches, which provides instructors with the option to teach the material with or without calculus.

Microeconomics (Lumen)

- Microeconomics, Lumen Learning
- Available from [OER Commons](#)
- Website
- License: varies but frequently CC licensed materials
- Comments: This online course and collection of resources may provide instructors with a rich set of open materials to utilize in their classrooms or for readings. The course contains 15 modules that cover topics ranging from economic thinking, surplus, supply and demand, production, globalization, monopoly, and income distribution. As a stretch resource these materials are most likely to be adopted by instructors as supplemental materials.

Microeconomics (UNC)

- Microeconomics, UNC System
- Available from [OER Commons](#)
- Online
- CC BY
- Comments: This full OER course is available to be used as-is for student learning or to be adapted to fit an instructor's course context. The collection of resources includes faculty developed activities, text alignment and videos, online tools for polling, team exercises, and discussion starters. This resource is a rich set ideal for new instructors who haven't yet developed material, and experienced instructors fully wanting to embrace open education.

Microeconomics: Scarcity and Social Provisioning

- Erik Dean et al., Microeconomics: Scarcity and Social Provisioning, OpenOregon (2016).
- Available from [OpenOregon](#)
- PDF, online, Opendocument
- CC BY
- Comments: This OER takes a pluralistic approach to the standard topics of an introductory microeconomics course. The text builds on the material of the OpenStax Principles of Economics text, adding extensive content from heterodox economic thought. Then the text presents the method and theory of neoclassical economics alongside critiques thereof and heterodox alternatives in both method and theory. Historical and contemporary examples are given throughout, and both theory and application are presented with a balanced approach. The authors present the text as going beyond the traditional approach and may be an attractive option for some instructors.