

Micro 232 – Writing Assignment – Fall 08  
Grading Rubric

\*Leaving off the works cited page or omitting in-text citations is technically plagiarism. Include these, this link provides a guide for different styles of citing research.  
<http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/instruct/guides/citations.html>

Aspect of Paper	Points Available	D/F	C	B	A
Formatting	10	Formatting not appropriate Or Citations don't follow a format	Minor Errors in letter		Letter Formatting is correct – Report is aesthetically arranged, easy to find information
Tone	10	Not Professional	Audience is not considered (tone lacks respect)		Letter is Persuasive, Report is professional
Grammar	10	Not College Quality	Needs more proofreading – errors would be caught by grammar/spell check	Some errors, not overly distracting	Few, if any errors
Research	20	Less than 3 sources	Gaps in understanding of the issue are apparent	Author understands and conveys important parts of issue	Comprehensive coverage of issue
<b>Application of Economics</b> (see list below)	<b>40</b>	<b>Economic concepts are not incorporated or conclusions are incorrect</b>	<b>Mixture of correct conclusions and incorrect conclusions or few applications are discussed.</b>	<b>Does a good job applying the basic principles - may not touch on more than a few applications but those</b>	<b>Demonstrates full knowledge of how to apply numerous economic concepts</b>

				<b>are done well</b>	
Graphs	10	Not included	Incorrect or Assumptions not explained		Help demonstrate the author's points, easy to read, visually appealing

The objectives of the course, as listed in the syllabus are

- Understand what a PPF is and how it helps us to understand the issue of choice.
- Understand the role of utility maximization in choice.
- Understand that consumer choice represents constrained maximization.
- Understand the difference between demand and quantity demanded.
- Understand the economic concept of the market clearing price.
- Understand the relationship between inputs and outputs.
- Be able to identify the four market types and three aspects of each type.
- Understand the role of profit maximization.
- Understand how wages are determined.

Your paper is an opportunity to demonstrate your understanding of these objectives. Each topic may not touch on each objective and there are additional aspects of micro-economics that can be dealt with through the paper. A few of the additional issues that you can incorporate are listed here.

- Opportunity costs
- Positive vs. Normative analysis
- How will people respond to incentives created in the legislation you are discussing?
- Market Failure – does the legislation address an issue of market failure?
- Externalities
  - Compare/Contrast different ways of addressing the externality
  - How is social optimum determined?
- Will this legislation provide price distortion and thus inefficiency – how is equity improved – is the tradeoff worth it?
- Does elasticity of the good have an implication for the legislation?
- Does the legislation affect consumer surplus or producer surplus? Does it affect total welfare?
- Is there a tax involved?
- Does the market structure of the industry affected by legislation have any bearing on the outcome?
- What would you expect cost curves of the industry to look like (estimations and gross generalities are expected)
  - Are there differences between the short-term and long-term?
- Can the incentives created through legislation be analyzed using game theory?
- Relevant labor issues?

- Productivity
- Discrimination
- Human resource investments
- Market structure impacts
- Effects on income distribution?
  - Are there differences between the short-term and long-term?
  - Poverty