

Teaching a Foundation Course in Microeconomics to MPA students

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Choosing a Textbook

Possibilities are:

Steinemann, Apgar and Brown's "Microeconomics for Public Decisions"

Lee Friedman's "The Microeconomics of Public Policy Analysis"

Or

Use an intermediate microeconomics textbook like

Robert Frank's "Microeconomics and Behavior" and supplement with more policy applications.

Key Ideas that have important policy implications

- Prices adjust to achieve equilibrium
- Pareto Improvements are few
- Context matters
- Why do we have firms? This is a very interesting question.

A couple more..

- Insights from behavioral economics offer a lot of policy implications.
- Good government is a pure public good

Courses for MPA Students that are Missing

- Political economy
- An applied policy-oriented empirical course