

Intermediate Microeconomics (Econ 201), Fall 2008
Oxford College of Emory University
TTh 10:00 – 11:15

Instructor: Dr. Jasminka Ninkovic
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Office Hours:

MW: 9:30 am – 10:30 am
TTh: 11:30 am – 12:30 am or by appointment

Course Description:

Microeconomics is analytical study of behavior of economic agents – consumers and firms. It also explores how different market mechanisms operate to allocate scarce resources. We will begin by studying the theories of the consumer and the producer. Next, we will combine both in the study of individual markets, including perfect competition, monopoly, and imperfect competition. You have already encountered basic insights into these topics in your principles course, and now we will go into deeper exploration of the theories. As often as possible we will apply theoretical principles and analyze “real world” examples. After completing work requirements in this course, students should have a sufficient set of skills to thoroughly analyze interesting economic questions and to effectively participate in advanced undergraduate economics courses.

Textbook:

Walter Nicholson & Christopher Snyder: *Intermediate Microeconomics and its Application*, 10th ed., Thomson South-Western, 2007.

Exams, Assignments and Grading Policy:

There will be three exams in this course: two midterms and final exam. Only the final will be cumulative. Be aware, however, that since microeconomic theory builds on itself, the knowledge of the previous material may be necessary to comprehend current material.

Exam I: 30 %, Ch 1- Ch 6
Exam II: 30 %, Ch 7- Ch 10
Final Exam: 30 %, Ch 1- Ch 14; Dec 16, 2:00-5:00;
There will be no exemptions from the final.

In class assignments, homework and class participation 14 %.

I make every effort to have class attendance a necessary (though not sufficient) factor in performing well on examinations.

Cut-off Points for the Grades

D (60-63), D+ (63-70), C- (70-73), C (73-76), C+ (76-80), B-(80-83), B (83-86), B+ (86-90), A- (90-93), A 93+

Grades are not curved. Since the total in this class is potentially 104%, 4% works as an extra credit. If you do all your homework, in-class assignments and you are active in the class, 4% works as valuable buffer when you come to the exams. *Assignments are due at the beginning of the class and will not be accepted late. You have to be in the class to submit the assignment.*

Failure to take a test will lead to a score of zero for that test. No exception will be made except in medical emergencies where the other exams will be adjusted. Written verification is required in such cases.

Homework will be given for each chapter in the textbook. Questions will mostly come from your book. These questions and problems will be due one class period after we have completed discussion on that chapter in the class. For complete credit, you must show all your work on the problems. You may work together on the assignments, but each person must turn in their own completed assignment. Not all of the problems and questions will be assigned for each chapter, but I do recommend that you complete the ones not assigned on your own. This will be great help in deepening your understanding of the material and in preparing for exams. Partial solutions for the odd numbered problems are included at the back of the book. One missed homework grade can be substituted by additional reading and appropriate feedback on it. Details about the reading will be given during the semester. It is due by the time of your final.

Honor code:

Honor code is strictly enforced in this class. Examples of scholastic dishonesty include (but are not limited to) receiving or giving help on exams or homework and plagiarizing or sabotaging another student's work. The usual penalty for violations of honor code is grade F in this course.

Communication and Attendance:

You are responsible for any announcements or assignments made in class.

Your homework assignments, class documents, as well as detailed weekly readings will be posted on LearnLink conference.

I strongly encourage you to attend class, participate in class discussion, study regularly, and complete the assigned readings and assignments sets in a timely manner.

Students Athletes, Students with Accommodations and Religious Holidays

If there is an interference with your class schedule because of your athletic commitments or religious reasons, please inform your instructor a.s.a.p. Also, if you have accommodations for the class, you are expected to bring in a letter from the responsible college institution a.s.a.p.

Reading List and Class Schedule:

We will proceed through the following chapters as time allows. Reading material in advance is highly recommended. Weekly reading assignments and the other communication will be posted on LearnLink conference for this class.

Textbook

1- Introduction

Week 1 (Aug 27 - Aug 30) Chapter 1

2- Consumer Theory

Week 2 (Aug 31 - Sept 6) Chapter 2
Week 3 (Sept 7 - Sept 13) Chapter 2&3
Week 4 (Sept 14 - Sept 20) Chapter 4

3- Uncertainty and Game Theory

Week 5 (Sept 21 - Sept 27) Chapters 5
Week 6 (Sept 28 - Oct 4) Chapter 6

4-Producer Theory

Week 7 (Oct 5 – Oct 11) First Midterm, Chapter 7
Week 8 (Oct 12 – Oct 18) Spring Break, Chapter 7 cont.
Week 9 (Oct 19 – Oct 25) Chapter 8
Week 10 (Oct 26 – Nov 1) Chapter 9

5- Market Theory

Week 11 (Nov 2 – Nov 8) Chapter 10
Week 12 (Nov 9 – Nov 15) Chapter 13
Week 13 (Nov 16 – Nov 22) Second Midterm, Chapter 14
Week 14 (Nov 23 – Nov 29) Chapter 14 cont., Thanksgiving Break

6- General Equilibrium

Week 15 (Nov 30 – Dec 6) Chapter 12

This schedule and the course content are tentative and the instructor reserves the right to make any changes during the course as deemed necessary.