

Fall 2016

Econ 4010-090 Online Intermediate Microeconomics

Instructor: Sophie Wu

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Assignment submission dates: Sundays by 11:59 pm

Virtual Office Hours: by appointment

Objectives:

Microeconomics is a subject that uses intensive mathematics to simulate and study the behavior of economic agents. In this course, we will primarily focus on these themes:

- neoclassical principles of resource allocation;
- theory of consumer choice;
- theory of the firm (producer theory);
- introduction to partial equilibrium and general equilibrium and welfare economics;
- theory of market structures.

By the end of this semester, the major objectives are for you to:

- Fully understand market equilibrium and the optimality of different types of market structures.
- Establish a deep understanding of how markets are operated at different market structures.
- Be able to perform and solve problems in the role of economic agents.
- Be exposed to problems in a mathematical way and think about it.

Required Textbooks:

Two textbooks will be adopted for this online course:

(1) Microeconomics, 4th edition, SCHAUM's outlines

(2) Intermediate Microeconomics and Its Application, by Walter Nicholson, or Christopher M. Snyder, any edition since the 9th.

Tentative Weighted Grade Scale:

The letter grade will reflect a student's true understanding of this subject and show his or her relative standing in class. Therefore, the tentative weighted scale that is announced here is not the finalized one, and it may be changed later to match with class statistics.

Midterm 1: 33%

Midterm 2: 33%

Final Exam: 34%

Based on this weighted scale, you can expect to receive a grade below if all your three tests average are at least or higher than these percentages:

A : 93% or above

A- : 88% or above

B+ : 83% or above
B : 78% or above
B- : 73% or above
C+ : 68% or above
C : 60% or above
C- : 50% or above
E : below 50%

Please note that **no extra credit** will be given in this course to move up the grade. The criterion to receive an A is that you earn 93% or higher on average for all three tests. If no one hits this criterion of achieving 93% or up in all three tests, A's will be given to those who are at the 99th percentile. If all three tests average are below 50, it is very likely that you will not be passed.

Submission Dates and Policies:

This date by date outline gives you a sense regarding this class will be progressed. For specific dates of assignment submissions, please follow the canvas.

09/04 Assignment 1: Market Equilibrium & Calculus Review

09/11 Assignment 2: Theory of Consumer

09/18 Assignment 3: Theory of Consumer

09/25 Assignment 4: Theory of Consumer

Midterm 1, weekend, coverage: assignments 1 through 4

(from Sat. 10/01 noon ~ Sun. 10/02 by 11:59 pm)

10/09-10/16 Fall Break

10/23 Assignment 5: Theory of Producer

10/30 Assignment 6: Theory of Producer

11/06 Assignment 7: Cost of Production

11/13 Assignment 8: Cost of Production

Midterm 2, weekend, coverage: assignments 5 through 8

(from Sat. 11/19 noon~ Sun. 11/20 by 11:59 pm)

11/27 Assignment 9: General Equilibrium and Welfare

12/04 Assignment 10: General Equilibrium and Welfare

Final Exam, coverage, assignments 1 through 10

(from Thur. 12/15 noon - Fri. 12/16 by 11:59 pm)

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 801-581-5020. CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations.