Spring 2016
Econ 4010-090 Online Intermediate Microeconomics

Instructor: Sophie Wu
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Assignment submission dates: Thursdays by 11:59 pm
Office hours: Please make an appointment through email.

Warnings before you start this class:
1 Intensive mathematics will be applied to this subject. The pre-requisite
    courses are principle of economics and mathematics for economists
    (Econ 3620). Therefore, you are expected to perform well in this class only
    when you are extremely familiar with calculus and derivatives.
2 This is an intensive online course. Therefore, it may require a lot of self-study
    ability and time to complete all the tests and coursework. Historical date
    suggested that an online course may not be easier than an in-class
    course. You may need to evaluate your capabilities before you decide to
    take an online course.
3 Cheating in any way will lead to a failing semester grade without any
    negotiation. You will be asked to leave this class immediately once you
    are caught cheating.
4 It is your responsibility to follow the announcement on canvus for any updated
    information.
5 It is your responsibility to make sure that your online submissions are made
    successfully through canvus.

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.
You need to be able to access both textbooks.

Exams:
All tests must be taken in the scheduled time and date in the U online testing center or its extension sites. If you are not in Utah, you can schedule your tests through the U online testing center through canvas and write in your local testing center. No make-up test will be offered. You will need to sign up a seat online two weeks earlier.
For further information, please refer to this website:
http://tlt.utah.edu/student-exam-information/
 (Links to an external site.)

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 yet finalized, and it may be changed later.
Test 1: 33%
Test 2: 33%
Final: 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 percentage:
A: 90% or above
A-: 88% or above
B+: 80% or above
B: 78% or above
B-: 70% 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 90% or higher on average for all three tests. If no one hits this criterion of achieving 90% or up in all three tests, A 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.

Tentative Submission Dates and Policies:
I don't count your weekly assignment to be part of your final grade, so you will not be punished if you don't turn in your weekly assignment on time. However, in my previous course, students who submitted their weekly assignments on time tend to perform much better than those who did not. I therefore encourage you to follow my schedule to proceed this course, and do not wait till the last week to study your test. I propose Thursdays as our class activity days. Please submit your weekly assignment on Thursdays by 11:59 pm. The first assignment submission date is Jan 21st.

These date by date outline gives you a sense regarding how we will be progressing each chapter. For specific dates of assignment submissions, please follow the canvas.

Each week you will be working with 4 to 6 problem sets after you read the assigned chapters in both textbooks. The video clips in the modules are supplementary to enhancing your understanding of context.

01/14 Market Equilibrium & Calculus Review
01/21 Market Equilibrium & Calculus Review
01/28 Theory of Consumer
02/04 Theory of Consumer
02/11 Theory of Consumer
02/18 Theory of Consumer
02/25 Midterm 1
03/03 Theory of Producer
03/10 Theory of Producer
03/17 Spring Break *No Activity
03/24 Cost of Production
03/31 Cost of Production
04/07 Midterm 2
04/14 General Equilibrium & Welfare Economics
04/21 General Equilibrium & Welfare Economics
04/28 Final Exam Period (till 05/04)

Important Dates:
The last day to add or drop the class is January 22nd.
The last day to add without a permission code is January 17th.
The last day to withdraw from classes is March 4th.
The final class is on April 21st.

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.