Economics 2A – Winter 2002
Introduction to Economics

Instructor:	Genevieve Peters
Office:	Economics 307
Office Hours:	TuTh 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and by appointment
Phone:	(858) 534-5986
Email:	gpeters@weber.ucsd.edu
Classroom:	HSS 2250
Class Time:	TuTh 5:30 p.m. – 6:50 p.m.
Class Web Page:	http://weber.ucsd.edu/~gpeters/ec2a/

Course Description

This course is designed to introduce the basic foundations of microeconomics. We begin by looking at the methods used by economists to focus on and understand complex economic relationships. We'll look at the theory and reality of capitalist economics, and build the fundamentals of consumer decisionmaking. Finally, we'll compare competitive and monopolistic industry behavior, to gain a better understanding of firm profitability.

This course is based on graphical and mathematical analysis. You should review basic algebra and calculus early in the class, so that you will be able to follow the lectures without difficulty.

Prerequisites

The prerequisites for Economics 2A are Mathematics 10A-B-C or 20A-B-C.

Texts

The required text for this class is *Microeconomics, Principles and Applications, 2nd Edition* by Robert E. Hall and Marc Lieberman.

The *Economics Mastery Study Guide* to accompany Hall & Lieberman is not required **but strongly recommended**. This study guide contains hundreds of questions and problems (with answers) that will prove helpful in learning to solve microeconomic problems.

Course Readings

We will be covering chapters 1-10 from Hall & Lieberman. The reading assignments for each lecture are outlined in the class schedule below. Lectures will focus on the more difficult material in the readings, but you will be responsible for all of the material in each chapter. Since I will be adding mathematics to the models in lecture, you will get a lot more out of this class if you read the required chapters to familiarize yourself with the models before each lecture.

Discussion Sections

In addition to lectures, four discussion sections have been scheduled each week. A schedule of the material to be covered in each section is provided on the last page of this syllabus. The section leaders will be available during section to answer any questions you have about lecture material or the textbook, as well as to lead a discussion of problems posted on the class website. You are responsible for bringing a copy of the discussion questions with you to your section for reference.

The Monday discussion section will be cancelled on January 21, 2002 and February 18, 2002 in observance of University holidays. Students enrolled in this section should feel free to attend other sections during those weeks.

Attendance

Lecture attendance is an individual student responsibility. Although daily attendance to lectures will not be recorded, the lectures will be more mathematical than the text, and I will frequently provide examples during lectures that don't appear in the textbook but are fair game for examination. Thus, frequent absences may adversely impact performance.

Examinations

Two midterm exams and one final exam will be given in this section. The midterm exams will be given in class on January 24, 2002 and February 14, 2002. The final exam will be given on March 18, 2002 from 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. All three exams will be comprised of analytical problems and multiple-choice questions. No calculators, study aids, or notes will be allowed in the exam.

Midterm exams will be administered at the beginning of the class and will last exactly eighty (80) minutes. Students who arrive late will not receive extra time to complete their exam.

The final exam will last exactly three (3) hours. Once a student completes the exam, then no other student will be permitted to start the exam.

All exams must be given at the scheduled time and place.

Cheating on exams will be brought to the attention of the Dean.

Make-up Examinations

No make-up exams will be given in this class. Students who miss a midterm exam without a university accepted excuse will receive a grade of **zero (0)** for the exam. Students who miss a midterm with a university accepted excuse will have the weight of the final exam increased accordingly. You must take the final exam to receive a grade in this course.

Excuses for missed exams must be <u>pre-approved</u> by the instructor (except when this is not possible in an emergency situation). Students who make initial contact <u>after</u> the exam will have to document why they could not make contact prior to the exam. In addition, any student who misses an exam due to physical illness will be required to provide documentation from a health care professional indicating why the student was physically unable to take the exam. All documentation and an additional signed written statement explaining the relevant circumstances of the absence must be provided to the instructor within two working days of the student's return to campus. Failure to comply with any of the above in the specified manner will result in a grade of **zero (0)** for the exam.

Grading

Numerical grades will be assigned as follows:

Midterm I	=	20%
Midterm II	=	30%
Final Exam	=	50%
Total	=	100%

Letter grades will be allocated using the following breakdown:

Letter	A	A-	B+	B	B-
Numerical Range	87%-100%	82%-86%	77%-81%	74%-76%	70%-73%

Letter	C+	C	C-	D	F
Numerical Range	67%-69%	64%-66%	60%-63%	50%-59%	0%-49%

Class Lecture Schedule

Month	Day	Reading Assignment
January	08	Chapter 1
	10	Chapter 2
	15	Chapter 3
	17	Chapter 3, 4
	22	Chapter 4
	24	**Midterm I (Chapters 1-4)**
	29	Chapter 5
	31	Chapter 5
February	05	Chapter 5, 6
	07	Chapter 6
	12	Chapter 6
	14	**Midterm II (Chapters 1-6)**
	19	Chapter 7
	21	Chapter 7, 8
	26	Chapter 8
	28	Chapter 8, 9
March	05	Chapter 9
	07	Chapter 9
	12	Chapter 10
	14	Chapter 10
	18	**Final Exam (Chapters 1-10)**

Section Topics Schedule

A02	A03	A04	A05	Topic
Jan 14	Jan 16	Jan 16	Jan 11	Chapters 1, 2
*	Jan 23	Jan 23	Jan 18	Chapters 3, 4
Jan 28	Jan 30	Jan 30	Jan 25	Chapter 5
Feb 4	Feb 6	Feb 6	Feb 1	Chapter 5
Feb 11	Feb 13	Feb 13	Feb 8	Chapter 6
*	Feb 20	Feb 20	Feb 22	Chapter 7
Feb 25	Feb 27	Feb 27	Mar 1	Chapter 8
Mar 4	Mar 6	Mar 6	Mar 8	Chapter 9
Mar 11	Mar 13	Mar 13	Mar 15	Chapter 10

* Monday section is cancelled due to university holiday. Please attend another section for that topic.

A02	Monday	9:05 – 9:55 a.m.	CSB 005
A03	Wednesday	2:30 – 3:20 p.m.	CSB 005
A04	Wednesday	3:35 – 4:25 p.m.	CSB 005
A05	Friday	12:20 – 1:10 p.m.	CSB 005