DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

ECON 1: PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS
LOCATION/TIME: CENTR 115 / MWF 3:00PM-3:50PM

WINTER QUARTER 2013
SYLLABUS

Instructor: Steven B. Levkoff, Ph.D.
E-mail: slevkoff@ucsd.edu
Instructor Webpage: http://stevelevkoff.com
Course Webpage: http://ted.ucsd.edu
Office: Economics Building, Room 111
Office Hours: Mondays, 2:10pm-3:00pm, open door, or by appointment

Course Description: This course functions as an introduction to the study of economic systems in which rational individuals interact and respond to incentives in an environment where resources are scarce. The course will introduce standard economic models used to examine how individuals and firms make decisions in perfectly competitive markets.

Prerequisites: This course will be taught assuming that you have a firm grasp of basic high school algebra and geometry (which are prerequisites for admission to UCSD).

Readings:
> *Required:*
>> • [1] Principles of Economics, by Frank and Bernanke, 5th Edition. (Although, unofficially, any basic text on introductory microeconomics would probably suffice).

Discussion Sections:

Section 1: CENTR 222 / Mondays 5:00pm-5:50pm
Teaching Assistant: Zheng Huang (zhh006@ucsd.edu)

Section: 2: CENTR 222 / Mondays 6:00pm-6:50pm
Teaching Assistant: David Stowitts (dstowitts@ucsd.edu)

Section: 3: CENTR 222 / Mondays 7:00pm-7:50pm

Teaching Assistant: Vincent Leah-Martin (vleahmar@ucsd.edu)

Homework: While not a formal part of the course grade, problem sets will play a crucial role in developing your problem solving skills and should be taken very seriously. In the past, it has often been the case that students putting the most effort into the problem sets tend to perform best on the exams. Problem sets will be assigned regularly via TED. You are encouraged to work together to solve problem sets.

TED Access (course webpage): It is your responsibility to make sure you are enrolled in the online course (TED) and to routinely check it and your email for announcements and to access newly distributed material. You can email IWDC@ucsd.ed to get TED access for the course if you have added late.   CC the instructor of the course (slevkoff@ucsd.edu) in the email to expedite approval.

Examinations: There will be two midterms (administered at approximately weeks 4 and 8) and a final examination. The registrar has scheduled the final exam for Wednesday, March 20th, from 3:00pm-6:00pm. All exams are cumulative.

Grading:		
	Midterm Exam	25%
	Midterm Exam	35%
	Final Exam	40%
	Total	100%

Re-grade Policy: After your exams are graded, your TA's will allow you *to see* your exam in either discussion or their office hours. If you find that there was a grading issue, DO NOT remove the exam from the TA's possession – leave it with your TA with a note on the front cover regarding the specifics of the re-grade request and the TA will follow up with the instructor if the request warrants further vigilance. *Once you take the exam from the TA's possession, it can no longer qualify for a re-grade.* You have <u>one week</u> from the announcement of the grade distribution to resolve grading issues. Otherwise, grades are NON-NEGOTIABLE and any requests that are determined to be *excessive* in scope may warrant further point deductions unless sound arguments are used to justify the request. The instructor and TAs reserve the right to refuse any request believed to be *excessive*.

Absences & Attendance: Any exam or quiz missed for a legitimate reason may be made up at the discretion of the instructor (this may include an oral evaluation as an alternative to taking a written exam or a re-weighting of the exams in the grade calculation shown above). You will receive a zero on any exam or quiz missed without a legitimate reason. The instructor reserves the right to take attendance and give pop quizzes to be used in the determination of the course grade.

Supplemental Material & Slides: Throughout the course, the instructor may post supplemental readings and slides via TED. These materials are meant to be used to complement the lecture and are not to be used as a substitute for going to lecture or

reading the textbook. The instructor reserves the right to take remove access to this material if he feels that it has adversely affected attendance in the lecture.

Classroom Decorum & Email: To avoid distracting others in the classroom, please arrive on time and do not leave early unless given prior permission. When class is in session, please respect others in the room and refrain from sending or receiving phone calls, pages, or text messages. Please be sure audible signals are turned off before class begins. Please restrict the use of email to the minimally necessary volume and put your full name at the end of email messages and the course name and number in the subject heading. Email questions regarding *how to do a particular homework problem* should be first directed to your TA. Questions regarding course policies will be directed to the syllabus (if applicable). All other general questions are welcome!

Statement of Academic Integrity: Integrity of scholarship is essential for an academic community. The University expects that both faculty and students will honor this principle and in so doing protect the validity of University intellectual work. For students, this means that all academic work will be done by the individual to whom it is assigned, without unauthorized aid of any kind.

Examination Policies: Consistent with the University's mission to preserve academic integrity, there are several policies and procedures that must be adhered to by students during exams.
1) In order to be allowed into the exam, students must have:
    - A SINGLE, BLANK, FULL (no pages removed) UCSD blue book.
    - A BLUE or BLACK PEN (not pencil!)
    - A BASIC or SCIENTIFIC calculator (no graphing calculators, cell phones, or other mobile devices unless given prior approval by the instructor)
    - Your UCSD student ID
2) During the exam, the following policies will be enforced:
    - NO BATHROOM BREAKS. Be sure to use the restrooms before the exam begins. Exams are less than an hour long! You can make it!!!
    - No hats, hoodies, or sunglasses during the exam.
3) Violations of academic integrity will not be tolerated. For this course in particular, violations include, but are not limited to anything that may be perceived as the following actions:
    - looking at or copying from other students' exams
    - talking during an exam while exams are still out
    - looking at notes during an exam
    - taking the wrong version of an exam
    - removing an exam from the examination room
    - removing pages from a blue book
    - falsifying identification or an exam book during or after the exam
    - sitting in the wrong seat during an exam (if applicable)
    - using an unapproved device/item during an exam (ie: programmable calculator, cell phone, etc. - see above list)

Violation (or perceived violation) of any of the abovementioned policies will be enforced via zero tolerance and referred to the student conduct process, so don't do anything that would even come close to something that an observer would potentially interpret as academic dishonesty. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Tentative Schedule of Topics (Subject to Change):

Week 1: Introduction to Microeconomics
      Readings: [1] Chapter 1
Week 2: Comparative Advantage
      Readings: [1] Chapter 2
Week 3: Supply and Demand
      Readings: [1] Chapter 3
Week 4: Review and MIDTERM EXAM #1

Week 5: Elasticity
      Readings: [1] Chapter 4
Week 6: Welfare, Surplus, and Efficiency
      Readings: [1] Chapter 7
Week 7: Consumer Choice
      Readings: [1] Chapter 5 Appendix (on UCSD custom version or online content)
Week 8: MIDTERM EXAM #2 and Production, Cost, Technology
      Readings: [1] Chapter 6
Week 9: Perfectly Competitive Supply & Profit Maximization, Short/Long Run
      Readings: [1] Chapter 6-7
Week 10: Introduction to Market Failure / Monopoly
      Readings: [1] Chapter 8

FINAL EXAM