

ECONOMICS 100C: Microeconomics C

Fall 2010

Lectures: T, Th 12:30 – 1:50pm: Centr 101
Discussion Sessions: M 7:00 – 7:50pm and M 8:00 – 8:50pm: Centr 113

Prof: Herb Newhouse
Office: Econ 108

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Office Hours: Wed 1 – 2:30pm

Course webpage: <https://webctweb.ucsd.edu/>

TAs: TBA

Office Hours: TBA

This course is the third of three courses in microeconomics and will build on the material presented in Economics 100A and 100B. The topics covered include imperfect competition, imperfect information, externalities and public goods. The course emphasizes mathematical analysis in developing the theory, but will also discuss real-world applications to demonstrate the usefulness and importance of the theory.

Prerequisites: ECON 100B or Math 170B.

Lectures and Discussion Sessions:

You are responsible for all the material in the lectures and problem sets. Partial notes will be available on the class webpage before each lecture. I recommend that you print these out beforehand and fill in the missing information. I'll do my best to avoid typos but you're responsible for the correct material. I want you to understand the material instead of simply memorizing it. If you miss a lecture, borrow someone's notes. Discussion Sessions are optional but recommended.

Problem Sets:

Problem sets will be available online. We will go over these questions in office hours and in the discussion sessions. Your best practice for the exams is to try these questions yourself first.

Exams:

Your grade will be determined on the basis of two Midterm Exams (25% each) and the Final Exam (50%). Alternatively your lower midterm will count for 15%; your higher midterm will count for 25% and your final will count for 60%. If you miss a midterm for a documented, university approved reason (ie., illness, official university trip) the weight for that exam will be placed on the final. If you miss a midterm for another reason (ie., oversleep) you will receive a zero for that exam. No one will be allowed to start an exam after the first person leaves it.

Midterm 1 will be held in class on Thursday, October 14th. Midterm 2 will be held in class on Tuesday, November 9th. The final exam will be held on Friday, December 10th from 11:30am – 2:30pm. If you know in advance that you cannot make an exam, please let me know as soon as possible.

You are only permitted to use pens and pencils, a calculator, a straight edge and a note card during the exams. The note card can be any size up to 8.5" by 5.5" for the midterms and up to 8.5" by 11" for the final. It may **only** have handwritten notes on both sides. Typed or mechanically reproduced notes are not permitted. Do **not** attach anything to your note card in any way.

Academic dishonesty:

I take academic dishonesty seriously. Any student found guilty of academic dishonesty will earn a failing grade for the course. In addition to this sanction, the Council of Deans of Student Affairs will also impose a disciplinary penalty. For a review of UCSD policy, please see <http://www-senate.ucsd.edu/manual/appendices/app2.htm>.

Regrade requests:

Regrade requests must be made through a written statement **before** the start of class one week after the exam was first passed back. This deadline is firm! Extensions will only be permitted if you have a documented, university approved reason for missing the entire week after the exam was first passed back. If you request a regrade I may regrade your entire exam and your score could go up, down or stay the same.

Text:

Perloff (2008), *Microeconomic Theory and Applications with Calculus*, Pearson/Addison-Wesley. I will give references for this text. You can use either the custom UCSD version or the standard version. The material for this course is fairly standard; other Microeconomic Theory books are probably fine.

Preliminary Course Outline:

1. Review of Perfect Competition

- Ch. 3 – 5.
- Ch. 8 – 10.

2. Monopoly

- Ch. 11.

3. Pricing Strategies

- Ch 12.

4. Oligopoly

- Ch 13.

5. Game Theory

- Ch 14.

6. Economics of Information

- Ch 18 & 19.

7. Externalities & Public Goods

- Ch 17.

Very roughly I'm hoping to spend one week per topic, although we'll probably spend two weeks on Oligopoly and three weeks (in total) on topics 6 and 7. All of this is subject to change.

Note: Thursday, November 11 is Veteran's Day. We will not have class that day.