



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

ECON 1: PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS

LOCATION/TIME: PETER 108 / MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS, 6:30PM-7:50PM

**FALL QUARTER 2012
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, 4:10pm-5:00pm, 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. 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.

Discussion Sections:

Section 1: CENTR 222 / Wednesdays 9:00am-9:50am

Head Teaching Assistant: Stephen Morris (sdmorris@ucsd.edu)

Section: 2: CENTR 222 / Wednesdays 10:00am-10:50am

Teaching Assistants: Vinayak Alladi (valadi@ucsd.edu), Florian Blume (fblume@ucsd.edu)

Section: 3: PETER 102 / Thursdays 5:00pm-5:50pm

Teaching Assistants: Patrick (Mitch) Downey (pmdowney@ucsd.edu), Yipeng Zhao (yiz015@ucsd.edu)

Section: 4: WLH 2205 / Fridays 11:00am-11:50am
Teaching Assistants: Andrew Walcher (awalcher@ucsd.edu), Naveen
Basavanhally (nbasavan@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 been the case that the students that put the most effort into the problem sets tend to do the best on the exams. Problem sets will be assigned regularly via TED. You are encouraged to work together to solve problem sets, but the solutions you submit should be solely your own. **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE SURE YOU ARE ENROLLED IN THE ONLINE COURSE AND ROUTINELY CHECK THE COURSE WEBPAGE AND YOUR EMAIL FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND TO ACCESS DISTRIBUTED MATERIALS.**

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 Monday, 12/10/12, from 7:00pm-10:00pm. All exams are cumulative.

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

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). You will receive a zero on any exam or quiz missed without a legitimate reason. If the instructor feels that attendance is slipping, he reserves the right to take attendance and give pop quizzes to be used in the determination of the course grade.

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.

Statement of Academic Integrity: Academic Integrity relates to being honest in the completion of your academic coursework. Trust is the central principle underlying academic integrity. [The University] needs to trust that ideas are your own. This means that all your work should come solely from your effort. For example, you need to complete your tests without external assistance. In addition, you may not present another students work as your own. Moreover, you should not plagiarize, which is non-credited

use of someone else's words or ideas. Overall, then, academic integrity means that [The University's] students will display honest scholarship.

Tentative Schedule of Topics (Subject to Change):

Part I: Introduction

Week 1: Thinking Like an Economist

Readings: [1] Chapter 1

Week 2: Comparative Advantage

Readings: [1] Chapter 2

Week 3: Supply and Demand

Readings: [1] Chapter 3

MIDTERM EXAM #1

Part II: Competition and the Invisible Hand

Week 4: Elasticity

Readings: [1] Chapter 4

Week 5: Demand

Readings: [1] Chapter 5

Week 6: Consumer Choice

Readings: [1] Chapter 5 Appendix (on UCSD custom version or online content)

MIDTERM EXAM #2

Week 7: Cost, Technology, and Perfectly Competitive Supply

Readings: [1] Chapter 6

Week 8: Welfare, Surplus, Efficiency & Exchange, the “Invisible Hand”

Readings: [1] Chapter 7

Part III: Additional Topics

Week 9: Introduction to Market Failure / Monopoly

Readings: [1] Chapter 8

Week 10: Additional Topics (time permitting)

Readings: TBD

FINAL EXAM