

Economics 130: Public Policy

Summer I, 2013

TR 11:00-1:50, WLH 2205

Dr. Mike Hilmer

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Course Description: This course will focus on applying basic microeconomic theory to issues in public policy. The goal is to develop a set of policy analysis tools that will allow you to better understand the important policy issues of our time. *Prerequisites: Economics 1A-B or 1-2.*

Course Requirements: There will be graded answers to discussion questions due at the beginning of each class, one midterm exam and one cumulative final exam.

Requirement	Date	Percent of Grade
Graded Discussion Questions	Daily	15%
Midterm Exam	Thursday, July 18	35%
Final Exam	Saturday, August 3, 11:30am-2:29pm Location TBA	50%

Text: Miller, Benjamin and North *The Economics of Public Issues*, Current Edition.

Grades: Grades will be assigned based on relative performance in the course. At the end of the course, I will place all students in rank order based on total points accumulated and assign grades based on relative standing in that distribution.

Approximate Outline:

Each class period you will be assigned two readings from the text to analyze that will form the basis for that day's lecture. To prepare for the lecture, you will be asked to prepare answers to the "Discussion Questions" at the end of each chapter. Of the two sets of answers, one will be collected at the beginning of each class and graded (no late assignments will be collected). The two chapters for each lecture will be assigned in class during the preceding lecture.

July 2: Introduction and review of Microeconomics
July 9: Foundations of Economics Analysis
July 11: Supply and Demand
July 16: Labor Markets
July 18: **Midterm Exam**
July 23: Market Structures
July 25: Political Economy
July 30: Property Rights and the Environment
August 1: Wrap-up
August 3: Final Exam

Note: This outline is a rough approximation and is subject to change.
