

## Econ 100C, Intermediate Microeconomics – Syllabus

Course Information (everything is on Zoom, and all Zoom links are on Canvas)

- Lectures: Mon & Wed, 11am-1:50pm  
Instructor: Dr. Oana Tocoian [otocoian@ucsd.edu](mailto:otocoian@ucsd.edu)
  - Office hours: Tuesday 7-8pm & Friday 4-5pm, or by appointment.
  - Office hours are “open door”: while I will give priority to questions about the class material, we can also discuss any other topics, such as the news or how you are holding up.
- Weekly discussions: Friday, 11am-12:50pm  
Graduate TAs:
  - Ishani Chatterjee [ischatte@ucsd.edu](mailto:ischatte@ucsd.edu)
  - Xiao Ma [xim032@ucsd.edu](mailto:xim032@ucsd.edu)
  - TA office hours: Thursday 1-2pm
- Study Group: Tuesday 6:30-7:50pm, [https://ucsdcommons.adobeconnect.com/econ100c\\_a00\\_sg/](https://ucsdcommons.adobeconnect.com/econ100c_a00_sg/)
  - SG leader: Madi Kha, [mkha@ucsd.edu](mailto:mkha@ucsd.edu)
- Course description:
  - This is the third class in the Intermediate Microeconomics sequence, so you need to have taken Econ 100B. We will examine departures from the neoclassical model including imperfect competition, strategy, asymmetric information, and signaling. Basic game theory analysis is introduced.

### Webpage and Required Materials

- Class webpage: Canvas: <https://canvas.ucsd.edu/courses/16329>
  - All relevant info will be posted here and all other resources will be linked through here.
- Textbook: Perloff, *Digital Inclusive Microeconomics: Theory & Applications W/calculus*, 9780134899572
  - The online portal is Redshelf (linked on Canvas). You are enrolled by default and will have to opt out if you do not wish to pay for it.
- Additional resources include:
  - Mark Machina's *Math Handout*
  - Intermediate Microeconomics Video Handbook (IMVH)  
IMVH is a set of video lectures recorded by Professors at UCSD. I will assign some of these for you to watch each week
  - Piazza (optional but encouraged)  
This term we will be using Piazza for class discussion. I encourage you to post questions here about both logistics and content. The TAs and I will monitor the page and endorse or correct answers, as needed. Sign up link: [piazza.com/ucsd/other/econ100c](https://piazza.com/ucsd/other/econ100c)

### Grade Composition

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| • Homework, reflections, participation | 30% |
| • Practice test                        | 5%  |
| • Midterm                              | 25% |
| • Final (cumulative)                   | 40% |

### Exam schedule

- Practice test – Wednesday of week 2, Aug 12<sup>th</sup>, 12:30pm or 7pm
- Midterm – Monday of week 4, Aug 24<sup>th</sup>, 12:30pm or 7pm
- Final – Saturday of week 5, Sept 2<sup>nd</sup>, 11:30am or 7pm

### Exam policies (tentative)

- Exams will be administered through proctored Zoom meetings. They are closed book, although I will allow a handwritten “cheat sheet” (2 sheets on the final)
- There are no make-up exams, outside of the scheduled time slots. If you have to miss an exam due to an unavoidable circumstance such as illness, I will administer an individual oral exam instead.

### Homework (4 problem sets, about 6 points each, score maxed at 75%)

Problem solving is essential in order to understand and absorb the material. There will be 4 problem sets, usually due by the beginning of class on Monday (11am) – except for PS 3, which will be due on Saturday so that we can post the answer ahead of Monday’s midterm. They will be graded on completion/ reasonable effort.

### Reflections (5, about 4 points each, score maxed at 80%)

There will be a short graded assignment each week that will be due by 11am on Saturday morning.

The assignment is meant to promote better reflection and learning of the material and you will be expected to submit answers to between 2 and 4 questions, often open-ended, such as: “can you think of more examples of [X]?” or “how do you think [Y] fits into the discussion from Monday’s class?”, etc. The format will be as a Canvas quiz.

- I may post reflection answers (anonymized) in a class discussion board, or as the basis of discussion in class. If there are any reflection questions on which you *don’t* want me to post your answer (even without your name attached), let me know in the answer itself.

### Participation

Class and Piazza contributions can make up for points you lost on the homework or reflections. Once that score is maxed out, they will count towards extra credit.

Extra credit is applied after total scores are computed and grade cutoffs have been established, so as not to affect the curve.

### Attendance

I strongly recommend attending all lectures and discussion sessions live if you can. Although I will post the recordings as soon as they are available - which can be up to 3-4 hours later - students have reported that it is much harder to maintain attention when viewing a recording than when attending live. (Think about how much less fun it is to watch even a recorded sporting event, even when you don’t know the outcome. Now imagine if you could also *participate* when joining live!)

### Future opportunities:

- **100CH:** If you earn an A/A- grade in my class this quarter, I recommend that you take the one-unit honors class 100CH in Fall 2020. Honors classes are capped at 20 students and you will get to know the faculty member well (important for getting informed letters of recommendation). These classes typically have you give a short presentation and write a short paper. Presenting and writing in the major are two valuable skills that are challenging for us to offer in large classes.

### Accommodation for disabilities

If you have a disability, please register with the Office for Students with Disability and send your documentation to Gaby Perdomo ([gray@ucsd.edu](mailto:gray@ucsd.edu)) ASAP. More information: <https://osd.ucsd.edu/resources/covid-19.html>

### Academic Integrity

Students are expected to do their own work, as outlined in the UCSD policy on Academic Integrity. Cheating will not be tolerated, and any student who engages in suspicious conduct will be subjected to the disciplinary process. Students found guilty of academic dishonesty will earn a failing grade for the course. In addition, the Council of Deans of Student Affairs will impose a disciplinary penalty.

Schedule of topics

After an initial review of perfectly competitive markets, we will cover sections F through I in IMVH, and chapters 11-14 and 17-19 in Perloff.

Tentative schedule (check Canvas for up-to-date version)

- Review of competitive equilibrium
- Monopoly (and monopsony)
- Price discrimination
- Game theory introduction
- Oligopoly
- Externalities and public goods
- Asymmetric information

**Perloff**

Ch 9  
Ch 11  
Ch 12  
Ch 13  
Ch 14  
Ch 17  
Ch 18 & 19

**IMVH**

Section E.1  
Section G.1  
Section G.2  
Section F  
Section G.3  
Section H  
Section I