

ECONOMICS 100B – SPRING 2003
MICROECONOMICS

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Classroom: Peterson 108
Class Time: TuTh 8:00 – 9:20 a.m.
Class Web Page: <http://weber.ucsd.edu/~gpeters/econ100b/>

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will build upon the foundations set in Economics 100A. We will cover a broad range of topics, but will always return to the basic principles of economic theory. This class will cover monopoly and oligopoly behavior, price-setting strategies, game theory, and general equilibrium theory. Each topic is designed to introduce you to the complexity of economic decision-making in the real world.

PREREQUISITES

The prerequisite for Economics 100B is Economics 100A.

TEXTS

The required text for this class is Microeconomics, 5th Edition, by Robert S. Pindyck and Daniel L. Rubinfeld. The study guide by Valerie Suslow and Jonathan Hamilton is not required but is **strongly recommended**. This study guide contains hundreds of questions and problems (with answers) that will prove helpful in learning to solve microeconomic problems. Students in previous classes have raved about this study guide.

A required course reader of mathematical handouts will be available at AS Soft Reserves. This reader will provide the mathematics of the models we will be examining in more detail than the text. Students will be responsible for all of the material in this reader in addition to the assigned readings in the text.

COURSE READINGS

We will be covering chapters 5, 10-13, and 16 in Pindyck and Rubinfeld. The pace will be very rapid, so you are encouraged to read the required chapters ahead of each lecture. You are also encouraged to review consumer theory and producer theory in chapters 4, and 6-8 during the first week of class.

PRACTICE PROBLEMS

Review questions and practice problems for each chapter are posted on the class website. You are encouraged to work through these problems since you will see similar problems on exams. These problems will not be collected and will not be graded.

ATTENDANCE

Class attendance is an individual student responsibility. Although daily attendance is not recorded, the lectures will be more mathematical than the text, and I will frequently provide examples during lectures that don't appear in the textbook but are fair game for examination. Frequent absences may adversely affect performance.

MICROECONOMICS**CLASS SCHEDULE**

<u>Month</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Reading Assignment</u>
April	1	Chapter 10
	3	Chapter 10
	8	Chapter 10
	10	Chapter 11
	15	Chapter 11
	17	Chapter 11
	22	Chapter 12
	24	Chapter 12
	29	Chapter 12
May	1	Midterm Exam (Chapters 10, 11, 12)
	6	Chapter 13
	8	Chapter 13
	13	Chapter 13
	15	Chapter 16
	20	Chapter 16
	22	Chapter 16
	27	Chapter 16
	29	Chapter 5
June	3	Chapter 5
	5	Chapter 5
	11	Final Exam (Chapters 5, 10-13, 16)

EXAMINATIONS

One midterm exam and one final exam will be given in this section. The midterm exam will be given during class time in Peterson 108 on May 1, 2003. The final exam will be given in Peterson 108 on Wednesday, June 11, 2003 from 8-11 a.m. Both exams will be comprised of analytical problems and multiple choice questions. No calculators, study aids, or notes will be allowed in these exams.

The midterm exam will be administered at the beginning of class and will last exactly eighty (80) minutes. The final exam will last exactly three (3) hours. Students who arrive late will not receive extra time to complete their exam. Once a student completes the exam, then no other student will be permitted to start the exam.

Both exams must be given at the scheduled time and place.

STATEMENT OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to do their own work, as outlined in the UCSD policy on Academic Integrity published in the UCSD General Catalog. Cheating will not be tolerated, and any student who engages in suspicious conduct will be confronted and subjected to the disciplinary process. Cheaters will receive a failing grade on the exam and/or in the entire course. They may also be suspended from UCSD.

MISSED EXAMINATIONS

No make-up exams will be given in this class. Students who miss a midterm exam without a university accepted excuse will receive a grade of zero (0) for the exam. Students who miss a midterm with a university accepted excuse will have the weight of the final exam increased accordingly. You must take the final exam to receive a grade in this course.

Excuses for missed exams must be pre-approved by the instructor (except when this is not possible in an emergency situation). Students who make initial contact after the exam will have to document why they could not make contact prior to the exam. In addition, any student who misses an exam due to physical illness will be required to provide documentation from a health care professional indicating why the student was physically unable to take the exam. All documentation and an additional signed written statement explaining the relevant circumstances of the absence must be provided to the instructor within two working days of the student's return to campus. Failure to comply with any of the above in the specified manner will result in a grade of zero (0) for the exam.

GRADING

Grades for the class will be assigned as follows:

Midterm Exam	=	40 %
Final Exam	=	60 %
Total	=	100 %

Here is a simple example. Suppose a student receives the following scores:

Midterm Exam = 76.0 % Final Exam = 68.0 %

Step 1: Calculate a weighted average of the percent scores.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Final percent score} &= 0.4 (\text{Midterm Exam \%}) + 0.6 (\text{Final Exam \%}) \\ \Rightarrow \text{Final percent score} &= 0.4 (76.0 \%) + 0.6 (68.0 \%) \\ \Rightarrow \text{Final percent score} &= 30.4 \% + 40.8 \% \\ \Rightarrow \text{Final percent score} &= 71.2 \%\end{aligned}$$

Step 2: Round your final percent score to the nearest whole number using the standard mathematical rules for rounding (i.e., 62.4 % rounds down to 62 %, and 62.5 % rounds up to 63 %).

$$\Rightarrow \text{Final percent score} = 71 \%$$

Step 3: Find the letter grade in the scale provided below.

Letter	A	A-	B+	B	B-
Numerical Range	86 % - 100 %	80 % - 85 %	75 % - 79 %	70 % - 74 %	65 % - 69 %
Letter	C+	C	C-	D	F
Numerical Range	60 % - 64 %	55 % - 59 %	50 % - 54 %	40 % - 49 %	0 % - 39 %

For this student the final letter grade would be B.