

ECONOMICS 100A: MICROECONOMICS, Part A (#528600)

Spring 2005, Center Hall 105, MWF 10:00-10:50

Lecturer: Dr. Melissa Famulari

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Office: Economics 221

Office Hours: Monday 11:00-2:00

Teaching Assistants:

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(2) Karmen Suen ksuen@econ.ucsd.edu

Office: Sequoyah 239

Office Hours: Tuesday 2:00-4:00

Prerequisites: Econ 3 and Math 10/20 ABC.

Assessment: There will be 7 homework assignments on Aplia but you have a *free-pass* on two (I will drop the two lowest scores). The remaining 5 assignments will be worth 10% of your grade. There are two midterm exams worth 20% of your grade each on **Monday, April 18** and **Friday, May 13**. The final exam (**Tuesday, May 7, 8:00-11:00**) is cumulative and is worth 50% of your grade.

Course Objectives: This course is the first part of a two-part upper division sequence in microeconomics.

We will study (1) consumer choice and the demand for goods and the supply of labor, (2) resource cost and firm production, and (3) the theory of competitive markets. Compared to Economics 1, 100A emphasizes mathematical analysis in developing the theory.

Course Materials:

Text: Walter Nicholson, *Microeconomic Theory*, 9th ed. (South-Western, Thompson Learning, Inc., 2005). The book is available at the bookstore. There is also a study guide by David Stapleton, *Study Guide to Accompany Microeconomic Theory: Basic Principles and Extensions*, that I think is very useful (but it is not required for the course).

Additional Readings: There are many textbooks you can use to supplement Nicholson. One free option is Preston McAfee's textbook on the web [Introduction to Economic Analysis](#). He is still working on it, but it is very readable and you may find it useful.

Aplia: To complete your homework assignments, you will be required to access a new website that is dedicated to students and professors of economics. To access the website, you need to register for an account with Aplia at <http://econ.aplia.com>. I have provided you with an instruction sheet as well as a course key so that you can register. Please register on the website within 24 hours

WebCT: This is where you access the syllabus, class handouts, a discussion board, your grades, etc.

Administrative Issues:

- (1) The undergraduate advisors (in Sequoyah Hall 245) handle all matters related to dropping or adding the course, waitlists, etc. Please contact Erin or Kimberley regarding these issues.
- (2) You will need a blue book and a pen for exams. Exams are closed book: you may not use any notes, electronic devices, books or consult other classmates. If you have any doubts about what constitutes academic dishonesty, please review UCSD policy at <http://www-senate.ucsd.edu/manual/appendices/app2.htm>.
- (3) Aplia assignments are due at 11:00pm on Sundays. Late homework will not be accepted.
- (4) If there is a mistake adding up the points on your exam, bring it to my attention and I will correct it immediately. If you believe an exam has not been graded properly, you must submit the test for a re-grade within 2 class periods from when we return the exam. I will then re-grade your entire exam. The re-graded midterm score will be your grade for the exam. You may not ask for another re-grade or go back to your first grade.
- (5) If you have a documented disability, please bring your documentation and come to talk to me as soon as possible so that I can make suitable accommodations for you. If you believe that you may have a disability and will desire accommodation, please register with the Office for Students with Disabilities, Building 202 University Center as soon as possible. For information on the steps for academic accommodation, please see <http://www-senate.ucsd.edu/manual/appendices/app3.htm>.

Knowledge of the material in Chapter 2 is crucial to your success in this course.

To prepare you for 100B, we will complete the material I have listed below. The dates for the readings below are my best guess. The exact pace of the course depends to some extent on you and your classmates. I will update the syllabus if needed during the semester.

Week	Nicholson Chptr	Aplia Assignment	Topic
(1) 3/28	1 & 3	1 due 11:00pm 4/3	Intro and Consumer Preferences
(2) 4/4	4	2 due 11:00 4/10	Utility Maximization and Choice
(3) 4/11	5		Income and Substitution Effects
(4) 4/18	6	3 due 11:00pm 4/24	Demand Relationships among Goods Midterm 1: Monday, April 18
(5) 4/25	Pages 477-485	4 due 11:00pm 5/1	Labor Supply
(6) 5/2	7	5 due 11:00pm 5/8	Production Functions
(7) 5/9	8		Cost Functions Midterm 2: Friday, May 13
(8) 5/16	9	6 due 11:00pm 5/22	Profit Maximization
(9) 5/23	10	7 due 11:00pm 5/30	Partial Equilibrium Competitive Model
(10) 5/30	No new readings		MLK Holiday Monday Wrap up and review

Final Exam: Tuesday, June 7, 8:00-11:00am