

ECON 100A -- SYLLABUS (WINTER 2011)

Foster, UCSD, January 13, 2011

Teaching Staff and Consultation Hours			
Name/Position	Times	Room	Contact Info
Carroll B. Foster (PhD/Lecturer)	MWF 11-11 ⁵⁰ am	ECON 110C	cfoster@ucsd.edu
Albert Yoon (g 1/2)	T, 10-11 am	ECON 113	ahyoon@ucsd.edu
Thomas Daula (g 3/8)	Th, 2-3 pm	SEQ 228	tdaula@ucsd.edu
Elliot Marks (u 1/2)	W, 2-3 pm	SEQ 139	emmarks@ucsd.edu
Jeff Tan (u 1/2)	?	SEQ 139	gitan@ucsd.edu

Course Information

- Course Title: MICROECONOMICS n = 200
 - Lecture A00 – MWF, 8-9 am, CENTER 115
 - Section A01 (699749) – M, 3-4 pm, PETER 102 (Yoon)
 - Section A02 (699750) – W, 1-2 pm, CENTER 222 (Daula)
 - Section A03 (699751) – Th, 5-6 pm, PETER 103 (Marks)
- Description: Economic analysis of household determination of demand for goods and services, consumption/saving decisions, and the supply of labor.
- Prerequisite: Econ 1; Math 10C or 20C

Books, Webpage, and Materials

- Perloff, *Microeconomics and Study Guide* (2008). [Bookstore]
- Course webpage: <http://webct.ucsd.edu>
- Tutorials: www.economics.utoronto.ca/osborne/MathTutorial/index.html ; www.introecon.com

Calendar

- Change grade option or drop w/o “W” thru F, 28 JAN; drop w/o “F” thru F, 4 MAR
- Holidays: Monday, 17 JAN (MLK); Monday 21 FEB (Presidents’ Day)
- Midterms: #1 – Friday, 28 JAN; #2 – Friday, 18 FEB (both in class)
- Final: Monday, 14 MAR, 8-11 am, in CENTER 115 or _____

Examinations and Grading

- Exams are closed book and notes. A calculator is required.
- Midterms = 100 points each; comprehensive (cumulative) final = 300. Overall course grade will be curved, but not the separate exam scores.
- Regrade period is 1 week after midterm papers are first returned in class.
- No bathroom breaks during 1-hour midterms. If you arrive late to an exam, I will allow you to take the exam in the time that remains *as long as no one has turned in an exam and left the room*. Once a paper has been turned in, you will get a zero if you arrive late.
- No rescheduled or make-up exams. You MUST take the final with the rest of the class on schedule during finals week. (Make travel/wedding plans accordingly, and if you are going to have too many finals on one day, drop one of the courses.) If you miss ONE midterm for a verifiable medical, legal or sports reason, your midterm grade will be your grade on the remaining exams. You must notify me promptly that you will miss the midterm or I will give you a zero. Unexcused absences also result in a zero. You may not be excused from two midterms.

Course Outline and Reading List -- Perloff		
Top 1	Mathematics of Microeconomics	Ch. 1
Top 2	Supply, Demand & Elasticity	Ch. 2
Top 3	Utility & Choice	Ch. 3
Top 4	Demand & Duality	Ch. 4
Top 5	Welfare & Policy	§4.4; §5.1 – 5.4
Top 6	Labor Supply; Savings; Risk	§5.5; Ch. 16

Tentative Discussion Schedule							
Wk	Mon	Subject	Reading	Wk	Mon	Subject	Reading
1	Jan 3	No sections	n/a	6	Feb 7	Demand	Top 4; Ch. 4
2	Jan 10	Math	Top 1	7	Feb 14	Midterm Review	Ch. 3-4
3	Jan 17	Supply & Demand	Top 2; Ch. 2	8	Feb 21	Midterm Answers	n/a
4	Jan 24	Midterm Review	Ch. 2-3	9	Feb 28	Welfare	Top 5; Ch. 5
5	Jan 31	Midterm Answers	n/a	10	Mar 7	Final Review	Ch. 3-5, 16

Study Tips

- Attend class and take notes. Do the practice problems at the end of my lecture notes (answers are derived in discussion sections). Do all of the “Solved Problems” in Perloff. Check problems (and answers) in the *Study Guide*. I do not have any old exams to share with you.
- If you start to get lost, see me or a TA. We can help, but don’t wait until the final is 2 days away!

My Pet Peeves

- The UC may experiment with offering on-line courses, BUT THIS IS NOT ONE OF THEM. If you don’t plan on coming to the lectures, please drop the course.
- My view of grades is that they certify attainment of a certain level of competence and expertise in a subject or technique. They are NOT a reward for effort, but rather for achievement. I am horribly offended when students beg me to raise a grade because they “need” a better mark. I do not honor such requests. Would you like to go under the anesthetic in the operating room knowing that your surgeon got thru medical school by begging for passing grades?
- I give multiple versions of tests several times each year. What would you do with a student who had the right answers for the OTHER version of the test?
- A lot of cheating takes place during the last few minutes of an exam, when papers are handed in. In Spring 2010, 4 students handed in their midterms after I declared “pencils down,” and 3 of them subsequently got caught cheating on the final. So I know what I am talking about. If you don’t hand your exam in when I call “Time,” I will reduce your score by half.