

ECON 100A
INTERMEDIATE MICROECONOMICS
GERALD MCINTYRE, PH.D.

DEPT. OF ECONOMICS
UC-SANTA CRUZ
SUMMER SESSION 1 2018

Email: gmcintyr@ucsc.edu
Office: Engineering 2; office 423.
Office Hours: T&Th: 4:30 – 5:30 & by appointment.
Lecture: TuTh 1:00pm - 4:30pm; Thim Lecture 001.

Discussion Sections:

TA: Jiayi Xu, jxu55@ucsc.edu
W 11:30AM-12:30PM, Location: Soc Sci 1 145
Th 11:30AM-12:30PM, Location: Soc Sci 1 153

Description: This required course for economics majors presents the modern approach to microeconomics. The topics covered in this course include: individual choice theory; demand and supply theory; cost analysis; firm theory; monopoly; oligopoly; game theory; and externalities. We focus on problem solving skills in this course. Problem sets are designed to reinforce and extend students understanding of microeconomics by having students do many of the canonical examples in the field.

Prerequisites:

The prerequisites for the course are all of Econ 1, Econ 2 and Econ 11B or Applied Mathematics and Statistics 11B or Mathematics 22 or 23A. If you have not passed all of these courses you cannot take this class and will be dropped. To function in 100A, you must have a good understanding of differential calculus & graphical analysis; if not, this class will be challenging. Note: to pass the comprehensive requirement for the economics major a student must pass Econ 100A (and 100B & 113) at UCSC.

Requirements: There will be one mid-term exam and one final exam. Problem set assignments are due every day at the beginning of lecture; problem sets are worth 15% of the course grade. Late homework is not accepted. The student's two lowest homework scores are dropped. Homework grades are check plus, check, check minus, check minus-minus. and zero. Classroom participation is important and counts one-third of a grade point (a good participation grade can move a student from B+ to A-).

Resources: Textbook by Hal Varian: *Intermediate Microeconomics* (9th ed). Students may use other editions of Varian's textbook but students are responsible for any differences in pagination, assignments, readings and so on. Students must read the assigned chapter or chapters before class.

Course Grade: Your course grade will be computed according to the following percentages:

Problem Sets	15% (your lowest two problem set scores will be dropped)
Quizzes	5%
Mid-term Exam (July 10)	25% or 35%, whichever is better for you
Final Exam (July 26)	55% or 45%, whichever is better for you
Class participation	Priceless (up to 1/3 of a grade; e.g. from B+ to A-)

Your letter grade will be assigned according to the following scale:

A	90-100 points
B	80-89 points
C	70-79 points
D	60-69 points
F	< 60 points

Important Dates: Drop Deadline (refund) M., July 2; Withdraw Deadline (no refund): F., July 13.

Canvas: Announcements, problem sets, answer keys, etc. will be posted to Canvas.

Problem Sets: a summer course moves quickly; problem sets are due every day at the beginning of class. You need not type problem sets but be sure your writing is legible or it will be marked wrong. **You must show all of your work.** Exams often include questions directly drawn from problem sets. Solutions to the problem sets are discussed in class, in discussion sections, and will be posted on Canvas.

Late Problem Sets, Papers and Missed Exams:

Late problem sets are not accepted. No make-up exams are given. If you cannot take the exams, Tuesday, July 10 & Thursday, July 26 do not take this course. Exceptions: a medical emergency documented by a physician or a family emergency. In these two cases, students must contact me no later than 8:00am on the day of the exam. Students who miss an exam with no medical excuse receive a zero and have little hope of passing the course.

Quizzes: There will be several short (5 minute) quizzes in lecture. Quizzes are not announced to encourage you to keep up with the material and to attend class.

Exams: the midterm exam is given in class on Tuesday, July 10. The final exam is cumulative and is scheduled given on the last day of class, Thursday, July 26.

DRC Accommodations:

The Disability Resources Center reduces barriers to inclusion and full participation for students with disabilities by providing support to individually determine reasonable academic accommodations. If you have questions or concerns about exam accommodations, or any other disability-related matter, please contact the DRC office, located in Hahn 125 or at 831-459-2089 or drc@ucsc.edu.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic integrity is the cornerstone of a university education. Academic dishonesty diminishes the university as an institution and negatively affects all members of the university community.

All members of the UCSC community have an explicit responsibility to foster an environment of trust, honesty, fairness, respect, and responsibility. All members of the university community are expected to present as their original work only that which is truly their own. All members of the community are expected to report observed instances of cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty in order to ensure that the integrity of scholarship is valued and preserved at UCSC.

In the event a student is found in violation of the UCSC Academic Integrity policy, he or she may face both academic sanctions imposed by the instructor of record and disciplinary sanctions imposed either by the provost of his or her college or the Academic Tribunal convened to hear the case. Violations of the Academic Integrity policy can result in dismissal from the university and a permanent notation on a student's transcript.

For the full policy and disciplinary procedures on academic dishonesty, see the Academic Integrity page at the Division of Undergraduate Education.

Title IX:

The university cherishes the free and open exchange of ideas and enlargement of knowledge. To maintain this freedom and openness requires objectivity, mutual trust, and confidence; it requires the absence of coercion, intimidation, or exploitation. The principal responsibility for maintaining these conditions must

rest upon those members of the university community who exercise most authority and leadership: faculty, managers, and supervisors.

The university has therefore instituted a number of measures designed to protect its community from sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual violence, and other related prohibited conduct. Information about the Title IX Office, the online reporting link, applicable campus resources, reporting responsibilities, the UC Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment and the UC Santa Cruz Procedures for Reporting and Responding to Reports of Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment can be found at titleix.ucsc.edu.

The Title IX/Sexual Harassment Office is located at 105 Kerr Hall. In addition to the online reporting option, you can contact the Title IX Office by calling 831-459-2462.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE and READING ASSIGNMENTS

All chapter readings are from Varian, *Microeconomics*, 9th edition. I reserve the right to make changes to this schedule. Any changes will be announced in lecture and posted on the Canvas course website. The exam dates are firm.

1. Math review
2. Consumer theory
 - (a) Rational choice: Chps. 2 - 7
 - (b) Intertemporal choice: Chp. 10
3. Markets
 - (a) Demand: Chp. 15
 - (b) Equilibrium: Chp. 16

First Exam, Tuesday, July 10th in class

4. Firms
 - (a) Technology: Chp. 19
 - (b) Producer theory: Chps. 20 - 24
5. Monopoly and monopoly behavior Ch. 25 and 26
6. Oligopoly: Chp. 28
7. Game theory: Chps. 29 and 30
8. Markets failures (Externalities, public goods and asymmetric information): Chps. 35 – 37

Final Exam, Thursday, July 26th in class