Introduction to Microeconomics

WELCOME TO SUMMER 2023

This course will be delivered remotely in recorded lectures posted to Canvas using Learning Glass technology. I will post these lectures to our Canvas page each week. Most of the course can be completed at your leisure (but don’t procrastinate!). There are, however, a few things that will need to be completed at specific times: the homework due Sunday night, the midterm and final during scheduled 8-hour windows in ProctorU (July 14th/15th and July 27th/28th), and the zoom office hour meetings and sections. You are required to attend at least once a week, either in polling sessions with your TA, TA office hours, or review sessions. This will be part of your grade (attendance – 1 point per week/5% of your overall grade).

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Economics 1: Introduction to Microeconomics. This course examines how markets allocate resources in different kinds of economies. Topics include supply and demand, competitive markets, monopoly, monopolistic competition and oligopoly, income distribution, market failures, trade, and the role of government.

COURSE MATERIALS

The required textbook is the second edition of Microeconomics by Acemoglu, Laibson, and List. The cheapest option available is the online-only homework/e-text. By-passing the bookstore gives us the option of a much lower price. If you would like a hard copy of the book, you can purchase it with the online access code, or you can purchase a first edition from another website. We will cover the following chapters: 3-10, 12 and 14. On Canvas you will find a link to the MyLab and Mastering website (Pearson) as well as a link to join our Canvas discussions. There is also an “Economics” version of this text that covers Macro and Micro. You may use this book but you will need to sort out the chapter numbers on your own.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Each week you will have up to four assignments (two homeworks, two quizzes) to be completed using the MyLab
The assignment will be due on Sunday at 11:59 p.m. The homework must be electronically submitted to be counted. You may submit the assignments late at a 7%-per-day penalty. The homework portion of the course will be worth 15% of your final grade, while the weekly quiz portion will be worth 15%, so it is important that you keep up with assignments.

EXAMS

I will give one midterm and one final exam. The midterm and final each count for 32.5% of your grade. The dates for these exams are **Friday/Saturday, July 14th/15th, and Thursday/Friday, July 27th/28th.** A window of time will be open in ProctorU for you to register for the exams (Most likely 10 am to 10 pm.) The remaining 5% of your course grade comes from participation, or your weekly TA check-ins. I would recommend being even more mindful of dates and times this quarter as it is easier to lose track of the day and time when you are not physically checking in two to three times a week. Note: the lectures do not need to be viewed at any specific time since they are pre-recorded. You can listen to lecture at your leisure.

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

The Teaching Assistants are here to help you succeed in this course. During discussion sections they will hold polling sessions to practice material, and office hours, both on Zoom. They will hold three hours of meetings/office hours per-TA, per-week. Their zoom links will be posted to Canvas.

IN SUMMARY

Course Grade:
Midterm 32.5%
Homework 15%
Quizzes 15%
Final Exam 32.5%
Participation 5%

OFFICE HOURS/PHONE/EMAIL/WEBSITE

You MUST read and keep up with all Canvas announcements. My office hours will be held on Mondays at 7 pm. I can meet with you generally at any time – just ask and I will set up a zoom call. These hours may change if it seems
necessary to move them around in order to serve all students. Keep in mind the TA will also be holding zoom meetings throughout the week. My email address is jhgonzal@ucsc.edu. Please look to Canvas for announcements before emailing us a question about logistics.

OTHER INFORMATION
Please be respectful and professional on our online forum. You are welcome to use other platforms/message boards, but the only one formally connected to this course is Canvas. I can post announcements and allow replies so that we can get a discussion going.

If you have DRC accommodations, please get them to me ASAP so that I can add them to ProctorU’s exam set up.

Note: We will be using ProctorU this quarter for exams. Please set up your account ASAP. If you do not want to use ProctorU, I would recommend taking the course at a different time, possibly in a different format. Use of ProctorU is the only way to protect exam security.

Hours Expected (PER WEEK)
Reading 4
Lecture 4
Homework 2
Review Problem Videos 2
Section 1
Studying 2

Disability Accommodations
The Disability Resources Center (https://drc.ucsc.edu/) reduces barriers to inclusion and full participation for students with disabilities by providing support to individually determine reasonable academic accommodations. Operations continue via remote appointments. If you have questions or concerns about exam accommodations or any other disability-related matter, email the DRC Schedulers at drc@ucsc.edu for an appointment.

Academic Integrity
All work must be completed independently. The homework is designed to give you multiple attempts to improve. The quizzes are taken once. Books can be used for either of those assignments. No textbooks should be used during exams. No student should be sending emails or texts to students in the class during the exam, or posting anything to piazza. The exams are timed and meant for you to complete entirely on your own. Any student that requests course materials from previous quarters is assumed to be attempting to cheat. If
it is found that a student has made such a request, they will receive an F in the course.

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, students and instructors should refer to the Academic Integrity Page at the Division of Undergraduate Education (https://ue.ucsc.edu/academic-misconduct.html)

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 page, 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 Office is actively responding to reports and requests for consultation. If you are not currently working with someone in the office and want to make a report/request a consult, you can expect the fastest response by using our online reporting link.
Student Services

Counseling and Psychological Services
Many students at UCSC face personal challenges or have psychological needs that may interfere with their academic progress, social development, or emotional wellbeing. The university offers a variety of confidential services to help you through difficult times, including individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, consultations, online chats, and mental health screenings. These services are provided by staff who welcome all students and embrace a philosophy respectful of clients’ cultural and religious backgrounds, and sensitive to differences in race, ability, gender identity and sexual orientation.

Student Success and Engagement Hub
The Division of Student Success provides campus-wide coordination and leadership for student success programs and activities across departments, divisions, the colleges, and administrative units.

Tutoring and Learning Support
At Learning Support Services (LSS), undergraduate students build a strong foundation for success and cultivate a sense of belonging in our Community of Learners. LSS partners with faculty and staff to advance educational equity by designing inclusive learning environments in Modified Supplemental Instruction, Small Group Tutoring, and Writing Support. When students fully engage in our programs, they gain transformative experiences that empower them at the university and beyond.

Slug Support Program
College can be a challenging time for students and during times of stress it is not always easy to find the help you need. Slug Support can give help with everything from basic needs (housing, food, or financial insecurity) to getting the technology you need during remote instruction. To get started with SLUG Support, please contact the Dean of Students Office at 831-459-4446 or you may send us an email at deanofstudents@ucsc.edu.

Slug Help/Technology
The ITS Support Center is your single point of contact for all issues, problems or questions related to technology services and computing at UC Santa Cruz. To get technological help, simply email help@ucsc.edu.

On-Campus Emergency Contacts
Slug Help/Emergency Services. For all other help and support, including the health center and emergency services, start here. Always dial 9-1-1 in the case of an emergency.