

Syllabus

Fall 2007
Microeconomic Theory
Economics 323 Section 200
MW 10:20-11:35 Allen 3067

Instructor: Dr. T.J. Gronberg
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OFFICE HOURS:

T 10:00 - 11:30

Other times by appointment. You can make an appointment after class or by e-mail.

TEXT:

Microeconomics, Second Edition, Besanko and Braeutigam, Wiley, 2005.

COURSE CONTENT: Economics 323 examines the determination of prices and their role in directing consumption, production and distribution under both competitive and noncompetitive market situations. The course will focus on how individuals, policymakers, and firms can use microeconomic tools to analyze and resolve problems. The course text examines many real-world problems and issues and explains theories and applications from important contemporary fields of economics.

PREREQUISITES: Econ 202, Math 142.

COURSE GRADES: Your course grade will be determined based upon your total points earned on three exams and on three graded homeworks. The point distribution is given below:

Exam 1:	75 points
Exam 2:	75 points
Exam 3:	75 points
Homeworks 1-3:	25 points each

EXAMS: The exams will consist of short-answer questions and will contain problems that are similar to the problems in your text and in homework sets.

The exams will be given on the dates indicated. If we fall behind the projected schedule the exam coverage will be adjusted to reflect the material we have completed in the lectures. The material that is to be covered on each exam will be announced in class and posted on the class web site one week prior to the exam.

MAKE-UP EXAMS: You must have an authorized excuse in order to take a make-up exam. You need to schedule your make-up exam at the time that you first know that you will not be taking the exam. If your absence was not anticipated in advance, you need to schedule your make-up exam as soon as you return to classes.

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS: You are encouraged to work the questions and problems in your text. You will also be given three graded homework sets during the course of the semester. These will provide practice and preparation for the exams. You may work in groups on these homework problems, but each individual will write up and turn in his/her own set of answers.

ADDITIONAL HELP: If you are having trouble following the material in the course you are encouraged to seek additional help early so that you do not fall behind. In addition to my office hours help will be available in the Economic Department's Resource Room located in 3002 Allen. Check by this location after the first week of classes to find the hours of operation for the Resource Room this semester. You do not need an appointment and you should feel free to use this help desk any time that it is open.

WEB PAGE: A web page for this class is located at: <http://econweb.tamu.edu/tgronberg>. The web page contains a copy of this syllabus and will be used to post updates to the syllabus as needed. The website will also be used to post the exams and answer keys for each exam. Homework sets, problem sets, and handouts will also be posted during the semester.

NOTICE:

YOU SHOULD REGARD THE WEBSITE AS A CONVENIENCE AND NOT A RIGHT. THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO KEEP ITS SERVER AND WEBSITE RUNNING AND ACCESSIBLE 24 HOURS A DAY. HOWEVER, NEITHER YOUR PROFESSOR NOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS GUARANTEES YOUR ACCESS TO THE INFORMATION ON THESE PAGES AND ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CONSEQUENCES OF YOUR INABILITY TO ACCESS THIS INFORMATION FOR WHATEVER REASON.

ADA POLICY STATEMENT:

"The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Office of Support Services for Students with Disabilities in Room 126 of the Student Services Building. The phone number is 845-1637."

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT:

AGGIE HONOR CODE

"An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal or tolerate those who do."

Upon accepting admission to Texas A&M University, a student immediately assumes a commitment to uphold the Honor Code, to accept responsibility for learning, and to follow the philosophy and rules of the Honor System. Students will be required to state their commitment on examinations, research papers, and other academic work. Ignorance of the rules does not exclude any member of the TAMU community from the requirements or the processes of the Honor System. For additional information please visit: www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor/

PROVISIONAL COURSE OUTLINE

Date	Lecture Assignment	Topic
8/27	Chapter 1	Thinking Like an Economist
8/29	Chapter 2	Supply and Demand Models
9/3	Chapter 2	Supply and Demand Models
9/5	Chapter 3	Preferences
9/10	Chapter 4	Consumer Choice
9/12	Chapter 5; HW 1 posted	Demand Theory
9/17	Chapter 5; HW 1 due	Demand Theory
9/19	Chapter 5	Demand - Applications
9/24	Exam 1	Chapters 1 - 5
9/26	Chapter 6	Production
10/1	Chapter 6 and 7	Production, Costs
10/3	Chapter 7 and 8	Costs, Cost Curves
10/8	Chapter 8	Cost Curves
10/10	Chapter 9	Perfect Competition - Theory
10/15	Chapter 9	Perfect Competition - Theory
10/17	Chapter 9; HW 2 posted	Perfect Competition - Theory
10/22	Chapter 10; HW 2 due	Perfect Competition - Applications
10/24	Chapter 10	Perfect Competition - Applications
10/29	Exam 2	Chapters 6 - 10
10/31	Chapter 11	Monopoly
11/5	Chapter 11, Chapter 12	Monopoly
11/7	Chapter 13	Imperfect Competition
11/12	Chapter 13	Imperfect Competition
11/14	Chapter 14	Games/Strategy
11/19	Chapter 14	Games/Strategy
11/21	Chapter 15; HW 3 posted	Risk and Information
11/26	Chapter 15; HW 3 due	Risk and Information
11/28	Chapter 15	Risk and Information
12/11 (8-10 am)	EXAM 3	Chapters 11 - 15