

Lecture 1

Class Policies and Intro.

1.1 Syllabus

Sam Houston State University
College of Business Administration
Spring 2008

Course Number:	ECO 367§ 04	SHB 138
Course Title:	Intermediate Microeconomics	TTH 12:30pm–1:50pm
Prerequisites:	ECO 230 or ECO 233	
Professor:	Dr. Ed Blackburne	
Office Hours:	TTH 11:00–12:30, 2:00–3:00 MWF by appointment	Office: 241D SHB e-mail: blackburne@shsu.edu Phone: 936-294-3934

1.1.1 Required Text

Microeconomics, Pindyck and Rubinfeld, Sixth Edition.

1.1.2 Suggested Supplements

Business Week
The Wall Street Journal.

1.1.3 Course Description

During the semester we will at length discuss:

- Individual consumption decision-making.
- Pricing and output policies of firms.
- Marginal analysis.
- Factor pricing.
- Various market conditions, such as perfect competition, monopoly, monopolistic competition, and oligopoly.

1.1.4 Course Objective

This course is designed as a theoretical investigation of microeconomic analysis. We will use quite a bit of algebra and geometry, which we will review along the way. The goals of this course are to encourage the student to:

- Improve analytical thinking skills.
- Examine the effects of market structure on firm behavior.
- Understand how a price system allocates resources.

1.1.5 Course Evaluation Process

Your grade for this course will be based on your performance on 4 midterm exams and the comprehensive final. All exams are weighted equally – the lowest exam grade is dropped. Your course grade will be determined by a traditional grading scale:

Course Point Total	Course Grade
$\geq 90\%$	A
80%–90%	B
70%–80%	C
60%–70%	D
$< 60\%$	F

Please note that there are no makeup exams.

1.1.6 Attendance Policy

Regular and punctual class attendance is expected of each student in the class. To reinforce this, the course has been structured so that your attendance may effect your grade. Your attendance grade will be assigned based on number of absences:

Classes Missed	Points
0-2	5
3	3
4	1
≥ 5	0

The attendance points will be added to your point total before calculating your class average.

Please be aware that:

- On January 22, a seat will be assigned to every student in the class.
- If you are late for class, you will be counted as absent.
- If you sit in the wrong seat, you will be counted as absent.
- If you leave class after attendance has been taken and before class is dismissed, you will be counted as absent for two classes.
- The attendance policy is for any absence, excused or unexcused. It is not necessary for you to bring me a verbal or written excuse for an absence.

1.1.7 Blackboard

I will be utilizing the Blackboard online course management system¹ for this course. All assignments and notices, including grades, will be kept online. To access the course on Blackboard, each student must have an SHSU computer account. If you do not have an SHSU account, you need to do so as soon as possible (point to <http://www.shsu.edu/saminfo/accounts/>).

¹Located at http://www.shsu.edu/blackboard_login.html

1.1.8 Calendar

The schedule for the semester is:

Date	Activity
February 12	Exam 1 (Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 4)
March 6	Exam 2 (Chapters 5, 13, 6, and 7)
April 8	Exam 3 (Chapters 8, 9, and 10)
May 6	Exam 4 (Chapters 11, and 12)
May 8	Last Day of Class

Your final exam is scheduled for Tuesday May 13, 11:00am–1:00pm.

1.1.9 Academic Dishonesty

The university expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experience both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action.

The university may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials.

For your reference:

- Cheating include:
 - Copying from another student’s test paper, laboratory report, other report, or computer files, data files, and/or programs.
 - Using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test.
 - Collaborating, without authorization, with another student during an examination or in preparing academic work.
 - Knowingly, and without authorization, using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, soliciting, copying, or possessing, in whole or in part, the contents of an unadministered test.
 - Substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for oneself, to take a test.
 - Bribing another person to obtain an unadministered test or information about an unadministered test.

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- Purchasing, or otherwise acquiring, and submitting as one's own work any research paper or other writing assignment prepared by an individual or firm.
- Plagiarism means the appropriation of another's work or idea and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work or idea into one's own work offered for credit.
- Collusion means the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit.
- Abuse of resource materials means the mutilation, destruction, concealment, theft or alteration of materials provided to assist students in the mastery of course materials.

1.1.10 Religious Holy Days Policy

The student, not later than the 12th class day after the first day of the semester, must notify the instructor of each scheduled class day he/she will be absent for a religious holy day. Request forms are available in the Department of Economics office in SHB 232. The form must be personally presented to the instructor or sent certified mail, return receipt requested, within the time limits established. Students who are absent from a class for observance of a religious holy day will be allowed to make-up the examination or complete the assignment scheduled for that day within one week of returning to class.

1.1.11 Disabled Student Policy

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center.

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I have read the syllabus for Dr. Blackburne's economics class for which I am enrolled during the Spring 2008 term. I understand what is expected of me regarding conduct, attendance, and work for credit in determining my grade in the course. Specifically, I understand the policies in the Course Evaluation Process, Blackboard, Academic Dishonesty, Religious Holy Days, and Disabled Student Policy sections of the syllabus.

Signature

Date