

ECO 367-02
Intermediate Microeconomics
Department of Economics and International Business
Sam Houston State University
Summer II, 2008

Instructor: Dr. J. Ulyses Balderas
Lecture: MOWE 6:00 – 9:50 pm UC 117
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Office hours: By appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is essentially the language course of economics. The terms and concepts developed here are the basics to understand what you will learn in upper division level courses. My goal in this course is to convey to you an understanding of the basic tools of economic theory. The course will be taught with emphasis on calculus, algebra, and diagrams.

This course is divided into four sections. The first deals with theories of consumer behavior and demand. The second treats theories of production and cost. The third considers the firm under various types of market structure, including perfect competition, monopoly, and structures intermediate between these two extremes. The fourth part of the course focuses on factor markets and general equilibrium.

PREREQUISITES

The prerequisite for this class are: Introduction to Economics (ECO 230) or Principles of Microeconomics (ECO 233).

Knowledge and comfort with algebra, some calculus, and material cover in Principles of Microeconomics is required. If you do not have this knowledge, you will have considerably difficulty passing the class.

TEXT AND WEBSITE: There is one required text for the course. In addition you will be required to register for this course at <http://www.aplia.com> for \$35. This is where you will access your homework assignments (details on how to register are discussed below under ‘Online homework’). The required textbook is

Microeconomics

By Robert Pindyck and Daniel Rubinfeld
6th edition, Prentice Hall, 2004.
ISBN-10: 0130084611
ISBN-13: 978-0130084613

GRADING

There will be two exams (a midterm and a final), three quizzes, and five “online assignments”. Each exam represents 20% of the final grade. Each quiz accounts 10%, and the remaining 30% corresponds to online assignments (I will drop your lowest homework score).

The breakdown of the grades for each homework and exam are as follows:

Exam / Assignment	Overall Grade (%)
Midterm (June 23)	20%
Final Exam (August 6)	20%
3 Quizzes (Jun 14, 16 and 30)	30%
4 online assignments	30%

Note: Since this is a 3hr 50 min class, I will have to lecture after the quizzes and the midterm. You will have 50 minutes to complete each of the quizzes and 80 minutes to complete the midterm, and I will lecture the rest of the class.

Grades will be assigned in the following manner:

Percentage	<i>Letter grade</i>
Above 90%	A
80 – 89 %	B
70 – 79 %	C
60 – 69 %	D
Less than 60 %	F

EXAMS / QUIZZES

The exams and quizzes are handwritten (no multiple choice exams). They usually include two sections: a short answer and a long answer section. The short answer section includes True/False questions in which your explanation is the basis for credit. Long answer questions will involve numerical calculations and graphical analysis.

ADDITIONAL NOTES / POLICIES

Material from a Missed Class: If you miss a class. You are responsible for obtaining the material you missed. You should arrange to obtain notes from a classmate, not from the professor (I have a “No Borrowing Notes Policy”). I encourage you to come to my office hours to discuss the material you missed, but you must first obtain the notes, go over the material missed, and prepare specific questions.

Missed Exams: Make-up exams will not be given. Exam absences will only be excused for compelling circumstances (generally family emergencies or documented illness) in which case the other exams will be re-weighted. In particular, I will give extra weight and additional material from the missed exam to the final examination. Students anticipating conflict with an exam date due to over-scheduling (3 or more exams on the same day) must bring these to my attention within the first two weeks of class.

Academic Dishonesty: All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences 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 and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic

work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/810213.pdf

Student absences on religious holy days: section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911 (a) (2) defines a religious holy day as: “a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20....” A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/861001.pdf

Students with disabilities policy: It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

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. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/811006.pdf

You can begin working on your homework as soon as you register!

Registration Instructions

1. Connect to <http://www.aplia.com>.
2. Click the System Configuration Test link below the Sign In and Register sections to make sure you can access all of the features on Aplia's website. This takes just a few seconds and tells you how to update your browser settings if necessary.
3. Return to <http://www.aplia.com>.
 - If you have never used Aplia before, click the New Student button and enter your Course Key: 299M-22AU-2FNN. Continue following the instructions to complete your registration.
 - If you have used Aplia before, sign in with your usual e-mail address and password and enter your Course Key when prompted: 299M-22AU-2FNN. If you are not prompted for a new Course Key, click the Enter Course Key button to enroll in a new Aplia course. Enter your Course Key when you are prompted.
4. If you understand your payment options, pay now. Otherwise, postpone your purchase decision by choosing the option to pay later. Your payment grace period ends at the end of the day on 07/16/2008.

Payment

Pay Aplia Directly

- Purchase access to your course directly from Aplia on our website for \$35.00 USD.
 - The website includes content that has been customized for your textbook and course.

Tentative Curriculum

Topics
Math Review: algebra and calculus
Introduction, and review of supply and demand
Consumer Choice
Applying consumer choice
Measuring welfare: consumer surplus
Market Demand and elasticity
Firms and Production
Perfect Competition
Costs
Monopoly
Oligopoly and monopolistic competition
Game Theory
If time allows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- wages, labor market- externalities and public goods- asymmetric information

I have read and I understand the rules, policies and outline of the class:

Print Name (legibly):

Signature:

Date: