

ECO 420K- Intermediate Microeconomics
(Unique Number: 33545)

Spring 2010
Slesnick
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Course Description:

This is a course in microeconomic theory. It is required of all students majoring in economics. A good understanding of the material covered in 304K is presumed. Calculus is a prerequisite for this course and will be used extensively throughout the semester.

Requirements:

There will be two midterms given on, respectively, March 3 and April 21. Each midterm will account for 20% of the course grade. The final exam will be given on Monday, May 17 from 9am to 12pm. This exam will be comprehensive, and will account for 40% of the course grade. There will also be a number of quizzes, given during the Friday lab sections, that will account for the remaining 20% of the course grade. There will be several problem sets which will not affect your grade in any way. *There will be no make-up exams. You will receive a failing grade for any missed exam or quiz.*

Course Organization:

The course will meet Mondays and Wednesdays at 9:30 in UTC 3.102. In addition, we will meet from 9-10 on Fridays in UTC 1.146. The Friday sessions are an important part of the structure of the class and should be treated as required class time.

Texts:

Pindyck and Rubinfeld, *Microeconomics* (7th ed.), 2009.

READING

1. Introduction

P. and R., Chapters 1 and 2.

2. Consumer Theory

- (A) Constrained Utility Maximization-- P. and R., Chapter 3.
- (B) Demand Functions-- P. and R., Chapter 4.
- (C) Theory of Exchange-- P. and R., Chapter 16, pp. 585-600.
- (D) Choice Under Uncertainty -- P. and R., Chapter 5.

3. Theory of the Firm

- (A) Production -- P. and R., Chapter 6.
- (B) Cost Functions -- P. and R., Chapter 7.

4. Markets

- (A) Perfect Competition -- P. and R., Chapters 8 and 9.
- (B) Monopoly -- P. and R., Chapters 10 and 11.
- (C) Monopolistic Competition and Oligopoly -- P. and R., Chapters 12 and 13.

5. Factor Demand and Supply

P. and R., Chapter 14.

6. Market Failure

- (A) Externalities and Public Goods -- P. and R., Chapter 18.
- (B) Asymmetric Information-- P. and R., Chapter 17.