

Econ 2201: Intermediate Microeconomic Theory

Fall 2012

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10-10:50

Room: Arj105

Instructor Information:

Professor Delia Furtado

Office: Oak 323

E-mail: Delia.Furtado@uconn.edu

Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays, 11-12

Course Description:

Many years ago, Frank William Taussig (1859-1940) said, "Our subject offers peculiar opportunities for training people to think, and to think with care and consistency." Although he was referring to economics in general, it is particularly relevant to Microeconomics, the study of how individual economic units--consumers, firms, and workers--allocate scarce resources. Specific topics that will be discussed this semester include theory of the consumer, theory of production and costs and market failures. The true purpose of this class, however, is to prepare students for other departmental offerings related to microeconomic policy issues. Environmental economics, labor economics, urban economics, public economics, and the study of welfare and poverty are all derived from microeconomic theory. Years from now, when your college years are distant memories, the payoff from taking this course will probably be your enhanced ability to think and argue rigorously.

Prerequisite: [ECON 1200](#) or [1201](#). Recommended preparation: [ECON 1202](#) and one of [MATH 1071Q](#), [1110Q](#), [1121Q](#), [1131Q](#) or [1151Q](#).

Required Course Materials: The textbook we will be using is Browning, Edgar and Zupan, Mark, *Microeconomics: Theory and Applications*. This course also requires you to enroll in Aplia, an online service at <http://econ.aplia.com>, in order to obtain access to online assignments. More details on enrollment are provided below.

Discussion Sessions: Bryce Casavant will lead discussion sessions for this class on Wednesday afternoons. He will review the previous week's homework assignment and can answer any questions you may have about material covered during lectures. If there is anything you would like him to go over in detail, please do email him in advance. His email address is bryce.casavant@uconn.edu.

Grading:

The course grade will be based on two midterm exams, a final exam, and weekly problem sets. The midterm exams will count for 45% of your grade (22.5% each) while the final exam will count for 35%. The final exam will be cumulative but will focus on material from the last part of the course. The weekly problem sets will be worth 20%. In some weeks, your problem sets will have only a few questions. In other weeks, there will be many questions. Your homework grade will be computed by dividing the total number of correct answers by the total number of questions asked minus fifty. For example, if you are assigned 600 questions, I will divide the number answered correctly by 550. Classroom participation is vital for doing well in this class. Participation involves classroom attendance as well as asking and answering questions related to the readings.

Late problem sets will not be accepted since solutions to the problem sets will be posted IMMEDIATELY after their due dates. There is nothing I can do to change this. I realize computers crash, people get sick, and other unforeseeable circumstances happen all the time. For this reason, I give you the 50 free questions. Still, I urge you to complete homework assignments early.

No make-up or early exams will be given, except in the case of a family emergency or medical absence confirmed with a signed doctor's note or a letter from the Dean. If you require special accommodations for exams, please see me within the first two weeks of classes. Note that no extra credit assignments will be given.

Important Dates:

September 24	-	Midterm 1
October 22	-	Midterm 2
December 10	-	Final Exam (based on preliminary schedule)

Students are required to be available for the final exam. If you have a conflict with this time you must visit the Office of Student Services and Advocacy (OSSA) to discuss the possibility of rescheduling this assessment. OSSA is **REQUIRING** that students who have a conflict about which they have or should have had advanced notice (bunched, religious obligation, legal/medical appointments) **MUST** seek permission to reschedule their assessment **NO LATER THAN** November 30th. Please note that vacations, previously purchased tickets or reservations, graduations, social events, misreading the assessment schedule and over-sleeping are not viable excuses for missing a final assessment. If you think that your situation warrants permission to reschedule, please contact the Office of Student Services and Advocacy (2nd floor Wilbur Cross) to meet with a staff member.

Academic Misconduct: Academic Misconduct in any form is in violation of the University of Connecticut *Student Code* and will not be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to: copying or sharing answers on tests, plagiarism, and having someone else do your academic work. Depending on the act, a student could receive an F grade on the test/assignment, F grade for the course, and could be suspended or expelled from the University. Please see the Student Code at <http://www.dosa.uconn.edu/code2.html> for more details and a full explanation of the Academic Misconduct policies. With respect to problem sets and reviewing for exams, working in a small group can be very helpful in terms of the learning process. However, each person is still responsible for submitting their own (unique) work.

How to access your Aplia course

Intermediate Microeconomic Theory

Instructor: Delia Furtado

Start Date: 09/03/2012

Course Key: NRM8-29JN-BWEC

Registration

1. Connect to <http://www.aplia.com/>
2. **If you already have an account, sign in.** Go to your My Courses page, and click the *Enroll in a New Course* button.
If you don't have an account, click the *Create a New Account* button, and choose *Student Account*.
3. Enter your Course Key when prompted: **NRM8-29JN-BWEC**. Continue to follow the on-screen instructions to access your course.

Payment

Online: Purchase access to your course (including the digital textbook) from the Aplia website.

Bookstore: Purchase access to Aplia from your bookstore. Check with the bookstore to find out what they offer for your course.

After paying, you will have the option to purchase a physical book at a discounted price. If you choose to pay later, you can use Aplia without paying until 11:59 PM on 09/23/2012.