

Introduction to Microeconomics

Economics 1: Introduction to Microeconomics. We will examine how markets allocate resources in different kinds of economies. Topics include supply and demand, competitive markets, monopoly, income distribution, market failures, the environment, and the role of government.

COURSE MATERIALS

The required textbook is the third edition of Microeconomics in Modules by Paul Krugman and Robin Wells. You will need to register to use Sapling Learning in order to complete homework assignments online. The ISBN for the text is 9781464195532. You can choose to use an e-text if you prefer, or purchase a used copy of the text and pay separately for access to Sapling. We will also be using an in-class polling system in lecture for participation points called iClicker. Finally, you should have received an invitation from Piazza.com to join the class online-question forum, which is free.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Each week you will have a set of assignments (by module) to be completed using Sapling at saplinglearning.com. The assignment will be due on Monday morning at 2 a.m. (late 'Sunday' night). For help using the website and completing the homework, please attend section with your Teaching Assistant. The homework must be electronically submitted to be counted. I will drop your lowest score at the end of the quarter. The homework portion of the course will be worth 20% of your final grade, so it is important that you keep up with assignments. Our head TA, will be in charge of administering this part of the course so please direct your questions to their email found on Piazza.com. Our head TA is Kyle Neering and his email address is kneering@ucsc.edu.

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

The Teaching Assistants are here to help you succeed in this course. During discussion sections, the TAs will review homework assignments as needed, review questions from the lecture, and review midterms with you. Teaching Assistants and their emails and section times will be posted on saplinglearning.com and Piazza.com.

SCHEDULE

We begin with Module 1 in the text. We will then cover the following Modules: **5-9, 11-14, 21, 22, 24-26, 28, 31, 32, 34, 36, 38, and 39.** I cannot specify a detailed schedule of the lectures. You must come to class in order to know what we cover and the material that you are responsible for on the midterms and final exam.

EXAMS

I will give two midterms and one final exam. All of the exams are equally weighted at 25% of your grade. The remaining 25% will come from online homework assignments (20%), as previously indicated, and your participation in class using iClicker (5%). DO NOT MISS AN EXAM! You may not reschedule an exam for any reason. PLEASE BRING STUDENT ID! The final will be comprehensive and the midterms will be spaced evenly throughout the quarter. The following dates for the exams are firm: Monday, October 23rd, and Friday, November 17th. THE FINAL EXAM WILL BE AT THE FOLLOWING DATE AND TIME PUBLISHED BY THE UNIVERSITY: Thursday, December 14th 8-11 a.m.

OFFICE HOURS/PHONE/EMAIL/WEBSITE

My office hours are Fridays from 8:00 to 9 a.m., 1:10 to 2:10 pm, and by appointment. My office is in Engineering 2 (E2) room 409 and my extension is 94436. My email address is jhgonzal@ucsc.edu. Please be mindful this is a very large lecture course. I do welcome questions about economics. The teaching assistants are also available for questions related to comprehension of the material. However, time does not allow me or the teaching assistants to respond to e-mails concerning administrative information covered in the syllabus, in the lecture and on Sapling and Piazza such as the title and edition of the textbook, the date and time of the final exam, grade calculations, etc. We all appreciate your smart use of our time and refrain from sending us administrative-related questions addressed in the syllabus, course web site and lecture. Additional course information will be posted on the Sapling Learning website for this course.

OTHER INFORMATION

Friday, November 10th and Friday, November 24th are University Holidays.