

EC201 C1: Intermediate Microeconomic Analysis

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Key Details

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Course Site: https://github.com/pharringtonp19/EC201_F2021

Office Hours: TBD

Class Hours: T/Th 9:30-10:45am

Welcome

If you have taken a class on the principles of microeconomics, either in high school or college, then you are more or less equipped to understand many of the key economic ideas that are frequently discussed in the news. If you want to contribute to the economic discussion, though, – to assess the validity or the strengths and weaknesses of certain claims – then you will need to understand things in a little more depth. That is where this course comes in. Consider this course to be an introductory course for modern economic analysis.

Approach

While this section will cover the same material presented in other sections, the emphasis in this class will likely be different. To put it succinctly, this is a project based class with an emphasis on *developing* mathematically/computational/group work skills that are essential for modern microeconomic analysis.

Calculus & Programming

Neither calculus nor programming is a prerequisite for this class so there is no expectation that you have been exposed to either of these concepts before. In this class, we will develop a working knowledge of both starting from scratch. Now, you may be wondering how we can possibly learn calculus, programming together with microeconomics when each subject generally requires multiple semester length courses on their own. The short answer has two explanations. (1) We're only aiming to develop a working level knowledge of calculus and programming. (2) Learning these concepts jointly can really help you better understand the economics. *Further Explain*

Homework

The idea is that lectures will cover the foundational topics of the course and then in the group homeworks, students will have the opportunity to dive deeper into topics that they find particularly interesting. Working in groups of 3 or 4 students will submit

Midterm and Final

The miderterm (October 14th) and the Final (TBD) will be very similair in nature. They will consists of questions similar to those discussed in class and brought up in the homework.

Attendance Policy

Class attendance is not required. As you will note in the grading policy, though, 10% of the final grade comes from class participation. Essentially, we ask that you try to make this a positive learning experience for your fellow students. This can, of course, come in many forms, but one way that we explicitly ask you to contribute to the class is by assisting in the creation of a set of class notes. A schdeule of which can be activly updated here.

Academic Conduct

As per the Boston University's Academic Conduct Code, "All students entering Boston University are expected to maintain high standards of academic honesty and integrity. It is the responsibility of every student to be aware of the Academic Conduct Code's contents and to abide by its provisions." Students should be familiar with the Academic Conduct Code, which can be found here (<http://www.bu.edu/academics/policies/academic-conductcode/>). The definition of academic misconduct covers a lot more than just direct cheating or plagiarism, and you are expected to read the code or ask me directly for clarification. All cases of academic misconduct will be reported to the Dean's office. Lack of knowledge of the academic conduct code is not acceptable in case of violation.

Covid

COVID-19 Health Protocol Compliance: Students should comply with Boston University's COVID-19 health protocols, including wearing an appropriate mask, maintaining social distancing, filling out the daily attestation and getting tested. Students may also be asked to show their clearance badge. I reserve the right to make the final judgment as to whether a student is in compliance with COVID-19 protocols.

- Course notes available on Moodle. Books. Tech. Bla bla bla ...

Grading Policy

- 10%: Class Participation

- 30%: Homework (Every Two Weeks)
- 30%: Midterm (October 14th)
- 30%: Final (TBD)