



University of Connecticut
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Department of Economics

Econ 2201: Intermediate Microeconomics Theory
Fall 2014, Storrs Campus (8/25/2014 – 12/05/2014)

Instructor Information:

Sining Wang, PhD Candidate

Office: Oak Hall 320

Office Hours: 12:10 PM - 1:40 PM, Mon&Wed or by appointment

Email: Sining.wang@uconn.edu

Class Details:

Classroom: Oak Hall 105

Meeting Time: 11:15 AM - 12:05 PM, Mon&Wed&Fri

Textbook: Intermediate Microeconomics: A Modern Approach (Ninth Edition), by Hal R. Varian

General Overview:

This course covers the basic models of consumers and businesses/firm decision making. We will shed light on how an individual best allocates their limited resources in order to maximize their wellbeing. In turn our models will be used to analyze how government policy interventions impact firms and consumer behavior. Specific topics that will be discussed this semester include theory of the consumer, theory of production and costs and market failures. The ultimate goal is for the student to leave this course having improved their ability to think like an economist. This means developing a mental toolkit that can be applied to understand a wide range of different markets, policies, and economic phenomena.

Prerequisites Classes:

ECON1200 or 1201. MATH 1071Q, 1110Q or 1120Q or 1125Q or 1131Q or 1151Q, or 2141Q. Recommended preparation: ECON 1202. Calculus is a prerequisite for this course.

Performance Evaluation:

An Individual's performance will be evaluated according to the following criteria and percentages.

Homework Assignments	30%
Midterm Exam 1	20%
Midterm Exam 2	20%
Final Exam	30%

Explanation of the evaluation criteria: Homework assignments and exams are important tools to evaluate the students' progress and whether students understand or keep up with the contents of the class. The weekly homework assignments are due most on Monday by 6:00 PM. All the three exams will be comprehensive (cumulative), but focusing on different chapters. The lowest score homework will be dropped, since random negative shocks (sickness, internet down, etc.) may result in homework being either incomplete or done poorly.

Make-Up Work:

No make-up homework or exams will be given for reasons other than documented medical absences. Unit Exams must be made up within one week of the scheduled date. Other emergencies or situations will be considered a case-by-case basis. In order to make up a Final Exam, the student must present a written authorization from the Dean of Students. Late home work will not be accepted.

Attendance and Participation:

Students are expected to attend all classes. Students are expected to be prepared to participate in discussions. I usually ask questions in the class randomly to encourage class participation and discussions. Laptop computers and other similar devices should only be used strictly for the purpose of note-taking during the class. Net-surfing, instant-messaging, e-mailing, etc., are not permitted for the duration of the class.

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.

Student with disabilities:

Students with documented disability are advised to meet with me individually and to contact the University Center for Students with Disabilities (location: Wilbur Cross 201; website: <http://www.csd.uconn.edu/>) to ascertain and arrange for the necessary academic accommodations.

General Advice: If you have any problems or questions concerning the course requirements or your performance, please discuss them with your instructor.

Class Schedule: The Class Schedule is Subject to Change, with Prior Notification of The Instructor

WEEK	TOPICS	IMPORTANT DATE
Week1	Chapter 1. The Market	
25-29 August	Chapter 2. Budget Constraint	
	Chapter 3. Preferences	
Week2	Chapter 4. Utility	Home Work 1 Due (Sept. 01)
01-05 September	Chapter 5. Choice	
	Chapter 6. Demand	
Week3	Chapter 7. Revealed Preference	Home Work 2 Due (Sept. 08)
08-12 September	Chapter 8. Slutsky Equation	

WEEK	TOPICS	IMPORTANT DATE
Week4 15-19 September	Chapter 12. Uncertainty Chapter 14. Consumer's Surplus	Home Work 3 Due (Sept. 15)
Week5 22-26 September	Chapter 15. Market Demand Chapter 16. Equilibrium	Home Work 4 Due (Sept. 22) Midterm Exam 1 (Sept. 26)
Week6 29 Sept.- 03 Oct.	Chapter 19. Technology Chapter 20. Profit Maximization	
Week7 06 - 10 October	Chapter 21. Cost Minimization Chapter 22. Cost Curves	Home Work 5 Due (Oct. 06)
Week8 13-17 October	Chapter 23. Firm Supply Chapter 24. Industry Supply	Home Work 6 Due (Oct. 13)
Week9 20-24 October	Chapter 25. Monopoly Chapter 26. Monopoly Behavior Chapter 27. Factor Markets	Home Work 7 Due (Oct. 20)
Week10 27-31 October	Chapter 28. Oligopoly Midterm Exam 2 (Oct 29)	Home Work 8 Due (Oct. 27) Midterm Exam 2 (Oct. 29) Halloween (Oct. 31)
Week11 03-07 November	Chapter 29. Game Theory Chapter 30. Game Applications	
Week12 10-14 November	Chapter 31. Behavioral Economics	Home Work 9 Due (Nov. 10)
Week13 17-21 November	Chapter 33. Production Chapter 34. Welfare	Home Work 10 Due (Nov. 17)
Week14 24-28 November		Thanks giving
Week15 01-05 December	Chapter 35. Externalities Chapter 36. Information Technology Chapter 37. Public Goods	Home Work 11 Due (Dec. 01)
Week 16	FINAL EXAM WEEK	FINAL EXAM (TBA)