Course Syllabus

Course Information

ECON 4351.001
Mathematical Economics
Spring 2013
Meets TR 1:00-2:15 p.m. in GR 3.606

Instructor Contact Information

Malcolm Kass
malcolmkass@utdallas.edu
Office Location GR 2.816
Office Hours Thursday 2:30-3:30 p.m. and by appointment

I will be available after each class to answer questions. I will make every effort to respond to emails and voice mail messages within 24 hours during the week. During weekends, I may take longer.

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

Prerequisites: (ECON 3304 or STAT 1342 or EPPS 3405) and (MATH 2419 or MATH 2414 or MATH 1326).

Course Description

This course is an introduction to mathematics used in economics. The main focus is on multivariate calculus and linear algebra.

Required Textbook

Chiang, Alpha C., and Kevin Wainwright, *Fundamental Methods of Mathematical Economics*, 4th Edition, McGraw-Hill/Irwin, 2005. ISBN: 0-07-010910-9

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

By the conclusion of the course, the student should be familiar with a wide range of mathematical techniques used in undergraduate level economics programs abroad and graduate level economics programs in the US.

Specifically, the student should learn to:

- Solve for equilibrium in a variety of economic models
- Solve economic optimization problems
- Perform comparative static analysis
- Work with matrices and understand their properties
- Think critically about the formal structure of economic models

Readings & Academic Calendar

Exam Dates

Exam 1	January 29th
Exam 2	February 26th
Exam 3	April 2nd
Exam 4	May 9th

Course Outline and Readings (Tentative)

January 15th	Introduction; Chapters 1-2
January 17th	Chapter 3
January 22nd, 24th	Chapter 4
January 29th	**Exam 1**
January 31st, February 5th, 7th, 12th	Chapter 5
February 14th	Chapter 6 *I may not take class time for this chapter, may just give handout
February 19th, 21st	Chapter 7
February 26th	**Exam 2**
February 28th, March 5th, 7th, 19th	Chapter 8
March 21st, 26th	Chapter 9
March 28th	Chapter 10 *I may not take class time for this chapter, may just give handout
April 2nd	**Exam 3**
April 4th, 9th, 11th	Chapter 11
April 16th, 18th, 23rd	Chapter 12
April 25th, 30th, May 2nd	Chapter 13
	Chapters 14 and Chapters 15 (if have time)
May 9th	**Exam 4, 11:00 a.m. to 1:45 p.m., GR 3.606 *this will not be a comprehensive final**

Grading Policy

15% Exam 1
20% Exam 2
30% Exam 3
35% Exam 4

Homework/Class Participation

Class participation, Attendance, and Homework are important components of this class. While neither will be graded formally, both will help in understanding the material. I will provide answer keys from the book's authors, and at times, I will provide more extensive answer keys when necessary.

Exams

Exam questions will derived from the Homework problems. (note that this does not mean "exactly", for the exam questions will share some of the same mathematical structure as the Homework) Each exam will be graded on a 100 point scale (% correct). These will be combined using the weights above and then translated into final letter grades (A+ through F) as follows:

98 – 100	A+
93 – 97	A
90 – 92	A-
88 – 89	B+
83 – 87	B
80 – 82	B-
78 – 79	C+
73 – 77	C
70 – 72	C-
68 – 69	D+
63 – 67	D
60 – 62	D-
Below 60	F

Course & Instructor Policies

There are no make-up exams. If you miss an exam, you will need to see me. Your consistency in completing the Homework problems in preparation for class will determine your success in the course. You should attend class and complete the Homework problems in a manner consistent with the flow of the class. If you do not complete the Homework problems in a timely manner and instead let the work accumulate until a day or two before the exam, you will likely falter. There will be no extra credit opportunities. It has been said that "learning math is like playing a sport or a musical instrument; the more you practice, the better you get." That is still true for this class.

Economics Lab

The Economics Program maintains an Economics Lab to assist students with coursework. The lab is staffed by Ph.D. students in Economics and exists primarily to serve undergraduate students who want extra help on analytics, problem sets, reviews, etc.

Students from all UTD undergraduate Economics classes are eligible to receive help. If the T.A. on duty does not know the answer to a specific question, he/she will seek guidance from the Instructor.

The Economics Lab is located in GR 3.416 (Galveston Room) and is open on MTWR from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (at least this was true last year) The room has PCs for econometric work and a large whiteboard for group discussions.

UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus. Please go to http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies for these policies.

The proceeding descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Instructor.