



Course Number ECON 3310.002.16f
Course Title Intermediate Microeconomic Theory
Term 2016 Fall
Meetings Tuesday & Thursday: 4:00pm-5:15pm CB2 1.204

INSTRUCTOR'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor Zeyu Zhang
Office Location GR 2.822
Email Address zeyu.zhang@utdallas.edu
Office Hours Tuesday & Thursday: 5:15-6:15 or appointment via email
Other Information I can legally only communicate with you through your UTD email.

GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, & Other restrictions

Principles of Microeconomics (ECON 2302), and at least one of the following: Techniques for Economic Research (ECON 3304), Applied Calculus I (Math 1325), Differential Calculus (Math 2413), or Calculus I (Math 2417).

Please note these classes are listed as pre-requisites, meaning it is necessary that you understand/remember the material they cover. In addition to the above classes it is imperative that you have basic algebra skills. This includes knowing how to solve an equation, how to manipulate an equation, and how to graph a linear equation. We will spend a little time reviewing most of the math tools necessary to succeed in this class at the beginning of the semester.

Course Description

The study of theories of demand, production, competition, markets, and welfare. Implications of theory for purposes of public policy prescriptions are given particular emphasis.

Learning Objectives/Outcomes

1. To gain insight and understanding into the many different applications of economic thought.
2. To gain a sound understanding of the theories and economic behavior of: (1) households: consumer choice and allocation of income and wealth to maximize utility. (2) firms: how firms allocate their resources to maximize their profits. (3) market interactions and structure: how supply and demand interact in and affect the market and the impact of policy changes.
3. The main objective is for you to leave this class with the ability to apply critical reasoning and economic thought processes in analyzing various situations.
4. To understand basic game theory and general equilibrium theory.
5. To see how economics relates to current events

At the end of the course, students should be able to frame a problem economically and use the tools learned in the course to analyze a problem.

Required Texts & Materials

Microeconomics (8th Edition) by Robert Pindyck

Suggested Texts, Readings, & Materials

Microeconomic Theory: Basic Principles and Extensions (10th Edition) by Walter Nicholson

ACDEMIC CALENDAR

Week	Date	Topics	Notes
1	8/23	Syllabus, Math Review	
1	8/25	Math Review	
2	8/30	Preference	
2	9/1	Utility	Quiz 1*
3	9/6	Utility Maximization	
3	9/8	Consumer Choice	Homework 1 Due
4	9/13	Consumer Choice	
4	9/15	Demand and Elasticity	Quiz 2*
5	9/20	Demand and Elasticity	
5	9/22	Review Class	Homework 2 Due
6	9/27	Exam I	
6	9/29	Production Function	
7	10/4	Production Function, Cost Function	
7	10/6	Cost Function	Quiz 3*
8	10/11	Profit Maximization	
8	10/13	Profit Maximization	
9	10/18	Perfectly Competitive Market	Homework 3 Due
9	10/20	Perfectly Competitive Market	
10	10/25	Review Class	Homework 4 Due
10	10/27	Exam II	
11	11/1	Monopoly	
11	11/3	Monopsony	
12	11/8	Pricing with Market Power	
12	11/10	Pricing with Market Power	Quiz 4*
13	11/15	Imperfect Competition	
13	11/17	Imperfect Competition	Homework 5 Due
14	11/22	No Class	Fall Break
14	11/24	No Class	Fall Break
15	11/29	Selected Topics**	
15	12/1	Selected Topics**	
16	12/6	Selected Topics**	
16	12/8	Review Class	Homework 6 Due
17	TBD	Exam III***	

Selected topics includes:

1. Uncertainty and Asymmetric Information
2. Game Theory
3. General Equilibrium

* There might be changes on quiz date.

** All of the selected topics are entry level introduction of the theory and will be covered based on the completion of class schedule before week 15.

*** Exam III date and time will be available during this semester.

COURSE POLICIES

Grading (credit) Criteria	Credits Allocation			
	Exam I	25%	Homework	12%
	Exam II	25%	Quiz	8%
	Exam III	25%	Class Attendance	5%
	Grading Policy			
	A+ 100	A 95-99	A- 90-94	
	B+ 85-89	B 80-84	B- 75-79	
	C+ 70-74	C 65-69	C- 60-64	
	F Below 60			
Make-up Exams	If you miss an exam you must contact me. If the circumstances are extenuating I will allow a make-up exam. However, more than likely I will not give make-up exams.			
Extra Credit	There will not be any extra credit.			
Late Work	Late work is not accepted. If you do miss turning in an assignment, I will grade your work to give you feedback, but you will still receive a zero for the assignment.			
Classroom Decorum	No cell phone call or text messaging during class No gum, please If you really need to use laptop, please note: no games, social network sites, or emails.			
UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures	<p><i>The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus.</i></p> <p>Please go to http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies for these policies.</p>			

The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.

PLEASE NOTE

1. I consider 36-hour fair notice to inform you of class updates.
2. I can legally only communicate with you through your UTD email.
3. I do my best to respond to students in a timely manner.
4. I will not tolerate plagiarism in any manner. Do not copy and paste from Wikipedia, or any other source. You are encouraged to work together and use outside resources to work through the problem sets. However, any work you turn in must be your own, written by you and only you.

EXPECTATIONS

1. I expect you to behave appropriately and come to class on time, not leaving until class is over. I expect students to show respect towards everyone in the class and to receive respect in return.
2. I would prefer if you do not use laptops, but I will not require that you do not.
3. Answering phone calls or talking in class will not be tolerated. I understand that emergencies happen, if you need to take a call, please step outside.
4. I expect you to be engaged in class and ask questions. I cannot stress how important it is that you ask questions. There is no such thing as a stupid question.
5. You will need to bring your student id (Comet Card) to the first exam.
6. If you are absent when I return an assignment, you will need to come by my office to pick it up.
7. If you have an issue with the grading you need to talk to me before the next assignment is turned in.
9. The standard rule (highly recommended) is that one should allocate at least 3 hours of outside classwork for every hour you spend in class. This comes out to 9 hours a week, 12 hours including class time.
10. I expect you to think about how to solve the problems. I have found that struggling with a problem aids in the learning process. Learning is about more than applying methods, it is also about learning how to think.