



## Department of Economics Course Outline

<b>Course:</b>	Economics 357 [Microeconomics II]	<b>Term:</b>	Winter 2010
<b>Time:</b>	MWF 14:00-14:50	<b>Section:</b>	02
<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Robert Oxoby	<b>Place:</b>	ST 147
<b>Office:</b>	SS 444	<b>Telephone:</b>	403-220-2586
<b>Office Hours:</b>	MW 1:00-2:00 and by appointment	<b>E-mail:</b>	oxoby@ucalgary.ca

### Textbook(s):

*Intermediate Microeconomics*, Hal Varian, New York: W.W. Norton

### Book(s) on Reserve:

Becker and Becker, *The Economics of Life*, McGraw Hill.  
Besanko, *Microeconomics*, Wiley.  
Eaton, Eaton and Allen, *Microeconomics*, Prentice Hall.  
Miller et al, *The Economics of Public Issues*, Addison.  
Pindyck and Rubinfeld, *Microeconomics*, Prentice Hall.  
Thomas, *Micro-Economic Applications*, Wadsworth.  
Varian, *Intermediate Microeconomics*, Norton.

### Course Outline:

This course extends the material taught in Eco301. It aims to introduce basic concepts in microeconomics that are instrumental in explaining a host of real world economic phenomena, in particular, monopoly, oligopoly, imperfect information and market failures.

The course is primarily theoretical, but will also consider a number of applications.

We will cover the following topics.

1. Expected utility (Chapters 12, 13)

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2. Monopoly (Chapters 24 and 25)
  - a. Profit Maximization
  - b. Welfare Implications
  - c. Pricing and Surplus Extraction
3. Imperfect Competition
  - a. Oligopoly (Chapter 27)
4. Game Theory and Applications (Chapters 28, 29, 37)
  - a. Adverse selection
  - b. Signaling
  - c. Moral hazard
  - d. Auctions (Chapter 17)
5. Welfare (Chapters 33-36)
  - a. Public goods and externalities
6. Behavioral Economics (Chapter 30)

### **Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:**

Grades will be determined as follows:

Four Assignments (due January 26, February 9, March 16, April 8) – 30%

Midterm Exam (in class on February 25) – 30%

Final Exam – 40%

Tests and final exams are marked on a numerical (percentage) basis, then converted to letter grades. The course grade is then calculated using the weights indicated above. As a guide to determining standing, these letter grade equivalences will generally apply:

A+	97 – 100	B	83 – 86	C-	70 – 72
A	93 – 96	B-	80 – 82	D+	67 – 69
A-	90 – 92	C+	77 – 79	D	60 – 66
B+	87 – 89	C	73 – 76	F	0 – 59

A passing grade on any particular component of the course is not required for a student to pass the course as a whole.

Non-programmable calculators will be allowed during the writing of tests or final examinations.

There will be a Registrar scheduled final examination, lasting 2 hours. The final exam will be comprehensive.

Tests and exams will not involve multiple choice questions.

**Tutorials:**

Tutorials will be offered at various times of the week to work through problem sets. Your attendance at these tutorials is strongly encouraged, although no grades will be given for showing up. The times of the tutorials will be announced during the second or third week of classes.

**Blackboard:**

This course will make use of Blackboard – students who are registered in this course can log on at <http://blackboard@ucalgary.ca/webapps/login>. Please note that Blackboard features a class email list that I will use. It is your responsibility to ensure that Blackboard uses the e-mail address of your choice. The default is your University of Calgary e-mail address.

Students' Union Vice-President, Academic

Meg Martin

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Society of Undergraduates in Economics (S.U.E.)

E-mail: [sue@ucalgary.ca](mailto:sue@ucalgary.ca)

[www.ucalgary.ca/sue/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/sue/)

**Notes:**

- Students seeking reappraisal of a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, etc.) should discuss their work with the Instructor *within fifteen days* of the work being returned to the class.
- It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

Safewalk / Campus Security: 220-5333  
Emergency Assembly Point – Social Sciences Food Court