

Economics 657(L01) Microeconomic Theory

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| Instructor: | Subhasish Dugar | Lecture Location: | SS 423 |
| Phone: | 220 5291 | Lecture Days/Time: | MW 10:00 – 11:15 |
| Email: | sdugar@ucalgary.ca | | |
| Office: | SS 434 | | |
| Office Hours: | F 10:00 – 11:00 AM | Fall 2015 | |

Textbook(s): Strictly speaking, I will not follow any textbooks. Instead, I will teach from my personal notes, partially based on the following two books. For some of the topics, I may advise you to consult materials from one of these books for background reading. Furthermore, for some topics I may distribute lecture notes. If you want a reference book to use as a supplement, I have two suggestions:

Andreu Mas-Colell, Michael D. Whinston and Jerry R. Green, *Microeconomic Theory*, Oxford University Press, 1995.

Hal Varian, *Microeconomic Analysis*, 3rd Edition, W. W. Norton & Company, 1992.

Book(s) on Reserve: None

Desire2Learn: This course will make use of the Desire2Learn (D2L) platform. Students who are registered in the course can log on at <http://d2l.ucalgary.ca> through their student centre. Please note that D2L features a class e-mail list that may be used to distribute course-related information. These e-mails go to your University of Calgary e-mail addresses only.

Course Outline: This is a course in microeconomic theory. The course is purely theoretical in nature. The goal of the course is to introduce you to a self-contained analysis of the major building blocks of microeconomic theory: consumer choice, producer behaviour, choice under uncertainty, general equilibrium. Additionally, we will cover a few preliminary concepts from game theory and information economics. Some of the topics listed above may not be covered if we run out of time. This course is designed to meet the needs of students in an economics M.A. program. Some parts of the course are designed to teach material that all graduate students should know. Others are used to introduce methodologies.

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:

There will be two midterms all given in class and a final.

First Midterm: Wednesday October 14
Second Midterm: Monday November 16
Final Exam: Friday December 11

Each midterm will be closed-book and closed notes and will be comprehensive in nature.

The midterms and final will each be worth 30% of your final grade. Students who are unable to write a midterm because of an illness, family emergency or religious observance will have the midterm weight shifted to the final examination. Documentation **MUST** be provided. If you have questions regarding grading of an exam question, you must ask **within two weeks** from the day the graded exam is handed back in the class. No exceptions to this rule will be entertained. The weight of the missed midterm exam will be shifted to the final exam.

Four assignments will be given in class and must be handed in for marking. These assignments will represent the remaining 10% of your final grade, each assignment weighing 2.5%. All assignments must be handed in by all individuals in the class, including anyone who is auditing or just sitting in for fun. In addition, please note: A PASSING GRADE ON ASSIGNMENTS IS A NECESSARY CONDITION FOR PASSING THE COURSE. Assignments must be submitted before the start of the class. No exceptions will be entertained.

- Assignment 1. Sept 18, due Sept 25
- Assignment 2. Oct 9, due Oct 16
- Assignment 3. Oct 30, due Nov 6
- Assignment 4. Nov 20, due Nov 27

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. The following letter grade equivalences will apply:

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| A+ | 95 – 100 | B | 73 – 76 | C- | 60 – 62 |
| A | 85 – 94 | B- | 70 – 72 | D+ | 56 – 59 |
| A- | 80 – 84 | C+ | 67 – 69 | D | 50 – 55 |
| B+ | 77 – 79 | C | 63 – 66 | F | 0 – 49 |

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

Tests and exams **WILL NOT** involve multiple-choice questions.

Notes:

- All students must comply with the regulations published in the University Calendar concerning “Intellectual Honesty,” “Examinations,” etc.
- 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 403-220-8237. 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.

- Students who are unable to write the midterm because of an illness, family emergency or religious observance will have the midterm weight shifted to the final examination. Documentation MUST be provided.

Safewalk/Campus Security: 403 220 5333
Emergency Assembly Point: Social Sciences Food Court

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2015-06-30