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E-mail: chilmer@mail.sdsu.edu
Office Hours: Thursday 9:30 - 10:45 or by appointment: 4182 Adams Humanities
Author: Gregory Mankiw

Be sure to purchase the textbook package with the course key below because it is a unique package which includes an Activation Code for Aplia (where you will do all homework and take your exams). You can also purchase digital textbook directly through the aplia site (www.aplia.com). Enter the course key 4HRP-JCQV-76CE to access this course.

Course Description

Course Description:
This course serves as an introduction to a variety of topics in microeconomics. Microeconomics is the study of how individuals and firms make decisions and interact in the marketplace. Topics we will cover this semester include supply and demand analysis, elasticities, markets and welfare analysis, and firm behavior.

Course Goals:
Upon completion of this course you should be able to think like an economist. Some examples of things you should be able to do include: explain why different countries specialize in trade, define marginal analysis, discuss the effects of a tax on a market, characterize a price ceiling and a price floor, and determine how much a firm should produce in a given market. This course is designed to prepare you for upper division courses in economics and business but it also serves as a survey course for students in other disciplines.

This course is a blended course. This means that you will need to listen to the lectures and complete the homework online. Specific instructions for how to navigate the blackboard website will follow. Online class activities will include the following: pre-recorded lectures, powerpoint slides, and links to online resources related to course content. There will also be office hours on Thursday where I will be available for questions and there will also be TAs who have office hours during the week to help you.

To be successful in this course, students must synthesize information presented in both the lecture and the text. Specifically, this means that studying for homework and tests should involve reviewing and integrating the essential ideas contained in both the lectures and the textbook.
Aplia

Aplia is the online site for homework and exams. The URL for the site is www.aplia.com

Registration

2. If you already have an account, sign in. From your Dashboard, enter your course key (4HRP-JCQV-76CE) in the box provided, and click the Register button.
   - If you don’t have an account, click the Create an Account button, and enter your course key when prompted: 4HRP-JCQV-76CE. Continue to follow the on-screen instructions.

Payment

After you register for your course, you will have a variety of payment options. If you choose to pay later, you can use Aplia without paying until 11:59 PM on 09/16/2012.

Option 1: Digital Textbook with Aplia Access
   - From Aplia/CengageBrain: Purchase access to your course from the CengageBrain website
   - From Bookstore: Purchase an Aplia Access Card from your campus bookstore.

Option 2: Physical Textbook with Aplia Access (also includes digital textbook)
   - From CengageBrain: Purchase access to your course on the CengageBrain website. On your Aplia Course Home page, you can then purchase a physical book for a discounted price.
   - From Bookstore: Purchase a physical book bundled with an Aplia Access Card from your campus bookstore.

You are responsible for all material on Aplia.

Blackboard

Blackboard is where all lecture materials will be stored under course documents. The URL is http://blackboard.sdsu.edu/. The course should appear automatically when you enroll in the course. The username is your Red ID. You will have to set your password the first time you login.

A lecture along with powerpoint notes will be posted for each chapter. You should first read the chapter in the textbook and then listen to the lecture with the powerpoint notes. There will also lectures where I go through how to solve problems. These will prove useful when it comes to exams and homework.
Exams

There will be three midterm exams and one final exam during this semester. The dates of these tests are noted in the table below. The exams will be held in the classroom. The midterms will cover each section of the course independently; **they are not cumulative.** The final exam is cumulative but if you take all three midterms the final is optional.

No early or makeup exams will be given. If a Midterm is missed for any reason the final automatically is 40% of your grade instead of the 20% listed below. If a student misses the Final Exam but has taken all other exams then the midterms and the homework are re-weighted to 25% of their grade. Therefore the final is optional for students who have taken all three midterm exams. If a student misses two exams they will receive a zero on the second exam that is missed. From previous semesters, my experience is that students are more likely to do well in the class if they take all midterm exams and I urge you to miss a midterm exam only in extreme circumstances.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam</th>
<th>Chapters Covered</th>
<th>To be taken in class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>Chapters 1-4</td>
<td>Tuesday, September 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>Chapters 5-10</td>
<td>Tuesday, November 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 3</td>
<td>Chapters 11, 13-15</td>
<td>Tuesday, December 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Cumulative</td>
<td>Tuesday, December 11</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**PLEASE NOTE: THERE ARE NO MAKE-UP EXAMS. TAKE THE TESTS ON THE DAY THAT THEY ARE GIVEN. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Homework

There will be approximately 15 homework assignments and I will drop the lowest three scores. You can take the on-line homework three times and your score will be the average of your score on the three attempts. The on-line homework are accessible via the Aplia web site.

The on-line homework for all chapters will be accessible beginning on the first day of class. Homework for specific chapters will be removed from the web site at 11 p.m. on the Sunday detailed on the schedule below.

Here is a table depicting when the on-line homework will disappear. You can also check these due dates by clicking on the Calendar link on the aplia page.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Textbook Chapter</th>
<th>On-line Homework Disappears at 11 p.m. on Sunday:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to using Aplia Problem Sets</td>
<td>September 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math and Graphing Assessment with Tutorials</td>
<td>September 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
<td>September 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
<td>September 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
<td>September 23</td>
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<td>Chapter 5</td>
<td>September 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
<td>October 7</td>
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<td>Chapter 7</td>
<td>October 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
<td>October 21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
<td>October 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 10</td>
<td>November 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 11</td>
<td>November 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 13</td>
<td>November 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 14</td>
<td>November 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 15</td>
<td>December 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Do not start the homework at 10pm on Sunday as it will disappear at 11pm, NO EXCEPTIONS.

THERE IS NO MAKE-UP HOMEWORK and I ONLY DROP THREE HOMEWORK GRADES. It is your responsibility to complete the homework in a timely manner. Even though it is due on Sunday I STRONGLY suggest you complete it earlier in the week in case you encounter technical problems. You should save your dropped homework assignments until the end of the semester as I will not drop more homework for any reason.

Grading

Course Grading
Grades will be based on the following allocation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>due by Sunday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm 1</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Tuesday, September 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm 2</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Tuesday, November 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm 3</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Tuesday, December 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Tuesday, December 11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grading Scale: Grades for the course will be determined in a relative manner. At the end of the course, students will be placed in rank order according to the number of points received using the weighted average determined above. Please note that the overall average in Aplia may not be a good reflection of your standing in the course. You must use the percentages detailed above to determine your score.

The marking scheme on this syllabus is final. Under university regulations, the posted marking scheme applies to all students without exceptions. There is no dropping an exam or extra credit of any kind.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is one of the fundamental principles of a university community. San Diego State University expects the highest standards of academic honesty from all students. Violations of academic integrity include the following: (1) unauthorized assistance on an examination, (2) falsification or invention of data, (3) unauthorized collaboration on an academic exercise, (4) plagiarism, (5) misappropriation of research materials, (6) unauthorized access of an instructor’s files or computer account, and (7) any other serious violation of academic integrity as established by the instructor. If your academic integrity is not maintained on a test or assignment, you will automatically receive a grade of zero for that test or assignment and you will be reported to the Dean’s Office, in accordance with SDSU academic integrity policy. Penalties can be severe. More specific information is available in the SDSU Bulletin, both in print and on-line.

Students with Disabilities

Students who need accommodation of their disabilities should contact me privately to discuss specific accommodations for which they have received authorization. If you have a disability, but have not contacted Student Disability Services at 619-594-6473 (Calpulli Center, Suite 3101), please do so before making an appointment to see me. The web site for Student Disability Services is: http://www.sa.sdsu.edu/sds/index.html
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Specific Student Learning Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Week 1 8/27-9/2 | Ten Principles of Economics  
Homework on this chapter due Sunday, September 9 | Chapter 1                          | 1. How people make decisions.  
2. How people interact  
3. How the economy as a whole works.                                                              |
| Week 2 9/3-9/9 | Thinking like an Economist  
Homework on this chapter due Sunday, September 9  
Exam on this chapter Tuesday, September 25 | Chapter 2                          | 1. Describe positive versus normative analysis.  
2. Explain the circular-flow diagram.  
3. Describe production possibilities frontier.                                                      |
| Week 3 9/10-9/16 | Interdependence and Gains from Trade  
Homework on this chapter due Sunday, September 18  
Exam on this chapter Tuesday, September 25 | Chapter 3                          | 1. Explain why economies and people specialize and trade using the production possibilities frontier.  
2. Solve for opportunity cost on a production possibilities frontier.  
3. Describe the difference between absolute advantage and comparative advantage.                |
| Week 4 9/17-9/23 | The Market Forces of Supply and Demand  
Homework on this chapter due Sunday, September 23  
Exam on this chapter Tuesday, September 25 | Chapter 4                          | 1. Explain what a markets and competition.  
2. Identify the relationship between price and quantity demanded, market demand versus individual demand, and what shifts the demand curve.  
3. Identify the relationship between price and quantity supplied, market supply versus individual supply, and what shifts the supply curve.  
4. Put supply and demand together and perform the three steps to analyzing changes in equilibrium. |
| Week 5 9/24-9/30 | Elasticity and Its Application  
Homework on this chapter due Sunday, September 30  
Exam on this chapter Tuesday, November 6 | Chapter 5                          | 1. Compute the elasticity of demand and explains what it means.  
2. Describe what determines the elasticity of demand.  
3. Describe the different types of demand curves.  
4. Be able to relate total revenue to the elasticity of demand.  
5. Compute the elasticity of supply, explain its determinants, and describe various types of supply curves. |
| Week 6 10/1-10/7 | Supply, Demand and Government Policies  
Homework on this chapter due Sunday, October 7  
Exam on this chapter Tuesday, November 6 | Chapter 6                          | 1. Explain how price controls affect market outcomes.  
2. Analyze the affects of price ceilings and price floors on the market.  
3. Describe the difference between absolute advantage and comparative advantage.                 |
| Week 7 10/8-10/14 | Consumers, Producers, and the Efficiency of Markets  
Homework on this chapter due Sunday, October 14  
Exam on this chapter Tuesday, November 6 | Chapter 7                          | 1. Explain what a markets and competition.  
2. Identify the relationship between price and quantity demanded, market demand versus individual demand, and what shifts the demand curve.  
3. Identify the relationship between price and quantity supplied, market supply versus individual supply, and what shifts the supply curve.  
4. Put supply and demand together and perform the three steps to analyzing changes in equilibrium. |
| Week 8  10/15-10/21 | Application: The Costs of Taxation  
Homework on this chapter due Sunday, October 21  
Exam on this chapter Tuesday, November 6 | Chapter 8  
1. Identify deadweight loss on a graph.  
2. Describe how a tax affects market participants.  
3. Describe how deadweight losses affect the gains from trade.  
4. Describe the determinants of the size of the deadweight loss. |
| Week 9  10/22-10/28 | Application: International Trade  
Homework on this chapter due Sunday, October 28  
Exam on this chapter Tuesday, November 6 | Chapter 9  
1. Identify equilibrium outcomes with and without trade.  
2. Explain how the world price is related to comparative advantage.  
3. Describe the winners and losers with free trade.  
4. Identify the effects of a tariff on a graph. |
| Week 10  10/29-11/4 | Externalities  
Homework on this chapter due Sunday, November 4  
Exam on this chapter Tuesday, November 6 | Chapter 10  
1. Explain the implications of negative and positive externalities.  
2. Describe both public and private policies associated with externalities.  
3. Explain the Coase theorem and its implication for externalities. |
| Week 11  11/5-11/11 | Public Goods and Common Resources  
Homework on this chapter due Sunday, November 11  
Exam on this chapter Tuesday December 4 | Chapter 11  
1. Identify different types of goods.  
2. Explain the free rider problem.  
3. Describe the tragedy of the commons. |
| Week 12  11/12-11/18 | The Costs of Production  
Homework on this chapter due Sunday, November 18  
Exam on this chapter Tuesday December 4 | Chapter 13  
1. Identify total revenue, total cost and profits.  
2. Describe the difference between accounting profit and economic profit.  
3. Explain a production function and how to obtain the total cost curve.  
4. Explain and be able to graph the various measures of costs. |
| Week 13  11/19-11/25 | Firms in Competitive Markets  
Homework on this chapter due Sunday, November 25  
Exam on this chapter Tuesday December 4 | Chapter 14  
1. Explain the meaning of perfect competition and the revenue of a competitive firm.  
2. Identify where profit maximization occurs for a perfectly competitive firm.  
3. Explain the difference between short run and long run decisions.  
4. Obtain the supply curve for a competitive market both in the short and long runs. |
| Week 14  11/26-12/2 | Monopoly  
Homework on this chapter due Sunday, December 2  
Exam on this chapter Tuesday December 4 | Chapter 15  
1. Explain why monopolies exist.  
2. Explain how monopolies make production and pricing decisions.  
3. Identify the welfare costs of monopolies.  
4. Explain the meaning and be able to give examples of price discrimination. |
| 12/11 | Final Exam  
All Chapters covered in class | |