



Department of Economics Course Outline

Term: Winter 2005

Course: Economics 757
[Advanced Microeconomic Theory]

Section: 01

Time: TR 09:30-10:45

Place: SS 423

Instructor: Dr. R. J. Oxoby

Office: SS 444

Telephone: 220-2586

Office Hours: TR 15:30-16:30 and by appointment

E-Mail: oxoby@ucalgary.ca

Textbook(s):

Mas-Colell et al (1995) *Microeconomic Theory*, Oxford University Press **Or**
Varian, H.R., (1992) *Microeconomic Analysis*, New York: Norton
[Only one of the above is required]

Gibbons, Robert (1993) *Game Theory for Applied Economists*, Princeton University Press **[Recommended]**

The course will follow a discussion format (rather than purely a lecture format) in which you are encouraged (and required) to participate in discussing the topics. As a text, I recommend that you use Mas-Colell et al (1995) or Varian (1992). The text from Economics 657 will be a useful reference, but does not have the depth of material covered in Mas-Colell et al (1995). Further, while Mas-Colell (1995) includes chapters on game theory, the structure of these topics in other texts are not very thorough. Thus, I recommend you also obtain a copy of Gibbons (1992) as it provides a good introduction to topics in game theory.

We will be reviewing various "classic" journal articles and supplementary texts in the course. Most of the articles are available on JSTOR. Most of the additional texts are on reserve in the library.

Book(s) on Reserve:

Camerer, C.F., *Behavioral Game Theory*, Princeton University Press, 2003.

- Cornes, R. & T. Sandler, *The Theory of Externalities, Public Goods and Club Goods*, Cambridge University Press, 1986.
- DeGroot, M.H., *Optimal Statistical Decisions*, New York: McGraw-Hill, 1970.
- Ellickson, B., *Competitive Equilibrium*, Cambridge University Press, 1993.
- Fudenberg, D. & J. Tirole, *Game Theory*, MIT Press, 1993.
- Galovich, S., *Doing Mathematics: An Introduction to Proofs and Problem Solving*, Harcourt Brace, 1993.
- Greene, W.H., *Econometrics Analysis*, 5th edition, Prentice Hall, 2003.
- McGuire, C. & R. Radner (eds.), *Decision and Information*, 2nd edition, University of Minnesota Press, 1986.
- Laffont, J.-J., *Fundamentals of Public Economics*, MIT Press, 1990.
- Laffont, J.-J., *The Economics of Uncertainty and Information*, MIT Press, 1990.
- Mas-Colell, A., M.D. Whinston & J.R. Green, *Microeconomic Theory*, Oxford University Press, 1995.
- Salanie, B., *The Economics of Contacts*, MIT Press, 1998.
- Simon, C.P. & L. Blume, *Mathematics for Economists*, Norton, 1994.
- Sinn, H.-W., *Economic Decisions Under Uncertainty*, 2nd edition, Springer-Verlag, 1989.
- Varian, H.R., *Microeconomic Analysis*, 3rd edition, Norton, 1992.

Blackboard:

Students who are registered in this course can log on at <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/webapps/login>

Course Objectives:

This course will build on your knowledge of economic theory from Economics 657. We will be extending the analysis from that course and introducing new concepts and methods. As part of this, we will also be trying to build your mathematical skills and your economic intuition.

Course Outline:

A detailed course outline will be handed out on the first day of class.

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:

Your grade will be based on assignments, two midterm exams, and a final exam. The assignments will typically include, in addition to some standard economic problems, several math questions and the analysis of readings. The former are intended to hone your mathematical skills. The latter are intended to develop your intuition.

Assignments	25%
2 Midterms @ 25% each	50%
Final Exam (in class)	25%

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+	95-100	B	75-79	C-	55-59
A	90-94	B-	70-74	D+	50-54
A-	85-89	C+	65-69	D	45-49
B+	80-84	C	60-64	F	0-44

If, for some reason, the distribution of grades determined using the aforementioned conversion chart appears to be abnormal, the instructor reserves the right to change the grade conversion chart if the instructor, *at the instructor's discretion*, feels it is necessary to more fairly represent student achievement.

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

The 2-hour final examination will be scheduled by the department and held during the final examination period in a classroom.

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

Tests and exams WILL NOT involve multiple choice questions.

Students? Union Vice President Academic:

Laura Schultz

Phone: 220-3911

E-mail: lpaca@ucalgary.ca

Students? Union Faculty Representative (Social Sciences)

Carina McDonald

Phone: 220-3913 Office: MSC 251

E-Mail: carina@su.ucalgary.ca

Notes:

- Students seeking reappraisal of a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, etc.) should discuss their work with the Instructor within two weeks of the work being returned to the class.
- Make-up examinations and deferred examinations will not be given. Also, examinations will not be given *before* the indicated dates.
- Students? exams and assignments will be returned during regular class time. Papers may also be picked up by students during regular office hours.

Safewalk/Campus Security: 220-5333

RJO:dm

2004-11-17