



Department of Economics Course Outline

Term: Spring 2004

Course: Economics 357
[Intermediate Economic Theory - Microeconomics II]

Section: 20

Time: MW 09:00-11:50

Place: ST 128 (subject to change)

Instructor: Dr. R. J. Oxoby

Office: SS 444

Telephone: 220-2586

Office Hours: By appointment

E-Mail: oxoby@ucalgary.ca

Textbook(s):

Eaton, Curtis B., Diane F. Eaton and Douglas Allen, *Microeconomics*, Scarborough, ON: Prentice Hall, 6th edition, 2002.
[Required]

Book(s) on Reserve:

None

Blackboard:

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

Course Outline:

This course extends and builds upon the tools and concepts developed in Economics 301 to investigate topics such as the connections between markets (general equilibrium), the implications of market power and market failure and decision-making under uncertainty.

One goal of this course is to have you begin to think and work like an economist. Accordingly, you will be expected to use basic mathematics and graphical analysis, and the calculus developed in Mathematics 249 or 251, which is a prerequisite for this course. In particular, you will be expected to be familiar with the meaning of mathematical functions, understanding and using linear and quadratic equations, solving two linear equations for two unknowns, and using basic techniques of univariate calculus. You should definitely review this material in preparation for the course.

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:

The final grade will depend upon each student's performance on the assignments and midterm and final examinations. All examinations will be closed book.

Grades will be determined as follows: problem sets worth 20%, a midterm exam worth 35% and a final exam worth 45%. Problem sets will be due in class. Late assignments will not be accepted. You are welcome to work with others on the problem sets, however, each student must turn in their own assignment. The midterm will be held during class time and WILL NOT involve multiple-choice questions. A comprehensive final exam will be held at a time to be scheduled by the registrar, lasting 2 hours.

A numerical grade will be determined for each item of work submitted and a final numerical grade will be determined using the weighting scheme provided. As a guide to determining standing, these letter grade equivalences will generally apply:

~~A360~~
???
10062

~~8596~~
???
9439

~~8030~~
???
8495

~~B410~~
???
7049

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.

Students *will*

be allowed the use of a calculator during all examinations, subject to the following restrictions: acceptable calculators are those that are battery or solar-operated and held-held, and that are capable of performing arithmetic operations on user-entered numerical data. Calculators that can pre-store data, formulas or text are *not* allowed and a student who violates this restriction is guilty of academic dishonesty. If in doubt, please check with the instructor first.

Tests and exams WILL NOT include multiple choice questions.

Finally, special attention should be directed toward the sections concerning attendance, tape recording of lectures and student misconduct in the 2003-2004 Calendar.

Students' Union Vice-President, Academic

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Notes:

- Students should be aware of the importance of appropriate sequencing of their courses to meet all the graduation requirements, especially in the Honours program. Honours students should complete Math 249 or 251, and Math 211 no later than the second year. This is very important because these courses are prerequisites for Econ. 387/389, which in turn are prerequisites for Econ. 557/559. Also, Stat. 213 should be completed no later than the third year because it is a prerequisite for Econ. 315, which in turn is a prerequisite for Econ. 419. We suggest that you consult the Calendar, and the brochure "Undergraduate Programs in Economics." If you still need help you should speak with a Student Advisor in the Economics Department.
- Contacting the Instructor: You are asked to observe and respect my office hours. If you wish to meet me outside of these times, please make an appointment with me beforehand. You are welcome to write me via e-mail to ask questions about the course materials. I will respond as soon as I can.
- Students seeking reappraisal of a piece of graded term work should discuss their work with the Instructor within one week of the work being returned to the class.
- Make-up or deferred examinations *will not* be given. Any student who finds it necessary to miss the midterm exam must notify the instructor in advance and produce a valid medical certificate or other required documentation in order to have the weighting transferred to another piece of work. Also, an examination will not be given *before* its scheduled date.
- **CAUTION:** Lectures and readings from the text are complements, not substitutes, and students are responsible for material presented in both lectures and readings. Students are also responsible for dates for submitting assignments that are discussed in class. Regular class attendance is strongly advised.

RJO:dm
2004-03-24