

Department of Economics Course Outline

Term: Fall 2004

01

Course: Economics 657

[Microeconomic Theory]

M 08:00 ? 10:50

Place: SH 274

Section:

(Subject to change)

Instructor: Dr. W.D. Walls

SS 448 **Telephone:** 220-5857

Office Hours: M 11:00 ? 13:00 E-mail: wdwalls@ucalgary.ca

Textbook(s):

Time:

Required: Silberberg, E and W. Suen, The Structure of Economics. McGraw-Hill, 3rd edition, 2001.

A list of topics and a detailed reading list will be available on the course web page:

http://www.ucalgary.ca/~wdwalls/econ657

Book(s) on Reserve:

- E. Silberberg & W. Suen. *The Structure of Economics*. McGraw Hill, 3rd edition, 2001.
- P. Samuelson, Foundations of Economic Analysis. Harvard U Press, 1947.
- R. Courant. Differential and Integral Calculus. Volumes I and II, Wiley Classics Library, republished 1988.
- A. Alchian & W. Allen, *University Economics*, Wadsworth 1964.
- A. Alchian & W. Allen, Exchange & Production. Wadsworth, 1983.
- M. Cheung & D. Yeung. *Microeconomics Analytics: A Vade Mecum for Students Reading Modern Economics*. Prentice Hall, 1995.
- A. Deaton & J. Muelbauer. *Economics & Consumer Behavior*. Cambridge University Press, 1990.
- M. Friedman. *Price Theory: A Provisional Text.* Aldine, 1962 and 1976.
- C. D. Hall. Topics in Microeconomics: Price Theory with Transactions Cost and Property Rights. Academy Press, 1984.

D. Kreps. A Course in Microeconomic Theory. Harvester Wheatsheaf, 1990.

Layard and Walters. Microeconomic Theory. McGraw-Hill, 1978.

- G. Stigler. The Theory of Price. MacMillan, 4th edition, 1990.
- H. Varian. Microeconomic Analysis. Norton, 3rd edition, 1992.

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the positive methodology of microeconomic theory. While many of the topics covered in the course will be familiar to you, we will cover them in a more rigorous manner than you did as an undergraduate. Topics will include consumer and producer theory, partial and general equilibrium analysis and decision making under uncertainty. Our analysis will focus on how price theory can generate empirically refutable implications.

Students are expected to be familiar with differential and integral calculus, most particularly constrained optimization.

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:

Two midterm exams @ 25% each 50%

Final exam 50%

Dates for the midterms will be announced in class and on the course web page. The final exam will be scheduled by the Instructor and held during the final examination period. It will be administered in a classroom, and will be two hours long.

A numerical grade will be determined for each item of work and a final numerical grade will be calculated using the above weights. A letter grade for the course will then be assigned according to the following schedule:

A+	99-100	B+	86-87	C+	73-74	D+	57-58
A	90-98	В	77-85	C	61-72	D	47-56
A-	88-89	B-	75-76	C-	59-60	F	0-46

If, for some reason, the distribution of grades determined using the aforementioned conversion chart appears to be abnormal to the instructor, 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 or lack thereof.

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

Tests and exams will not involve multiple choice questions.

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