



Department of Economics Course Outline

Term: Fall 2014

Course: Economics 657
[Microeconomic Theory]

Section: 01

Time: MW 8:00 – 9:15

Place: SS 423 (subject to change)

Instructor: Subhasish Dugar

Office: SS 434

Telephone: 220-5291

**Office
Hours:** W 11:30 – 12:30

E-mail: sdugar@ucalgary.ca

Teaching Assistants: Mustafa Zaman, email: mustafazmn718@gmail.com
Oscar Zapata, email: ozapata@ucalgary.ca

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 listed below, 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 solutions to suggest:

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> using or through their student centre. Please note that D2L features a class e-mail list that may be used to distribute course-related information. It is your responsibility to ensure that D2L uses the e-mail address of your choice.

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 below may not be covered if we run out of time. This course is designed to meet the needs of students in the economics M.A. and Ph.D. programs. Some parts of the course are designed to teach material that all graduate students should know. Others are used to introduce methodologies.

Tentative Plan:

Date	Main Topic
September 8	Consumer Theory (6 classes)
10	□
15	□
17	□
22	□
24	□
29	Producer Theory (2 classes)
October 1	First Midterm
6	□
8	Uncertainty (3 classes)
15	□
20	□
22	General Eqm (4 classes)
27	□
29	□
November 3	Second Midterm
5	□
12	Game Theory (4 classes)
17	□
19	□
24	□
26	Information Econ (3 classes)
December 1	□
3	□
TBA	Final Exam

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:

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

First Midterm: Wednesday October 1

Second Midterm: Monday November 3

Final Exam: Date TBA

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

A date for the final exam will be announced in class. 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.

Five assignments will be given in class and must be handed in for marking. These assignments will represent the remaining 10% of your mark, each assignment weighing 2%. All assignments must be handed in by all individuals in 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 17, due Sept 24

Assignment 2. Oct 6, due Oct 15

Assignment 3. Oct 22, due Oct 29

Assignment 4. Nov 12, due Nov 19

Assignment 5. Nov 26, due Dec 3

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 apply:

A+ 95-100	A 87-94	A- 82-86
B+ 77-81	B 74-76	B-70-73
C+ 67-69	C 64-66	C- 60-63
D+ 56-59	D 50-55	F < 50

Notes:

- 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.

Safewalk / Campus Security: 403-220-5333
Emergency Assembly Point – Professional Faculties Food Court
