

Econ 4720: Intermediate Microeconomics Syllabus

Professor: Sean Inoue

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Office: 2307 Business Education Complex

Office Hours: Tuesday 10:30 AM-11:30 AM, Thursday 1:00 PM-2:00 PM or by appointment

Teaching Assistant: Joshua Scott

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Term: Fall 2019

Time and Location: MW 1:30 PM-2:50 PM in 1225 Business Education Complex South Wing

Overview

This class explores microeconomics in further detail than a principles course. This detail will be implemented through a more mathematical approach to analyzing individual and firm behavior, as well as a deeper dive into classic, widely discussed topics within microeconomics.

Course Text

Intermediate Microeconomics: 9th Edition, Hal R. Varian (ebook). This book is required for access to Smartwork5. This text provides a useful reference outside of class. Because the notes from the in-class portion will not be provided, this book will provide you with additional tools to tackle the homework and study for tests. On any given day, I will indicate the chapters in the text that align with the lecture, as these chapters of the book have additional practice problems. Additionally, if you are struggling with the material and need further resources/help than what is provided in the class, the Center for Academic Success (<http://www.lsu.edu/cas/>) has several resources including 900 minutes of free online tutoring (see <http://www.lsu.edu/students/cas/about/services/tutoring.php>)

Attendance and Class Participation Policies

Attendance is not required except on the first day of class and exam days, although it is heavily encouraged since notes are not provided outside of class and a significant portion of the grade is accounted for by Think-Pair-Shares.

Grade Breakdown

In this class you will earn EconBucks with which you will purchase your grade at the end of the semester:

In Class (Think-Pair-Share)	1,500
Homework	2,000
Exam 1	2,200
Exam 2	2,200
Final	2,200
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Total	10,100

EconBucks can be used to obtain grades according to the following scale at the end of the semester:

A+	$\geq 9,700.00$
A	9,300.00-9,699.99
A-	9,000.00-9,299.99
B+	8,700.00-8,999.99
B	8,300.00-8,699.99
B-	8,000.00-8,299.99
C+	7,700.00-7,999.99
C	7,300.00-7,699.99
C-	7,000.00-7,299.99
D+	6,700.00-6,999.99
D	6,300.00-6,699.99
D-	6,000.00-6,299.99
F	$\leq 5,999.99$

Homework

In this class, all homework will be completed on SmartWork5 outside of the first homework, which is due on Wednesday, September 4th and is worth 100 EconBucks. You have unlimited attempts for your online homework, but make sure to use each failed attempt as a learning experience. Homework corresponds to the chapters covered. You are expected to complete homework as we cover chapters, but you have until the end of the day of the final to complete the homework.

Grading and Exam Policy

The exams will (tentatively) take place in class on Monday September 30th, Wednesday November 6th, and the final will be on Saturday, December 14th from 7:30 AM-9:30 AM. A

student who needs to miss an exam must notify me as early as possible before the scheduled exam time with a valid excuse unless it is a medical emergency (vacation/set dates of travel are not appropriate excuses), and must not have missed any other exam. Students who email me with a valid excuse will, depending on the circumstances, either make up the missed midterm or have another test count in place of the missed exam. Students who fail to attend an exam without first notifying me with a proper excuse will be given a 0 on the exam. Students who miss an exam due to illness or other emergency should contact me as soon as it is reasonable to do so.

Classroom Behavior Policy

To foster a positive learning environment, students and instructors have a shared responsibility. We want a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment where all of us feel comfortable with each other and where we can challenge ourselves to succeed. In this class, please refrain from behavior that would distract others from learning.

Special Needs/Accommodations

At Louisiana State University we strive to make learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on disability or pregnancy, you are welcome to let me know so that we can discuss options. You are also encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Resources (<http://www.lsu.edu/disability/>) to explore reasonable accommodation.

Code of Academic Integrity

Students are encouraged to share intellectual views and discuss freely the principles and applications of course materials. However, graded work/exercises must be the product of independent effort unless otherwise instructed. Students are expected to adhere to the LSU Code of Academic Integrity as described in the LSU General Catalog. See <https://www.lsu.edu/saa/students/codeofconduct.php>. For undergraduate students found to violate this code, the outcome will range from failing the assignment to failing the class along with disciplinary probation.

Office Hours and Email Policy

Office hours will be held by myself on Tuesday 10:30 AM-11:30 AM, Thursday 1:00 PM-2:00 PM or by appointment. Generally, any email sent to me will receive a response within 24 hours.

Subject to Change Statement

All information in this Syllabus, outside of the grading and exam policy, is subject to change by the instructor with advance notice.

Tentative Schedule

The schedule will be updated throughout the semester.

Date	Topic	Chapters/Homework
August		
26 M	Math Lecture	Math Homework
28 W	What's Econ?	Ch. 1
September		
2 M	Labor Day, no class	
4 W	Consumption Choice Sets	Math HW Due, Ch. 2
9 M	Preferences	Ch. 3
11 W	Utility	Ch. 4
16 M	Choice	Ch. 5
18 W	Demand	Ch. 6
23 M	Slutsky Equation & Consumer Surplus	Ch. 8, 14
25 W	Exam Review	
30 M	Exam 1	Ch. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 14
October		
2 W	Market Demand	Ch 15
7 M	Equilibrium	Ch 16
9 W	Equilibrium & Technology	Ch 16, 19
14 M	Technology & Profit Maximization	Ch 19, 20
16 W	Profit Maximization & Cost Minimization	Ch. 20, 21
21 M	Cost Minimization, Cost Curves	Ch. 21, 22
23 W		
28 M		
30 W		
November		
4 M	Exam Review/Flex Day	All covered so far (emphasis on second part)
6 W	Exam 2	All covered so far (emphasis on second part)
11 M		
13 W		
18 M		
20 W		
25 M		
27 W	Thanksgiving, no class	
December		
2 M		
4 W	Final Review/Flex Day	All covered so far (emphasis on third part)
14 S	Final Exam 7:30 AM - 9:30 AM	Last day to finish online homework