

**SYLLABUS ECON 410**  
**MICRO THEORY**

**Instructor:** Başak ALTAN

**Office:** Phillips Hall Annex, Room 106

**Office Hours\*:** Tu 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm & Th 9:15 am -10:30 am

**E-mail:** altan@email.unc.edu (best way to reach me)

**Meeting Time:** Tu &Th 3:30 pm - 4:45 pm

**Meeting Place:** Gardner 309

**THE PREREQUISITE:** Econ 101 and Math 152 or Math 231.

**GOALS:** The main purpose of this class is to give tools so you will be able to 'think like an economist'. Several real-life applications of microeconomic theory will be discussed and analyzed. Since the fundamental aspect of putting economics to work is economic modeling - the construction of abstract models and capturing the essentials of the problem are at hand--, the emphasis will be on the **theory** side.

**TEXTBOOK:** "Microeconomics" by Besanko and Braeutigam: Wiley, 3rd edition.

**GRADING:**

- Your grade will be based on two midterm exams, a final exam, and attendance.
- The grading scheme that gives you the highest overall grade will be chosen. The weights are as follows.

	Grading Scheme 1	Grading Scheme 2	Grading Scheme 3
Midterm 1	%20	%20	--
Midterm 2	%20	--	%20
Final Exam	%40	%60	%60
Homework	%15	%15	%15
Attendance	%5	%5	%5

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\* I strongly recommend coming to office hours if you are having trouble with some of the material.

- Attendance is required for this class. Here is the grading scheme.

# of Lectures you attend	Points (out of 5)
29-23	5
22-17	4
16-11	3
10-6	2
5-1	1

- There will be no make-ups for the midterms. A student who misses a midterm examination can transfer the missed credit to the final examination by providing an adequate explanation and suitable documentation to the instructor.

- The final exam is comprehensive. All students must write a final exam at the scheduled time in order to receive a credit for the course.

- If the mean of an exam is less than 70, it will be increased to 70 by adding points to each student's grade.

- Letter grades will be assigned according to the following catalog.

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

- There will be 10 problem sets. Each problem set is out of 100 and is equally weighted.

- Problem sets must be submitted at the beginning of class on the day they are due. Homework will be accepted, and given half credit, up to 24 hours after the due date. If you miss class on a day that it is due it is your responsibility to see to it that your homework is turned in either at or prior to class time. If you are away, homework may be submitted by email.

- Problem sets and solution keys will be posted on Blackboard (<http://blackboard.unc.edu>).

**THE COURSE OUTLINE AND THE READINGS:**

The chapters will be covered entirely or partially.

- CHAPTER 2: Supply and Demand
- Mathematical Appendix: pages 664-683
- CHAPTER 3: Consumer Preferences
- CHAPTER 4: Consumer Choice
- CHAPTER 5: The Theory of Demand
- CHAPTER 6: Inputs and Production Function
- CHAPTER 7: Costs
- CHAPTER 8: Cost Curves
- CHAPTER 9: Perfectly Competitive Markets
- CHAPTER 10: Competitive Markets: Applications
- CHAPTER 11: Monopoly and Monopsony
- CHAPTER 14 : Game Theory
- CHAPTER 16: General Equilibrium Theory

**HONOR CODE:** You are reminded that the Honor Code is in effect for all academic work at this University. You are expected to do your work in a manner consistent with the guidelines of the Honor System.

## Tentative Outline

Session	Date	Topic	Reading Assignment	Assignments Due
1	January 13 - Tu	Introduction	Chapter 1	
2	January 15 - Th	Supply and Demand	Chapter 2	
3	January 20 - Tu	Math Review	Mathematical Appendix	
4	January 22 - Th	Consumer Preferences	Chapter 3	Problem Set 1
5	January 27 - Tu	"	"	
6	January 29 - Th	Consumer Choice	Chapter 4	
7	February 3 - Tu	"	"	
8	February 5 - Th	The Theory of Demand	Chapter 5	Problem Set 2
9	February 10 - Tu	"	"	
10	February 12 - Th	"	"	Problem Set 3
11	February 17 - Tu	<b>Midterm Exam I</b>	<b>Will Cover Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5</b>	
12	February 19 - Th	Inputs and Production Function	Chapter 6	
13	February 24 - Tu	"	"	
14	February 26 - Th	Costs	Chapter 7	Problem Set 4
15	March 3 - Tu	"	"	
16	March 5 - Th	Cost Curves	Chapter 8	Problem Set 5
17	March 10 - Tu	<b>No Class, Spring Break</b>		
18	March 12 - Th	<b>No Class, Spring Break</b>		
19	March 17 - Tu	Perfectly Competitive Markets	Chapter 9	
20	March 19 - Th	"	"	Problem Set 6
21	March 24 - Tu	Competitive Markets: Applications	Chapter 10	
22	March 26 - Th	"	"	Problem Set 7
23	March 31 - Tu	<b>Midterm Exam II</b>	<b>Will Cover Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9, 10</b>	
24	April 2 - Th	Monopoly	Chapter 11	
25	April 7 - Tu	"	"	
26	April 9 - Th	Game Theory	Chapter 14	Problem Set 8
27	April 14 - Tu	"	"	
28	April 16 - Th	General Equilibrium Theory	Chapter 16	Problem Set 9
29	April 21 - Tu	"	"	

30	April 23 - Th	"	"	Problem Set 10
31	April 28 - Tu	<b>Review Session</b>		
	April 29 Wednesday 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm	<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>Will Cover ALL Material</b>	