

Economics 310: Applied Microeconomics
Fall 2007
Syllabus

Instructor: Katy Rouse	Class Time: MWF 9:00am-9:50am
Office: Phillips Annex 200	Class Location: Gardner 008
Email: felter@email.unc.edu	Office Hours: MWTh 10:00am-11:00am
Website: www.unc.edu/~felter/econ310.html	TA: Jeremy Cook

Note: This class is the intermediate microeconomics class for non-majors. It does NOT fulfill the intermediate microeconomics requirement for majors.

Required Texts: Price Theory & Applications, 6th ed. Steven E. Landsburg (2005)
ECON 310 Course Packet (available at the student bookstore)

Course Objectives: Economics is a social science that examines how individuals decide what goods to make, how much of each to make, for whom goods are made, and how scarce resources are allocated to produce each good. Economics assumes that individuals act rationally in their own self-interest. By the end of the course, you should be able to understand how individuals and groups of individuals make economic decisions. A central goal is to develop the tools necessary to analyze and evaluate how rational agents make economic decisions in response to events that occur in the world around them and to develop the skills necessary to evaluate the welfare implications of policy decisions.

Grades: Your final grade will be composed of five graded homework assignments, two midterms and a final exam. Homework assignments will count for 10% of your grade. Each midterm will count as 25% of your grade. The final exam will be cumulative and will be worth the remaining 40% of your grade. All exams may be curved (to your benefit – not loss) at the discretion of the instructor. Final grades will not be curved and will be determined using the following scale:

91.5-100	A
89.5-91.4	A-
87.5-89.4	B+
81.5-87.4	B
79.5-81.4	B-
77.5-79.4	C+
71.5-77.4	C
69.5-71.4	C-
59.5-69.4	D
<59.5	F

Some Notes on Homework & Exams: Homework is due at the beginning of the class on

the due date indicated on the course schedule. The lowest homework grade will be dropped. As such, late homework will not be accepted under any circumstance. These problems will be invaluable in developing intuition and your problem-solving skills. They will also be a good indication of the exam questions. There will be no make-ups for midterm exams. If you miss a midterm, the 25% weight of the midterm exam will be added to the final. All students must take the final exam at the scheduled time set by the university. The format of the exams will be announced prior to the exam. There will be no extra credit given in the course.

Honor Code: You are reminded that the University Honor Code is in effect for all academic work. Do your work in accordance with that honor code. You are allowed and encouraged to work together on homework assignments, but collaboration on exams is strictly forbidden.

General Comments: The course will move quickly; therefore, it is imperative that you keep up with the reading and the lectures. Anything in the reading or discussed in lecture will be fair game for the exams. The material is cumulative, so cramming will not work! The final exam will test knowledge of all material covered in the course.

Tentative Course Schedule					
#	Day	Date	Topic	Chapter	Notes
1	W	Aug 22	Syllabus, Math Review, Introduction	1	
2	F	Aug 24	Demand, Supply and Equilibrium	1	
3	M	Aug 27		1	
4	W	Aug 29	Prices, Costs and the Gains from Trade	2	
5	F	Aug 31	Consumer Behavior	3	
	M	Sept 3			NO CLASS
6	W	Sept 5		3	
7	F	Sept 7		3	
8	M	Sept 10		3	
9	W	Sept 12	Consumers in the Marketplace	4	Homework 1 due
10	F	Sept 14		4	
11	M	Sept 17		4	
12	W	Sept 19		4	
13	F	Sept 21	The Behavior of Firms	5	
14	M	Sept 24		5	
15	W	Sept 26		5	Homework 2 due
16	F	Sept 28	MIDTERM 1		Chapters 1-5
17	M	Oct 1	Production and Costs	6	
18	W	Oct 3		6	
19	F	Oct 5		6	
20	M	Oct 8		6	
21	W	Oct 10	Competition	7	
22	F	Oct 12		7	
23	M	Oct 15		7	Last day to DROP
24	W	Oct 17		7	
	F	Oct 19			NO CLASS
25	M	Oct 22	Welfare and the Gains from Trade	8	
26	W	Oct 24		8	
27	F	Oct 26		8	Homework 3 due
28	M	Oct 29	Monopoly	10	
29	W	Oct 31		10	
30	F	Nov 2		10	
31	M	Nov 5	Game Theory	12	
32	W	Nov 7	Chapter 12 Sample Problems	12	Homework 4 due
33	F	Nov 9	MIDTERM 2		Chapters 6-12 (no 9)
34	M	Nov 12	Market Power, Collusion, and Oligopoly	11	
35	W	Nov 14		11	
36	F	Nov 16	External Costs and Benefits	13	
37	M	Nov 19	Public Goods	14	
	W	Nov 21			NO CLASS
	F	Nov 23			NO CLASS
38	M	Nov 26	Demand for Factors of Production	15	
39	W	Nov 28	The Market for Labor	16	
40	F	Nov 30		16	
41	M	Dec 3	Allocating Goods over Time	17	Homework 5 due
42	W	Dec 5	Risk and Uncertainty	18	
	F	Dec 7	FINAL EXAM 8-11 AM		Chapters 1-18 (no 9)