Econ205 – Intermediate Microeconomics with Calculus

Margaux Luflade

April, 15 2016

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Time & Location

- From: Wednesday, May 18th, 2016 To: Monday, June 27th, 2016
- Lecture: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 12:30pm–2:35 pm
- Discussion Session: Monday, 5:00pm–7:05pm
- Classroom: Social Sciences 119
- Office Hours: Thursday, 4:00pm–6:00pm, Social Sciences 134
- Midterm Exam: Monday, June 13th, 5pm–6pm
- Final Exam: Wednesday, June 29th, 2016, 9am–12pm

N.B.: The Monday class meeting schedule is in effect on Wednesday, May 18th. We will therefore meet for class at 12:30pm–2:35 pm. The discussion session is scheduled to take place 5:00pm–7:05pm that day; and will be used as a lecture.

Course material

The course will be based on class notes, that will be made available on Sakai before class. Suggested (but not required) textbooks to help you in your study are:


The material covered will be divided in four chapters:

1. Consumer theory
2. Production theory
3. Equilibrium theory
4. Market failures & Strategic interactions

A detailed outline of each chapter is provided at the end of this handout.

A version of the lecture notes will posted on Sakai before class. You are expected to carefully read relevant sections prior to class. The version available on Sakai before class is an incomplete version of notes where most of the material that will be discussed in class has been replaced by questions. These questions are designed to guide your reading and preparation of the class. They will guide the class discussion. You will not be asked to turn in answers to these questions before class. However, you are encouraged to think about these questions; as they will give you a chance to actively take part in the class discussion. These questions are also designed to be close to standard problem/exam questions. You may want to use them as a guide to
your review for exams.

After each class session, a completed version of the notes will be made available on Sakai.

You are responsible for everything in class notes or problem sets, as well as everything discussed in class or in discussion session. Solutions to problems will be made available on Sakai throughout the semester.

Grading

Course grades will be determined by (i) performance on a final and a midterm exams; (ii) problem sets completion.

• 100 points are to be earned in this class:
  – The final exam accounts for 60 points
  – The midterm exam accounts for 30 points
  – Problem sets account for 10 points

• The final numeric grade will be computed as:

  Problem sets + Final exam + max\{Midterm exam, 0.5 \times Final exam\}.

In other words, if you do better on the final than on the midterm, your midterm grade will not count and will be replaced by a (rewighted version of) your grade at the final exam.

• Grading will not be made on a curve. Your grade will depend on your work only.

• Letter grades will follow from numeric grades according to the following table:

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• Four problem sets (one for each chapter) will be distributed, and will be due by the time and day specified on each of them. Each will be graded out of 2.5 according to the following grading scale:
  – 0 = not turned in or turned in late (no exception)
  – 0.5 = turned in on time, partially attempted, little done
  – 1.5 = turned in on time, seriously attempted, less than 80% correct
  – 2 = turned in on time, fully attempted, 80% correct or more but a few significant errors
  – 2.5 = turned in on time, fully attempted, all correct
• Make-up tests will not be given for the midterm exam. If you miss the midterm exam for any reason, then your final exam will be reweighted to count for 90% of your grade. Make-up tests will be given for the final exam only if you have an excuse from the Dean. If you miss the final exam and are not excused by the Dean, you will receive a zero to the final exam, and it will count towards your final numerical grade.

• Regrade of exams may be requested, if you find a clear and compelling error in the way your exam was graded. The procedure for requesting a regrade is to bring the exam to the me along with a one page typed petition detailing the supposed grading error. Regrade petitions must be submitted to me within 24 hours of when the exam is returned. If I decide (and argue) that the original grading was appropriate, then 1 point (for each separate request) will be deducted from the total; i.e., if you ask to have three questions regraded and I decide that your original scores on those questions were appropriate, then 3 points will be deducted from your exam.

• Participation in class and discussion is strongly encouraged. While not formally graded, active participation, by asking or answering questions during class, is essential for a good understanding of the material. If you are at the boundary between two grades, your semester-long participation will be taken into account. Up to two points may be added to your total numeric grade. Attendance as well as punctuality will be taking into account in this assessment of participation.

Responsibilities & Academic integrity

• Use of laptops and tablets is not allowed in class and discussion session. Lectures notes will be used as a support, please print them and bring them to class with you.

• Students are encouraged to work together on problem sets and discuss their solutions (outside of class). Every student is however responsible for their own and personal write-up, and must turn in an individual version of the homework. Even if you and your friend came up with the answer discussing together, you are expected take a moment to write up this answer by yourself and in your own words.

• Colluding, copying, or using unauthorized reference materials during exams is strictly prohibited. In general, students are expected to up hold the Duke Community Standard (aka the Honor Code), http://studentaffairs.duke.edu/conduct/about-us/duke-community-standard.

• You are expected to arrive in class on time. Students arriving more than 15 minutes after the scheduled beginning of class will not be accepted in class.

Course outline

The detailed table of contents of the lecture notes is reproduced below. It follows, and therefore indicates, the outline of the course.
# Intermediate Microeconomics with Calculus

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Duke University - Summer 2016

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