Econ 105, Summer Term 2 2010

Logistics

Meeting Times

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>12:30 - 2:35pm</td>
<td>5:00 - 7:05pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>5:00 - 7:05pm</td>
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Instructor

Name: Ben Carlston
Email: benjamin.carlston@duke.edu.
Office: SOCSCI 325G.
Office Hours: Monday 3:30 to 4:30 or by appointment

Exam Dates

Mid-term 1: Thursday, July 22 in class.
Mid-term 2: Thursday, August 5 in class.
Final Exam: Friday, August 13 7:00 pm to 10:00pm.

Course Objectives

This course will introduce students to a calculus-based approach to consumer choice, producer theory, and general equilibrium analysis. Students will develop a foundation for understanding consumers’ and firms’ choices and for determining the potential impacts of taxation and regulation.

Course Materials

The recommended textbook for this course is *Microeconomic Theory: Basic Principles and Extensions* 10th edition, by Nicholson and Snyder.
Grading

Course grades will be determined by performance on three tests (two mid-terms and a final) and homework. The homework will be graded on completion and not accuracy, but it is expected that a thoughtful attempt be given for each assigned problem. The final grade will be broken down as follows:

- Homework: 10%.
- Mid-term 1: 25%.
- Mid-term 2: 25%.
- Final Exam: 40%.

Final letter grades will be assigned on the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94% - 100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>87% - 93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>77% - 83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>67% - 73%</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>≤ 66%</td>
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- While attendance is not directly a part of your grade, actively participating in lecture will facilitate learning. If you are unable to attend please let me know so that we can review what you missed. Summer courses move quickly so it is especially critical to not fall behind.

- Problem sets are an opportunity to practice the material covered in class and to develop a deeper understanding of economic principles. As such, homework is graded solely on completion, but full credit will be given only for thoughtful effort on each problem.

- Exams are closed-book and closed-note.

- Students are encouraged to bring a Calculator and a ruler for use on exams.

- Make-up tests will not be given for mid-term exams. A student who misses the final exam and who has a dean’s excuse will be given a make-up test. If it benefits a student, the lowest exam score will be dropped and replaced with the score from the comprehensive final exam.

- If necessary, the final percentage earned in the course will be curved by adding the number of percentage points necessary to make the median score equal to 85%; e.g., if the median percentage total among all students is 82%, then 3% will be added to all
scores. Grades will only be adjusted up and this will not be used to lower students’ scores.

Problem Sets

Often working in groups can facilitate the learning process and is encouraged for homework assignments. Assignments will be given about once a week and will be due on Tuesdays in class. The discussion section on Wednesday night will be used for reviewing the solutions to the homework problems and for any additional questions/clarification of material covered in lecture.

Responsibilities

You are expected to do the relevant reading in the text. On exams, you are not responsible for material in the book that is not covered in class, but you are responsible for material covered in class that is not in the book.

Since this is a summer course, a lot of material will be covered in a short amount of time. Please contact me at any time with questions or concerns so that we can quickly resolve any confusion you may have. If you are unable to attend office hours or feel you need additional help, please email me and we can arrange another time to meet.

Academic Integrity

Students are encouraged to work together on problem sets and discuss their solutions (outside of class). Colluding or using unauthorized reference materials during exams is strictly prohibited.