

Economics 111: Intermediate Microeconomics

Spring 2006

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Classes: T&Th 10:30-11:50am at Rhode Island Hall 001.

Office hours: T 4-5:30pm Robinson Hall 302B. If you have any questions or suggestions please drop by. Office hours are a great learning opportunity. (Please do not come just to talk about grades).

TA: Carmiña Vargas (Carmina_Vargas@brown.edu)

TA Classes: W 12:00-12:50pm at Wilson Hall 309 or W 7:00-7:50pm at Salomon Center 003.

TA Office Hours: M 2-4pm at Robinson Hall.

Course description: The focus of the course is the fundamental microeconomics tools that economists use to explain a variety of social phenomena. The course covers the following topics: what economics is about, consumer theory, exchange economies, production theory, partial equilibrium, general equilibrium with production, externalities, monopoly, game theory, uncertainty and asymmetric information.

Math: Calculus is a prerequisite (differentiation, partial differentiation and simple optimization methods). The TA will review the basics in the first week.

Grading:

Midterm 1: February 23rd, 25%.

Midterm 2: March 23rd, 25%.

Experiments and homeworks: 10%.

Final: This is a cumulative exam: all the material covered during the semester is included for the final. **9 a.m., Thu. 5/18/2006.**

There will be no make-up exams for the midterms. If you miss any of the two midterms the other midterm will count 35% and the final 55%. If you will not be able to take the final and one of the midterms in the assigned dates I advice you to enroll in another section.

Textbooks:

Intermediate Microeconomics: A Modern Approach by Hal R. Varian. (V)

The Armchair Economist: economics and everyday life by Steven E. Landsburg. (L)

The textbooks are on reserve at the Rockefeller Library. *Workouts in Intermediate Microeconomics* (a book of exercises) is also on reserve.

Course Outline:

1. Introduction: What economics is about.

V1 and L1,2,4,5.

Math Review on first TA section (W Feb 1st). [Homework 0](#): Due February 1st.

2. Consumer Theory.

V2-6, 8 and L13 (pages 127-129).

3. Exchange Economy.

V30.

Midterm 1: February 23rd, covers topics 1 to 3.

4. Production Theory.

V18-20, 21.1-21.3, 22.6-22.7 and 23.1-23.3.

5. Partial Equilibrium.

V16 and L7,8,10.

Midterm 2: March 28th, covers topics 4 and 5.

6. General Equilibrium with Production

V31.

7. Externalities.

V33 and L9.

8. Monopoly.

V24,25 and L16.

9. Game Theory.

V28,29.

10. Oligopoly.

V27 and L17.

11. Uncertainty.

V12.

12. Asymmetric Information.

V36 and L3.