Course Description & Learning Goals

The objective of this course is to develop intermediate level microeconomic knowledge and problem-solving skills. The topics would be similar to basic level microeconomics class. However, the way topics are dealt with are mathematical and the focus is more on problem-solving skills. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to apply the mathematical skills to explain real world problems.

Core topics and concepts will be

- consumer’s choice(week 1 + \(\alpha\))
  - utility maximization, insurance market, labor supply, and revealed preference
- firm’s choice(week 2)
  - profit maximization and cost minimization
- market equilibrium(week 3)
  - competitive market, monopoly, oligopoly, monopolistic competition
- other topics(week 4 and 5 + \(\alpha\))
  - game theory, labor market, general equilibrium, market failure, informational economics
Textbook


(Buying this book is not required. However, it is highly recommended to buy any of intermediate level Microeconomics textbook.)

Prerequisite

(Math) The students who are willing to take this class need to be familiar with basic calculus technics. So, taking Math 10A (Techniques of Calculus) with higher than C- or equivalent is required.

(Economics) Taking Econ 10A (Introduction to Microeconomics) is required.

Grading

The grade will be given by the larger of the two calculations below.

(Caution: Final is usually much more difficult than midterm. So do not gamble with your grade.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendance : 10%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Problem sets : 20%</td>
<td>Problem sets : 20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm : 30%</td>
<td>Midterm : 0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final : 40%</td>
<td>Final : 70%</td>
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Course Policies

Exams: There will be no quiz. There will be only Midterm and Final. The midterm date will be on the last class of 3rd week (subject to change). The exams will be basically applications of the problem sets.

Problem Sets: Solving problem is the best way of studying economics by oneself. So I will post problem sets every Thursday on latte. Answers should be turned in the start of the next class (next Monday). And there will be brief explanation in Tuesday’s class.

Attendance: I know that it is hard to attend all the classes, especially when it is summer session. So, for those who manage to do that, there will be extra credit. (Perfect attendance is the only way to get extra credit in this course.) And if there are more than 3 absence without prior notice, there would be a special meeting with me.
Contact: The best way to contact is via e-mail. If you have some issues, please let me know one day before the class. I would let you know my phone number in the first class. But please contact me via e-mail, unless it is urgent case.

Devices: The use of electronic devices except ‘hand-writing’ style note-taking device are prohibited in the class. (I-pad, Surface pro, or etc. can be used ‘only for note-taking purpose’. Laptop is not allowed.) It is not only because it is not good for your study but also it can distract other students’ concentration. If you have special reason to use electronic device during the class, you should get my permission before the class starts.

Accommodations: Brandeis seeks to welcome and include all students. If you are a student who needs accommodations as outlined in an accommodations letter, please talk with me and present your letter of accommodation as soon as you can. I want to support you. In order to provide test accommodations, I need the letter more than 48 hours in advance. I want to provide your accommodations, but cannot do so retroactively. If you have questions about documenting a disability or requesting accommodations, please contact Student Accessibility Support (SAS) at 781.736.3470 or access@brandeis.edu.

Academic Integrity: You should be honest in all of your academic work. (Please see https://www.brandeis.edu/studentlife/srcs/rightsresponsibilities/index.html) Any dishonesty will be forwarded to the Director of Academic Integrity. Potential sanctions for academic dishonesty include failure in the course and/or suspension from the university.