

**UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN**  
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences  
Department of Economics

**COURSE TITLE AND NUMBER:**

ECON 302: Intermediate Microeconomic Theory (3 credits)

**TERM:**

Fall 2017

**INSTRUCTOR:**

Dr. Isaac DiIanni

**OFFICE:**

1207 W. Oregon St., Rm. 312

**OFFICE HOURS:**

Priority given to issues involving my current courses:

Wed. 2:00pm – 4:00pm

Priority given to issues outside the scope of my current courses:

Thurs. 2:00pm – 4:00pm

*The teaching assistants will also hold office hours, which will be posted on the Compass 2G site for this course. You are free to attend the office hours of any TA, not just your own. If you have an issue that requires my attention and you are unable to attend my office hours because of a schedule conflict, you may email me to schedule an appointment.*

**CLASS DAYS & TIME:**

Section AL1: TR 11:00am – 12:20pm

**LOCATION:**

100 Gregory Hall

**COURSE TEACHING ASSISTANTS:**

Nazanin Khazra (Head TA)

khazra2@illinois.edu

David Quigley

dquigle2@illinois.edu

*Please Note: Because of the large number of students in this course, I often cannot respond to student emails sent directly to me. If you need general assistance, **please email your TA first**. If your TA cannot solve the problem, he or she will forward your email to me. If your issue is of a private nature that cannot be discussed with a TA, then you may email me directly at [idianni@illinois.edu](mailto:idianni@illinois.edu), or (less preferred) contact me by phone at 217-300-0292.*

**PREREQUISITES:**

ECON 102 or equivalent. MATH 220, MATH 221, MATH 234 or equivalent.

*You must have a solid understanding of basic calculus to take this course.*

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Microeconomic analysis including value and distribution theory; analysis of the pricing of the factors of production integrated in a micro-general equilibrium context which builds towards explaining the resource allocation process.

### **INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:**

The textbook for this course will be a custom edition of *Microeconomics: Theory and Applications* by Browning and Zupan, 12e, published by Wiley. The custom edition has fewer chapters (which is why it is less expensive), so chapter numbers will differ from the standard edition, but the chapter content is identical. If you are planning to buy a used copy please note that the price of a new copy of this custom 12<sup>th</sup> edition may actually be lower than the price of a used copy of the standard 12<sup>th</sup> edition. So please examine your options carefully before you decide.

The textbook is officially required. However, overlap with the material covered in lecture will not be 100%, and exam questions will be based on what has been covered in lecture, not the textbook. The reason the textbook is required is because provides a very useful resource for study and review, especially for those topics and models that students tend to find the most difficult.

In addition to the textbook there is a workbook available for this course that contains math-related explanations and practice problems, as well as previous exams. While the problems contained are optional and will not be collected or graded for credit, survey results from previous students indicate that most students consider it very helpful for success in this course.

## **STUDENT EVALUATION:**

Assessment will consist of online quizzes, three midterm exams, and a final exam. All three midterm exams and the final exam will be cumulative. Punctuality and attendance at every class meeting is crucial for successful completion of this course. Letter grades will be assigned only at the end of the semester based on the overall score for the course. **There is no curve in this class, and no extra assignments will be given.** Final grades will be rounded to the nearest integer. For example, a 79.4 is rounded to 79, which is a C+, not a B-.

A+ :	97 – 100	B+ :	87 – 89	C+ :	77 – 79	D+ :	67 – 69
A :	93 – 96	B :	83 – 86	C :	73 – 76	D :	63 – 66
A- :	90 – 92	B- :	80 – 82	C- :	70 – 72	D- :	60 – 62
						F :	0 – 59

Points will be distributed as follows:

Midterm Exam 1	15%
Midterm Exam 2	20%
Midterm Exam 3	20%
Final Exam	30% (Note: See Online Quiz Policy, below)
Online Quizzes	15% (Note: See Online Quiz Policy, below)
Extra Credit Syllabus Test	Up to 1% extra credit added to your final course grade

## **ASSESSMENT POLICIES – PLEASE READ THESE RULES CAREFULLY:**

### **Online Quiz Policy**

Quizzes will be administered through this course's Compass 2G site. There will be one quiz for each course lesson except for Lesson 1. Please see the Compass site for quiz due dates. Quizzes must be submitted by the due date in order to be graded. Quizzes submitted late will receive a grade of zero. No excuses will be accepted, including for technological problems. To avoid difficulties in this area please submit your answers well before the deadline. It is your responsibility to learn how to use Compass and submit your answers correctly. To incentivize you to use these quizzes to practice the material and improve your understanding, and also to mitigate any mistakes or errors that may arise, the following grading policies will apply:

1. You will be allowed unlimited attempts at each quiz (up to the due date), and only the attempt with the highest score will be counted.
2. At the end of the semester, the lowest quiz score will be dropped before the average is calculated.
3. At the end of the semester, if your final exam grade is higher than your average quiz grade, your final exam grade will replace your quiz grade (i.e. the Online Quizzes grade category will be dropped and your final exam will count for 45% of your final grade in the course).

### **Midterm Exam Absence Policy**

If you do not take a midterm exam for any reason, the weight of the missed exam will be shifted to the final exam. You do not need to do anything in particular to take advantage of this policy. The weight of any missed exams will be automatically shifted at the end of the semester during the calculation of your final grade for the course.

Please note that if you are present at the exam room and the exams have been distributed, you are considered to be taking the exam and your grade will not be shifted, even if you change your mind and leave early. So if you are deciding whether or not to take a midterm exam you must make your decision before the exams are distributed.

Also note that the weight of a midterm exam that has already been taken will not be shifted. This policy is not a curve or an opportunity to drop low exam grades.

This policy is intended for people who have illnesses, emergencies, or other conflicts, and must miss a midterm exam as a result. Accordingly, I recommend only skipping midterm exams when truly necessary.

### **Final Exam Policies**

The final exam for this course has been scheduled according to the official Non-Combined Scheduling Guidelines published by the university (<http://www.fms.uiuc.edu/finalexams/>).

There is no conflict exam scheduled for the final exam in this course. The final exams of other sections of this course are not conflict exams for the section in which you are enrolled.

### **More Than Two Consecutive Final Examinations**

The UIUC Student Code § 3-201(a)(5) provides for students who have “more than two consecutive examinations” ([http://studentcode.illinois.edu/article3\\_part2\\_3-201.html](http://studentcode.illinois.edu/article3_part2_3-201.html)). Please read these rules. In particular, note that the only situation in which having more than two consecutive exams will result in a makeup exam being offered for this course is if:

1. You actually have more than two consecutive exams (note that the rule is not “three exams within 24 hours”). § 3-201(a)(5)
2. You bring the issue to my attention before the last day of classes. § 3-201(a)(5)
3. None of the instructors of these consecutive exams offer a conflict exam. § 3-201(a)(5)(B)
4. This course has the largest number of students. § 3-201(a)(5)(C)

If you intend to request a makeup final exam on this basis, you must contact each of the instructors of the other courses with exams consecutive with this one and ask them to send me an email confirming the date and time of the final exam, the fact that a conflict final exam is not offered, and the number of students enrolled in the course. Please Cc me on this email to facilitate my communication with the other instructors.

### **Conflicting Final Exam Times**

The UIUC Student Code § 3-201(a)(6) explains the rules regarding priority of exams in the case of a conflict. Note that top priority is given to national and state professional examinations. If you will

take such an exam, and it conflicts with my final exam time, please contact me by the last day of class and I will schedule a makeup exam for you.

The next highest priority is given to noncombined final exams (“A noncombined course examination has precedence over any combined-sections or conflict examination” § 3-201(a)(6)(B)). That is what this course’s final examination is. Occasionally another course offers a combined-sections or other specially scheduled final exam at the same time as the exam for this course. University policy requires the instructor of the other course to offer you a conflict final exam that does not coincide with your exam in this class.

### **Absence From the Final Exam**

The UIUC Student Code § 3-201(b) describes the university’s policy on absences from the final exam.

If you plan to be absent from the final exam for this course, you must apply to the dean of your college to have your grade entered as “I” (incomplete). If you are absent from the final exam and the dean’s office has not entered an “I” grade for you, I will report your grade in the course as ABS, which “counts as a failure” § 3-201(b)(2).

Note that only the dean’s office can enter a grade of “I” (see § 3-104). This option is not available to instructors. The decision to grant an “I” to a student is entirely in the hands of the dean’s office; it is not my decision. If the dean’s office does not grant your request for an “I” grade and you are absent from the final exam, I will report a grade of ABS.

If you are granted an “I” grade, you must take a makeup final exam the following semester. These makeup examinations are held on a date scheduled by the Department of Economics—typically the first Friday of each semester.

For more details about the rules regarding “I” grades, please see § 3-104 ([http://studentcode.illinois.edu/article3\\_part1\\_3-104.html](http://studentcode.illinois.edu/article3_part1_3-104.html)).

### **General Exam Policies**

For each exam, you need to bring a pencil, an eraser, a calculator, and your student ID card.

In order to complete the exam form you will need to know your Name, UIN, Net ID and your TA discussion section code. (You will not be allowed to look up your TA discussion section on your phone before turning in your exam, so make sure you know this beforehand.) Please note that if your exam is missing any of the required identification information, two points will be deducted from your score.

No outside material (e.g. textbooks, notes, etc.) is allowed during the exam. Cellphones are not permitted in the exam room. If we see your phone, you will be considered to be cheating. By taking an exam you consent to be video and audio recorded while in the examination room.

Each TA is responsible for grading the exams of those students registered for his or her discussion section, and for keeping records of those grades. All questions regarding your grade must be directed first to your TA. Midterm exams will be returned to you during the TA discussion section on the second Friday after the exam date, although your grades may be posted on the course Compass site earlier than this. If you do not collect your exam at that time, you must attend your TA's office hours to collect it. If you discover an error in the grading of your exam, in order to get it corrected you must bring it to the attention of your TA. After this, any disputes or appeals may be brought to the professor.

In order to incentivize you to collect your exams in a timely manner and review them in detail, all requests for correction of grading mistakes on an exam must be received before the date of the next exam. Please note that because your particular TA may not have office hours on the day before the exam, this may require you to collect your exam before that date.

## **RULES OF CONDUCT IN THE CLASSROOM:**

As members of the University community, students share in the obligation to maintain a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Accordingly, students are prohibited from engaging in any behavior that obstructs, disrupts, or interferes with any class. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom may result, at a minimum, in a request to leave class. Such behavior also violates the Student Code of Conduct and may result in disciplinary action.

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY:**

You are expected to abide by the Student Code rules regarding academic integrity. Violations of the rules on academic integrity typically result in an F for the course. For details about the rules and what constitutes a violation of academic integrity, please see the Student Code §1 402 ([http://www.admin.illinois.edu/policy/code/article1\\_part4\\_1-402.html](http://www.admin.illinois.edu/policy/code/article1_part4_1-402.html)). Please note that “Regardless of whether a student has actually read this Part, a student is charged with knowledge of it. Ignorance is not a defense.” (§1 401.a.1)

## **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**

To obtain disability-related academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the course instructor and Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES) as soon as possible. To contact DRES you may visit 1207 S. Oak St., Champaign, call 333-4603 (V/TTY), or e-mail a message to [disability@uiuc.edu](mailto:disability@uiuc.edu). Special testing accommodations will only be provided through the DRES Testing Accommodation Center, so if you need accommodations please make sure you register with DRES and get your official letter of accommodation as soon as possible.

## **TENTATIVE SEMESTER SCHEDULE:**

Dates and material covered may change. Chapter and section references refer to the textbook described in the section “Instructional Materials,” above. These are recommended readings; the degree to which they overlap with the material covered in lecture and on exams varies across topics.

**All midterm exams will take place during the normally scheduled lecture time and in your normal classroom** (it is possible, though very unlikely, that these dates may change).

The final exam for this course will follow the Non-Combined Scheduling Guidelines published by the Office of the Registrar (<http://registrar.illinois.edu/final-exam-schedule-public>).

- Lesson 1: Preliminaries (8/29)
- Lesson 2: Supply and Demand (8/31, 9/5, 9/7)
  - Chapter 2
- Lesson 3: Consumer Behavior (9/12, 9/14, 9/19)
  - Chapter 3
- **MIDTERM EXAM #1 (THURSDAY 9/21)**
- Lesson 4: Market Demand and Other Applications (9/26, 9/28, 10/3)
  - Chapters 4 and 5
- Lesson 5: Production and Cost (10/5, 10/10, 10/12, 10/17)
  - Chapters 7 and 8
- **MIDTERM EXAM #2 (THURSDAY 10/19)**
- Lesson 6: Competition (10/24, 10/26, 10/31, 11/2, 11/7)
  - Chapter 9
- Lesson 7: Monopoly (11/9, 11/14)
  - Chapter 11
- **MIDTERM EXAM #3 (THURSDAY 11/16)**
- [Fall Break 11/18 – 11/26]
- Lesson 7: Monopoly - Continued (11/28, 11/30, 12/5)
- Lesson 8: Pricing Policies (12/7, 12/12)
  - Chapter 12
- **FINAL EXAM: 8:00AM on Monday, 12/18 in 100 Gregory Hall**