



**DAVIS UNIVERSITY**

## **COURSE SYLLABUS**

### **SSC308: INTERMEDIATE MICROECONOMIC THEORY**

**SUMMER QUARTER 2025**

**QUARTER:** SUMMER QUARTER 2025

**COURSE SYLLABUS FOR:** SSC308 INTERMEDIATE MICROECONOMIC THEORY

**CREDIT HOURS:** 5 CREDITS

**INSTRUCTOR:**

**INSTRUCTOR EMAIL:**

**INSTRUCTOR OFFICE HOURS:**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This is an intermediate course in microeconomic theory and its application. By the end of the course, students will be able to analyze a wide variety of economic problems and understand why societies use certain tools and the limitations of those tools for economic analysis. Topics include behavior of households, firms and industries under competitive and monopolistic conditions; factors that influence production, price, and other decisions of the firm; application of the theory of economic efficiency and distribution of well-being, etc.

**PREREQUISITES:** Microeconomics, Analytic Geometry and Calculus I

**TEXT:** *Microeconomics and Behavior*, Robert H. Frank, McGraw-Hill Publishing, 9th ed. 2010. Students are also recommended to keep up to date on current business news with a newspaper such as the New York Times, Wall Street, Journal, the Economist, or other quality periodical.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** Upon successful completion of this course, you should be able to:

1. Master the concepts, tools, and intuition of microeconomics principles and creatively apply them to better understand consumer behavior, production and pricing decisions of firms, market competition, and government policies.
2. Develop insights into the implications of economic behavior and government policies.
3. Apply the basic economic analytical tools to real world issues
4. Analyze news reports and articles related to microeconomics by writing a semester-long journal, using quantitative skills (graphical analyses)

**LATE WORK POLICY:** All students are expected to submit homework assignments electronically on the date specified on the syllabus. No late homework will be accepted and the student will receive a “0” (zero) for the homework assignment. Should the student refuse to complete the assigned work for the class, it could result in the student failing the class. All work assigned is expected to be completed on the date assigned. The instructor reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary. Please be sure to check your email/Moodle for any changes to the schedule.

**PLAGIARISM AND COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT POLICY:** Work that is found to be plagiarized receives a grade of zero and often causes a student to fail a class. Documentation of plagiarism is added to the student’s academic file as a violation of accepted student conduct and is subject to disciplinary action. Plagiarism is the use of another person’s exact words, or their ideas written in the student’s words without giving the original author credit.

Plagiarism can result from any of the following:

- Quote material directly without using quotation marks.
- Paraphrase the original so that many of the phrases are the same as the original. A good rule is no more than 3 or 4 words in a row should be the same as the original.
- Copy the original sentence pattern, substitution synonyms for key words.
- Neglect to indicate the source of the original material.

**ASSESSMENTS:**

Assignment	Percentage
Problem Set 1	10%
Problem Set 2	10%
Presentation Assignment	10%
Participation/Attendance	5%
Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	35%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

## DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENTS

1. **Problem Sets.** Two problem sets will be quantitative homework designed to prepare students for the exams. Students are asked to answer the problem set questions with math, graphs, and explanations/discussion. It is not enough to get the right numeric answer. Students will be asked to EXPLAIN these answers and their economic meaning and intuition.
2. **Presentation Assignment.** Students will be asked to prepare a PowerPoint slide video with slides and narration. The topic of the presentation will be flexible, but generally an APPLICATION of economic theory to a real world economic story students find in the news, current events, history, or the business world. More details will follow during the course.
3. **Participation and Attendance.** While this is an online course, students will be asked to participate in online sessions and be active in discussion or any real-time meetings. Prompt submission of assignments and exams will contribute to this score. For the LIVE sessions, students will be required to attend, turn their cameras ON, and be attentive to the course. Attendance will be taken.
4. **Exams.** There will be two exams, and both will include quantitative and qualitative economic questions based on the material in the course and the problems given in the problem sets. Students again are asked to both answer the quantitative parts of question, but also include discussion and explanation for all answers.

**COURSE GRADE: A = 93%-100%**

**B = 85%-92%**

**C = 77%-84%**

**D = 70%-76%**

**F = below 70%**

**TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE:**

**(Subject to change)**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Content Covered</b>	<b>Assignments &amp; Assessment Due</b>
<b>Week 1:</b>	Thinking Like an Economist Supply and Demand Rational Consumer Choice Individual and Market Demand Review and Quantitative Problems	
<b>Week 2:</b>	Rational Choice and Demand Theories Information, Choice with Uncertainty Departures from Rational Choice Models Production	Problem Set 1-Friday
<b>Week 3:</b>	Costs Perfect Competition Perfect Competition and Monopoly Monopoly	Exam 1-Friday
<b>Week 4:</b>	Game Theory Oligopoly and Monopolistic Competition Labor Capital	Problem Set 2-Friday
<b>Week 5:</b>	Externalities, Property Rights General Equilibrium Government	Exam 2-Friday Video Presentation-Friday