



Course: ECO 3310 Intermediate Microeconomics

Term: Spring 2019

Class Time: 5:30 – 6:50 p.m., M/W

Class Room: COB 153

Professor: Dr. Levent Kutlu

Professor Contact Information

Office Location: College of Business, Office 326

Office Hours: 16:00 – 17:20 Tuesday

Email: levent.kutlu@uta.edu

Course Description

Economics 3310 is a course in microeconomic theory. We will analyze the theory of consumer behavior and firms and the markets that result from the interactions between them. The course will provide the opportunity to use the tools and methods of microeconomic analysis and reason out economic questions in a careful, systematic way. The emphasis in this course is on reasoning and understanding through problem-solving, not on memorization. The analytical skills you learn will be useful in further economics courses and are highly valued by employers. While the topics should be familiar from your introductory course in Microeconomics, you'll discover that Intermediate Microeconomics makes much greater use of mathematical tools. Although this adds a layer of complexity to the analysis, it increases the richness with which we can examine the topics.

Required Textbook

Microeconomics Second Edition

by Goolsbee, Levitt, Syverson.

Worth Publishers

ISBN-10: 1-4641-8702-9; ISBN-13: 978-1-4641-8702-5

Course Schedule:

A note about the text book: Class lectures may have additional material than the text book. The text book should be used for critical background reading to complement class lectures and activities. The lectures will be covering the following subjects in order unless we need to make changes in the schedule.

As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course.

Topic(s)
1- Introduction/ Math Review
2- Utility Curves
3- Utility maximization
4- Utility Maximization: Changes in Income
5- Utility Maximization: Changes in Prices of Goods
6- Firms think on the margin

7- Profit Maximization: Competitive Markets
8- Profit Maximization: Monopoly and Price Discrimination
9- Introduction to Game Theory
10- Profit Maximization: Oligopoly and Hotelling's Line

Blackboard:

Please note there is a blackboard page set up for this class. Blackboard is available at <http://www.uta.edu/blackboard/>. You can log into the site using your UTA id and password (the id and password you use to log into your email). I will post announcements on this site and power point presentations for each of the topics above. These power point presentations will have graphs and other crucial material missing. Their purpose is to allow you to focus on the lecture without worrying about getting every detail written down. I will also post practice problems before each exam along with the answer key. After each pop quiz, I will post an answer key.

Grading Policy and Important Dates:

The grading for this course will consist of 2 exams (a midterm and a final) and an in class group presentation. The following weights apply (the dates are subject to change given the pace and needs of this specific class):

Homework:	20%
Midterm: March 6, 2019	30%
Final: May 8, 2019	40%
In Class Presentation:	10%

(Presentation Dates will be in last two weeks of the course.)

If you know of a conflict with one of these dates, tell me asap.

Examinations:

There will be two in-class exams. The majority of the exams will cover material discussed in class. Since this may diverge from the textbook, it behooves you to attend class regularly. The exams are not cumulative so each exam will cover material from the previous test on (except the core/general materials).

Problem Sets/Homework – Failure to hand-in homework on time will merit a **grade of zero**, unless prior arrangements have been made. Homework assignments can be submitted **as group homework** (up to three members). The group members for the homework are not necessarily the same as the project groups and they can change over time. Just write down the names of contributors. **Note that you cannot submit the same homework as separate groups.** So, if you worked together DO NOT submit two copies of the same (or similar) homework. In case this happens, your grade will be reduced for not following the instructions. There will be four homework and each homework would have reasonably high weight in grading. Hence, treat each homework as a mini project.

Grading: The grade in the course will be based on presentations (10%), a midterm exam (30%), 4 homework (5 points each), and a comprehensive final exam (40%). The grading scheme is as follows.

90-100% (A)
78-89.9% (B)
70-77.9% (C)
60-69.9% (D)
< 59.9% (F)

Make-up Exams:

Missed exam will be given a grade of zero unless adequate evidence is presented. In this case, your grades from other exams (excluding presentation grade) will be equally distributed to the missed exam if I confirm it prior to the exam date. The student must consult with the professor as to whether the reason for missing the exam is acceptable before missing the exam. Hence, **do NOT assume** that I will accept your excuse without consulting me because if your reason is not acceptable you will get zero from the missed exam. Some acceptable reasons are: university duty (need to present a written proof by relevant unit in the university) and sickness that prevent you taking the exam (e.g., flue is not acceptable unless the dr. specifically advise otherwise). Some unacceptable reasons include oversleeping, flat tire, traffic related problems etc. Finally, you must take the final exam so you cannot use midterm exam(s) as a proxy for the final exam if you miss the final.

Presentations:

The second part of the course will be class presentations. The class will be divided into groups, each group with a different topic to present on (one of the topics we have covered in the material). Presentations should last about 25 minutes. This seems like a LONG time but will go faster than you think. Also, presentations do not have to go 25 minutes. I'm much more likely to give a higher grade to a group with a 20 minute strong presentation than to a group with a 25 minute weak presentation or a presentation which droned on to fill the 25 minute time slot. The presentation will consist of two main parts: 1. Presentation of a scholarly article about the topic and 2. Presentation of a real life example, business decision or something that occurred related to the topic. More information about the presentations will be given to you as we get closer to them. When forming the groups those who form a group will be presenting later.

Attendance:

While UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients "begin attendance in a course." UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Blackboard. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients.

Drop Policy:

Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for**

non-attendance. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

Disability Accommodations:

UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*, *The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA)*, and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD) www.uta.edu/disability or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability.

Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) www.uta.edu/caps/ or calling 817-272-3671 is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

Non-Discrimination Policy:

The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit uta.edu/eos.

Title IX Policy:

The University of Texas at Arlington (“University”) is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. *For information regarding Title IX, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or jmhood@uta.edu.*

Academic Integrity:

Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at <https://www.uta.edu/conduct/>.

Electronic Communication:

UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

Campus Carry:

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

Student Feedback Survey:

At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory" are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students' anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

Final Review Week:

For semester-long courses, a period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

Emergency Exit Procedures:

Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

Student Support Services:

UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include [tutoring](#), [major-based learning centers](#), developmental education, [advising and mentoring](#), personal counseling, and [federally funded programs](#). For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>.

Emergency Phone Numbers: In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial 911. Non-emergency number 817-272-3381