

# **Econ 203: Intermediate Microeconomic Analysis**

## **(Fall 2008)**

*Section:* 01:220:203:05

*Time and Location:* Monday, Thursday 10:20am - 11:40pm, Livingston Campus,  
Lucy Stone Hall.

*Instructor:* Demet Tunali  
Department of Economics  
New Jersey Hall, Room 429  
Email: dtunali@fas-econ.rutgers.edu

*Office Hours:* Thursday 12:30pm-2:30pm, or by appointment.

*Textbook:* 1) David Besanko and Ronald R. Braeutigam, ***Microeconomics: An Integrated Approach***, (3rd edition), Wiley, ISBN: 978-0470049242  
(There are two options to obtain the book. You can buy the electronic textbook at [www.aplia.com](http://www.aplia.com) for \$75, which will come with the access code. Alternatively, Aplia also provides the hard copy textbook together with an access code for \$125 again at [www.aplia.com](http://www.aplia.com). If you buy a used book, you will still have to pay \$75 to access APLIA. This course will be managed through Sakai. Registering to APLIA will give you access to the online version of the textbook and to online assignments. The Course Key for registering to APLIA is 9E6Z-QXZH-A37A.  
2) Walter Nicholson, ***Microeconomic Theory***, (9th edition), Thomson/South-Western (optional), ISBN: 032427086-0

*Prerequisites:* 220:102 (or equivalent) and Calculus 640:135 (or equivalent)

## *Course Outline*

### **Introduction to Microeconomics:**

Chapter 1. Analyzing Economic Problems

Chapter 2. Demand and Supply Analysis

### **Consumer Theory:**

Chapter 3. Consumer Preferences and the Concept of Utility

Chapter 4. Consumer Choice

Chapter 5. The Theory of Demand

### **Production and Cost Theory:**

Chapter 6. Inputs and Production Functions

Chapter 7. Costs and Cost Minimization

Chapter 8. Cost Curves

### **Market Structure:**

Chapter 9. Perfectly Competitive Markets

Chapter 10. Competitive Markets: Applications

Chapter 11. Monopoly and Monopsony

Chapter 12. Capturing Surplus

Chapter 13. Market Structure and Competition

### **General Equilibrium:**

Chapter 16. General Equilibrium Theory

These chapters are from David Besanko and Ronald R. Braeutigam. We will be approximately covering one chapter each week. I reserve the right to provide additional material to support the chapters in David Besanko and Ronald R. Braeutigam.

## *Grade Evaluation*

Announced online assignments and four in-class closed-book exams will determine your grade. No extra credit work will be provided. You may drop your one lowest exam grade but not the last exam and one lowest online assignment grade. Failure to take an exam or an assignment counts as a zero. Under no circumstances will a make-up be given for an exam. Online assignments are worth 20% of your grade. While the last exam is worth 30%, the remaining ones are worth 25% each.

## *Schedule of Exams*

**First Exam:** September 29

**Second Exam:** October 23

**Third Exam:** November 13

**Fourth Exam:** December 22 8:00 a.m. (final exam)

The exam material will not be cumulative.

## ***Grading Scheme***

Based on your total score out of 100 from the online assignments and in-class exams, your grade will be set following the formula below:

89 < A
82 < B+ <= 89
75 < B <= 82
68 < C+ <= 75
60 < C <= 68
50 <= D <= 60
F < 50

I reserve the right to adjust these cutoffs based on class performance.

## ***Important Notices***

**Sakai:** I will be using *Sakai* for announcements and the discussion board. I encourage you to use the discussion board to share your ideas about the homework questions and the course material and to pay attention to the announcements. You can access *Sakai* from <https://sakai.rutgers.edu/portal/> and login using your NetID. For any problem with access to *Sakai* you are required to inform me within the first. Any problem reported later in the semester will not be taken into consideration except for occasional system problems; in which case you are responsible to inform me as soon as possible.

**Online assignments:** Announced online assignments will be given on an irregular basis. You are required to use *Aplia*, a course management system. Information about how to use the system will be provided during the semester.

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance will not be graded. Yet I strongly recommend that you attend class to facilitate your understanding of the material and benefit from the discussions in lectures. In addition, you are responsible for all the material assigned in the course and material discussed and assigned during lectures.

**Policy on Cheating:** “Any involvement with cheating, the fabrication or invention of information used in an academic exercise, plagiarism, facilitating academic dishonesty, or denying others access to information or material may result in disciplinary action being taken at either the college or university level. Breaches of academic integrity can result in consequences ranging from reprimand to expulsion.” – Source: Rutgers, New Brunswick Undergraduate Catalog, 2007-2009. See the catalog for the full Policy on Academic Integrity or visit

[http://catalogs.rutgers.edu/generated/nb-ug\\_current/pg21724.html](http://catalogs.rutgers.edu/generated/nb-ug_current/pg21724.html)

**During the lectures:** Please keep your cell phones switched OFF, refrain from reading a newspaper and using computers. Do not plan on coming late or leaving early. If you must, please see me before class.

**During exams:** Use of headphones, cell phones and calculators are STRICTLY PROHIBITED. All cell phones MUST be switched off.

**General Information:** I encourage you to read the book, to ask questions in class and not to hesitate to come to office hours if you are having trouble following the material. Please do not wait until the last day of class to do so.

*Disclaimer: Qualified persons with disabilities are encouraged to participate in all programs and activities at this university. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation in this course or have questions about physical access, please tell the instructor as soon as possible.*