

**01:220:102:04 Introductions to Microeconomics**  
**Department of Economics, Rutgers University**  
**Syllabus, Spring 2007**  
**(Jan.15, 2007)**

**Lecture :** MW 7:40-9:00pm, Hardenbergh Hall A7  
**Instructor:** Guo Chen  
**Office:** 427 New Jersey Hall, CAC  
**Office Hours:** MW 2:00-3:00p.m. or by appointment  
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**Course Web page :** <http://econweb.rutgers.edu/gchen/index.htm>

### **Course Description**

This course is intended to provide the fundamentals of microeconomic theory and some necessary analytical tools. It emphasizes general topics, including the price mechanism, consumer theory, costs of production, factor markets, market structure and externalities, market failure and government intervention, public choice, information and risk. We will learn some analytic tools necessary for further study in economics. The primary aims of this course are:

- to build familiarity with the theory of economic behavior of individuals and firms
- to understand how markets operate.
- to learn the role of government in market operation
- to develop analytical skills for describing and analyzing this behavior;

### **Text Book**

Microeconomics by Michael Parkin, 7th edition, Addison Wesley, ISBN 0-321-40923-X.

### **Course Expectation**

You are responsible for attending class, doing the required reading, and doing the assigned homework. An average of 3 to 4 hours is needed to do the assignments. Allocating enough time to read the textbook and to do assignments is necessary to master the analytical methods of microeconomics. Spending less time is likely to result in a less than satisfactory grade.

I encourage you to form a study group on the problem set, small groups (four or fewer) work best. NOTE that you must turn in your **own homework** and write down the names of your group member at the top of the first page of the assignment.

### **Sakai System**

We use Sakai system as our course website. All announcements and supplement materials for this course will be posted in Sakai website: <http://Sakai.rutgers.edu>. Students are responsible to check this website frequently. To login Sakai system, Rutgers users should login with their NetID and password, i.e, your Eden account and password. If you are non-Rutgers users, you may create a NetID following the instructions via link <http://oit.rutgers.edu/services/account/quick.html>. Anyone who has registered for this course should be able to login and access to the system. For details, please refer to the attachment on page four. You may also look for the help menu at <https://sakai.rutgers.edu/portal>

## Course Requirements

- Reading Assignment: There are reading assignments, which will be given in class. Reading assignment is designed as preview or review for the content we covered in class. I strongly recommend you to read them and try to understand it.
- Problem sets: There will be a series of assignments, which are graded and counted as a part of your final grade. The assignments will be announced in class throughout the semester. Problem sets will provide practice with the theoretical concepts and analytic techniques introduced in class and it is the best practice for exams. **No late problem sets will be accepted.**
- Two 80-minute exams will take place in class, tentatively on Feb.19, 2007 and March 26, 2007.
- A three-hour final exam will be given on: May 9, 2007 from 8:00p.m. – 11:00p.m.
- Each exam will be multiple choice questions. The first two exams will not be cumulative; however the good performance in later exam is definitely based on the understanding of the earlier topics. NOTE that the final exam will be partially cumulative.
- All exams will be closed-book. Notes and calculators will not be permitted.
- During the exam, the cell phone must be turned off. Any use of cell phone during an exam will be considered cheating.
- No extra credit will be provided for any reason.

## Grading

The overall grade for the course will be based on:

Problem sets	25%
2 Midterm exams	35%
Final exam	40%

The grade scale is listed as follows:

A	90-100
B+	86-89
B	80-85
C+	76-79
C	70-75
D	60-69
F	0-59

## Other Information

- Make-up exam: In general, there are no make-up exams. In extraordinary circumstances and with appropriate documentation, I will consider offering a make-up exam. There will be no make-up due to travel conflict; therefore, please plan your vacation accordingly.
- Cheating: Academic integrity is important. Anyone suspected of cheating will be referred to the proper authority. Please refer to the university's Policy on Academic Integrity.

## Course Outline

Following is a tentative schedule for the course. The exact date will be adjusted during the semester.

<i>Class and Date Reference</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Assignment</i>	<i>Textbook</i>
1, Jan.17	Course Introduction		Ch.1
2-3, Jan22, 24	Demand and Supply		Ch.3
4, Jan.29	Market Equilibrium	PS#1	Ch.3
5-6, Jan.31, Feb.6	Elasticity		Ch.4
7, Feb.7	Efficiency	PS #2	Ch.5, 6
8, Feb.12	Utility and Consumer Preference		Ch.7
9-10 Feb.14, 19	Consumers behavior	PS#3	Ch.7, 8
11, Feb.21	First Midterm		
12-13, Feb.26, 28	Cost of Production		Ch.9, 10
14-15, Mar5, 7	Cost curve	PS#4	Ch.10
16, Mar.19	Perfect competition		Ch.11
17, Mar.21	Pure Monopoly		Ch.12
18, Mar.26	Monopolistic competition and Oligopoly	PS#5	Ch.13
19, Mar.28	Second Midterm		
20, Apr.2	Demand for resources		Ch.17
21, Apr.4	Wage Determination		Ch.17, App.
22, Apr.9	Capital Market		Ch.17
23, Apr.11	Economic rent and Profit	PS#6	Ch.17, 18
24, Apr.16	Externalities and Information failure		Ch.15
25, Apr.18	Public goods and common resources		Ch.16
26, Apr.23	Antitrust Law and Regulation	PS#7	Ch.14
27, Apr. 25	Information and uncertainty		Ch.19
Apr, 30	Review		
8:00-11:00p.m.May 9	Final exam		