

## Econ 11: Microeconomic Theory

Summer 2022

**Instructor:** Diana Flores-Peregrina

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**Class Meetings:** Mon & Wed 8:30am-10:35am

**Location:** DODD 121

**Office Hours:** Monday 2pm-4pm (at Zoom)

### Goal of the class:

This class will introduce you to many of the most important tools used in economics. The first half of the class will focus on theories of consumer choice and the development of the demand side of the economy. In the second half, we will develop the supply side and the concept of general equilibrium. By the end of the class, you should be equipped with the necessary skills to approach economic questions in a rigorous way.

### Course Materials:

**Textbook:** Walter Nicholson, *Microeconomic Theory: Basic Principles and Extensions*, 12th Edition. The 11th and 10th Editions are also fine. You can also buy older editions. In this case you are responsible for finding the material covered in class.

**Class Website:** Bruin Learn. Check this site regularly.

### Grading Policy:

Only the final exam is mandatory. Your grade for the class will be based on the following components:

**Final:** The final will cover all material covered in lecture (cumulative). All exam scores will be graded to comparable 100-point scales. You will have three hours to complete it and it will be in person.

**Problem Sets:** There will be 5 Problem Sets. To get credit for these questions you need to submit a scanned written solution on Bruin Learn by midnight (11:59pm). Only the highest 4 problem sets' scores will count of the final grade (i.e. the lowest score will be dropped).

Two different rules will be used to determine your grade, depending on which gives the highest score:

[1] Final exam **70%**, Problem Sets **30%**

[2] Final exam **100%**

This grading scheme is designed to give students an opportunity to improve their grades if they do poorly on the homework and to avoid heavy weight on a single poor exam performance.

### Important Dates:

Problem Set 1	Aug/8
Problem Set 2	Aug/15
Problem Set 3	Aug/22
Problem Set 4	Aug/29
Problem Set 5	Sept/4
Labor Day (No Class)	Sept/5
Final Exam	Sept/7

**Course Policies:**

Correspondence. Questions on general administrative issues should be posted to the online forum so that answers can be viewed by all interested students. Please consult the syllabus before posting questions to see if the information is already readily available (e.g. all deadlines are listed in the syllabus). Please do not me with these questions. Questions on subject matter/material on problem sets can be most successfully answered during my office hours. If it is not possible to ask these questions at office hours, they should be posted to the online forum so that students can also help one another. For other issues, I aim to respond to emails within 48 hours. Keep this in mind around assignment due dates and note that I may be slower on weekends.

Extensions. Extensions in emergency situations are available if you discuss them with me in advance or provide a doctor's note. In the absence of an extension, for problem sets and quizzes, you will receive no credit.

Lectures and Laptops. Most lectures will use powerpoint slides, which I will post online **after** class. During the lectures, I encourage you to take notes with paper/pencil and draw the figures and do the math yourself. This is the best way to learn the material. There is good empirical evidence now that students using laptops and cell phones in class reduces learning (and therefore, the grades) of both those who use laptops and those around them.

**Course Outline:**

The schedule of topics covered in lectures will approximate the schedule below. Corresponding chapters in the text are listed. Students should read these chapters before each lecture.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
Aug-01	Mathematics for Microeconomics, <i>Chapter 2</i>
Aug-03	Preferences and Utility, <i>Chapter 3</i>
Aug-08	Utility Maximization and Choice, <i>Chapter 4</i>
Aug-10	Utility Maximization and Choice, <i>Chapter 4</i>
Aug-15	Income and Substitution Effects, <i>Chapter 5</i>
Aug-17	Demand Relationships among Goods, <i>Chapter 6</i>
Aug-22	Production Functions, <i>Chapter 9</i>
Aug-24	Cost Functions, <i>Chapter 10</i>
Aug-29	Profit Maximization, <i>Chapter 11</i>
Aug-31	Partial Equilibrium Competitive Model, <i>Chapter 12</i>
Sep-5	Labor Day (No Class)
Sep-7	Final Exam

**Academic Integrity:**

Please refer to the University of California's policies on academic integrity

<http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/Academic-Integrity>. Any cheating, plagiarism, or other violations of academic integrity will be reported to the Office of the Dean of Students.

**Course Accommodations:**

If you are already registered with the Center for Accessible Education (CAE), please request your Letter of Accommodation in the Student Portal. If you are seeking registration with the CAE, please submit your request for accommodations via the CAE website. Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations should submit their request for accommodations as soon as possible, as it may take up to two weeks to review the request. For more information, please visit the CAE website ([www.cae.ucla.edu](http://www.cae.ucla.edu)), visit the CAE at A255 Murphy Hall, or contact us by phone at (310) 825-1501.

**Violence and Discrimination Resources**

UCLA prohibits gender discrimination, sexual harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. If you have experienced any of these, there are a variety of campus resources to assist you, including a confidential hotline where you can talk to someone 24/7: (310) 825-0768.

Title IX is a federal civil rights law in the United States that was passed as part of the Education Amendments of 1972. Therefore, **international students have access to the same services** at the Title IX office as non-international students.

Please note that **faculty and TAs are responsible employees**, which means faculty, TAs, and other UC employees are required under the UC Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment to inform the Title IX Coordinator—a non-confidential resource—should they become aware that you or any other student has experienced sexual violence or gender discrimination.

**Confidential Resources:** You can make an appointment with a **CARE** Advocate ([careprogram.ucla.edu](http://careprogram.ucla.edu)) or call their 24/7 hotline: (888) 200-6665. CARE offers free and confidential services for students, staff and faculty impacted by sexual assault, relationship violence and stalking. Counseling and Psychological Services (**CAPS**) ([counseling.ucla.edu](http://counseling.ucla.edu)) also offers confidential crisis counseling and 24/7 support at (310) 825-0768. You can also receive confidential off-campus emergency medical services, advocacy, and counseling at the **Rape Treatment Center UCLA Medical Center Santa Monica**. Their 24/7 hotline is (424) 259-7208.

**Non-Confidential Reporting:** You can report sexual violence or sexual harassment directly to the University's Title IX Office, 2255 Murphy Hall, [titleix@conet.ucla.edu](mailto:titleix@conet.ucla.edu), (310) 206-3417. Reports to law enforcement can be made to UCPD at (310) 825-1491. Please note that any appointment you make with a Title IX counselor is NOT confidential.