

ECON 306 Intermediate Microeconomics

Summer 2016

Instructor: Dr. Anita Alves Pena

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Class Meetings: MTWRF 10-12noon, Clark C359

Office Hours: by appointment (and/or immediately before or after class)

Textbook (required): R. Pindyck and D. Rubinfeld: Microeconomics, Custom Edition (P&R),
or 8th edition 2012 (Earlier editions also could work.)

Course Website: login at <http://canvas.colostate.edu>

Course Objective:

The course is theoretical in nature and is designed to equip you with analytical and quantitative tools to appreciate and assess economic decision making by individuals and firms and to understand how economic agents interact in a market setting.

Prerequisites:

Prerequisites for this course are principles of microeconomics and of macroeconomics (ECON 202/AREC 202 and ECON 204) AND basic calculus (MATH 141, 155, or 160), or the equivalent to these courses taken at a different university. The prerequisites for the course will be enforced, and it is expected that you are familiar with calculus.

Grading:

Grading will be based on 4 equally-weighted problem sets and 4 equally-weighted exams with the percentages toward final grade calculation as specified below. *Please note the attached schedule now.* No extensions. Final letter grading will include plus and minus grades (and *may* include a small curve depending on overall class performance).

Problem Sets (40%); Exams (60%)

Course Policies:

Problem sets will be assigned early in the week. No credit will be given for late problem sets. Problems sets are due at the beginning of class on the assigned dates. It is your responsibility to deliver or fax your problem sets to me early if you will not be in class. *Problem sets will not be accepted via email.* Problem sets will consist of practice problem-solving type questions. Working in study groups is highly encouraged, though you are expected to write-up and submit your own individual work. Problem sets will be graded for accuracy. *All pages of your problem set should be stapled, clipped, or otherwise attached together.* I reserve the right to take off points for not following this direction. In general, we will not have time in class to review problem sets. However, answers will be made available after an assignment is turned in to facilitate reviewing for the exams.

The exam formats will be modeled after problem sets. You are expected to submit your own work and to use no unauthorized assistance when taking exams. Academic dishonesty is not tolerated, and I will take precautions to prevent it. This may include random seating, exam proctoring, and photocopying of exams before returning them. *The course will adhere to the Academic Integrity Policy of the Colorado State University General Catalog and the Student Conduct Code, and you will be asked to sign the honor pledge on exams.* Make up exams will be given only for scheduled university functions or strenuous circumstances such as serious illness. *Written documentation is required for all make up requests.* Documentation should be submitted *prior* to the exam date unless absolutely impossible. Approval of make up work is at my discretion.

You are expected to be present in class and are responsible for material covered in lectures and in-class handouts whether or not that material is covered in the textbook or posted online. Furthermore, extra credit quizzes and/or other opportunities may present themselves in class. *Disruptive behavior is not tolerated* and is grounds for being asked to leave. This *includes the use of cell phones and reading newspapers* and other unrelated material in class. Offensive or threatening treatment of an individual is especially not tolerated. Disruptive students will be referred to university officials. In general, I will expect that you will be respectful of me, my proxy on select exam dates, and your classmates and that you will take the course seriously.

Contact Hours and Expectations for Work Outside of Instructional Time:

This is a three credit course taught over 10 hours per week for 4 weeks. Therefore, there is a 20 hour per week expectation for homework and other work outside of instructional time (equivalent to the federal credit hour definition of two hours of outside work for each contact hour). You should plan accordingly to this level of intensity.

Department Statement on Copyright:

Please do not share material from this course in online, print or other media. Course material is the property of the instructor who developed the course. Materials authored by third parties and used in the course are also subject to copyright protections. Posting course materials on external sites (commercial or not) violates both copyright law and the CSU Student Conduct Code. Students who share course content without the instructor's express permission, including with online sites that post materials to sell to other students, could face disciplinary or legal action.

Academic Integrity:

This course will adhere to the CSU Academic Integrity Policy as found on the Student Responsibilities page of the CSU General Catalog and in the Student Conduct Code. *At a minimum*, violations will result in a grading penalty in this course and a report to the Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct Services.

Accommodations:

Students requesting special accommodations should contact Resources for Disabled Students (RDS) at 970-491-6385. Accommodations for exams will not be granted without pre-approval from RDS. If this applies to you, please make arrangements *immediately* as this is a short summer session.

Syllabus and Reading List:

(This schedule is subject to change and will be revised later in the semester if necessary.)

Week of May 16:

Preliminaries, P&R Chapter 1.

Basics of Supply and Demand, P&R Chapter 2.

Consumer Behavior, P&R Chapter 3.

Individual and Market Demand, P&R Chapter 4.

THURSDAY, MAY 19: PROBLEM SET 1 DUE.

FRIDAY, MAY 20: EXAM 1.

Week of May 23:

Uncertainty and Consumer Behavior, P&R Chapter 5.

Production, P&R Chapter 6.

Cost of Production, P&R Sections 7.1-7.5.

THURSDAY, MAY 26: PROBLEM SET 2 DUE.

FRIDAY, MAY 27: EXAM 2.

Week May 30:

MONDAY, MAY 30: UNIVERSITY HOLIDAY, NO CLASS

Profit Maximization and Consumer Behavior, P&R Chapter 8.

Analysis of Competitive Markets, P&R Chapter 9.

General Equilibrium, P&R Chapter 10 (in custom reader, chapter 16 in full textbook).

THURSDAY, JUNE 2: PROBLEM SET 3 DUE.

FRIDAY, JUNE 3: EXAM 3.

Week of June 6:

Monopoly, P&R Chapter 11 and Sections 12.1-12.3 (in reader, chapter 10 and first 3 sections of chapter 11 in full book).

Oligopoly, P&R Chapter 13 (in reader, chapter 12 in full book).

THURSDAY, JUNE 9: PROBLEM SET 4 DUE.

FRIDAY, JUNE 10: EXAM 4.