

Intermediate Microeconomics
Economics 310: Section 2 Class #1029
Fall 2008
Instructor: Laura Armey
armey@usc.edu
MW 1:30 – 2:45 PM
Sage Hall 2030
Office Location: Sage Hall 292
Office Hours: M 4:30 – 5:30; MW 12:30-1:30
Or by appointment
Course Website: <http://econ.aplia.com>

Course Description: Intermediate microeconomics builds on the principles courses and employs more advanced mathematical methods to examine consumer and producer behavior. Selected topics will include the organization of industry, consumer choice theory, price and output determination in various market structures, factor markets, externalities, and strategic behavior.

Course Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand the analytical methodology of economic inquiry and competing schools of thought.
- Identify and describe simple contemporary models of microeconomic behavior.
- Apply these models and appropriate analytical methodology to microeconomic situations.
- Evaluate economic implications of government and individual behavior.

Required Course Materials:

1. Access to *Microeconomics 3rd Ed.* by Besanko and Braeutigam
2. Access to Aplia.

Attendance Policies: Students are expected to attend all class meetings, and to arrive on time prepared to learn. Attendance will be taken for the first three weeks in class during which time students will be dropped from this course for two absences. Subsequently, participation scores will suffer for failure to attend this course. Exams cannot be made up.

Grades and Exams: Grades will be determined based on the following assignments and weights:

1. Three Midterm Exams: 25%

These exams may be administered during class time or posted on the website. Each will cover designated course material. The lowest exam score will be dropped and therefore no make-up exams will be administered.

2. One Final Exam: 35%

The final exam will be a cumulative exam in the same format as the midterm examinations.

3. Homework and News Analysis: 30%

Homework will be administered and graded via the Aplia system. Using the Aplia system, students will also read news excerpts and analyze them using the economic skills they have learned. Students will be allowed to drop their lowest homework/news analysis scores.

4. Participation: 10%

This includes regular attendance in class, taking part in class discussions based on readings, homework and current events. This also includes participation with an assigned group on weekly homework presentations.

Extra Credit: Students can receive up to 6 percentage points of extra credit (2 percentage points each) for writing short papers. The papers must be at least 2 pages in length and provide a summary and analysis of an approved contemporary or classic reading of economic thought. Students must seek prior approval from the instructor for their chosen readings. The instructor will make suggestions upon request from students.

While I reserve the right to adjust the grading scale based on class performance, the following scale can be used as a general guide: 90 to 100 A; 75 to 89 B; 60 to 74 C; 50 to 59 D; less than 50 F.

Academic Dishonesty Policy: College study is the process of becoming an independent scholar and thus all students are expected to do their own work. All forms of cheating and plagiarism are absolutely forbidden. This is the official policy of California State University, Channel Islands and the instructor of this course. Students found in violation of this policy will automatically receive an F in the course and be promptly reported to the proper authorities and this will become part of the students' permanent academic record.

Disability Accommodations: Students with disabilities needing accommodation should make requests to Dr. Terri Goldstein, Disability Accommodation Services, Bell Tower, East Wing, Room 1769 (805-437-8528, terri.goldstein@csuci.edu). All requests for accommodations require appropriate advance notice to avoid a delay in services. Please discuss approved accommodations with me.



Student Registration and Payment Instructions

Course Name: Econ 310 - Intermediate Micro - 01

Start Date: 08/25/2008

Instructor: Laura Armey

Course Key: DF5N-XYQP-55XV

You can begin working on your homework as soon as you register!

- In this course, you will use a textbook and Aplia's website.
 - In most cases, you can save money if you buy Aplia and your textbook together. See payment options below.
 - You will have access to a digital version of your textbook using Aplia.
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Registration

If you have never used Aplia before...

1. Connect to <http://www.aplia.com>.
2. Click the New Student link and enter your Course Key: **DF5N-XYQP-55XV**. Continue following the instructions to complete your registration.

If you have used Aplia before...

1. Connect to <http://www.aplia.com>.
2. Sign in with your usual e-mail address and password and enter your Course Key when prompted: **DF5N-XYQP-55XV**. If you are not prompted for a new Course Key, click the Enter Course Key button to enroll in a new Aplia course. Enter your Course Key when you are prompted.

** You will have different payment options after you register for your course. If you choose to pay later, you can use Aplia without paying until 11:59 PM on 09/14/2008.*

Payment

Option 1: Digital Textbook with Aplia Access

- **From Aplia:** Purchase access to your course from Aplia's website for \$75.00 USD.

Option 2: Physical Textbook with Aplia Access (also includes digital textbook)

- **From Aplia:** Purchase access to your course for \$75.00 USD and a physical book for \$50.00 USD from Aplia's website.

** You will have access to your digital textbook up until the end of this course.*