Instructor: Dr. Mary Allender
Office: CH287-L
Phone: 503-725-3936
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Office Hours: MW 9:15-9:55am
Class Meetings: MW 10:00-11:50am, CH449

Prerequisites: EC201 (Principles of Microeconomics)

Course Description: This course presents the basic models economists use to study how individual decisions by economic agents lead to efficient allocation of goods and factors of production in a market economy. The course focuses on both policy applications as well as business strategies. Topics include consumer choice, firm production and costs, and price and production strategies in markets defined as pure competition, pure monopoly and oligopoly. The topics we study in microeconomics help us better understand how the world works and offer practical tools for decision making.


Course Requirements: There will be two midterms and a final each worth 25% of your grade. Five homework sets are worth 5% of your grade each for a total of 25% of your overall grade. Homework assignments are to be turned in during class on the dates listed below. All homework problems come from problems at the back of chapters in our text.

Course Policies: Homework cannot be turned in late and exams cannot be missed unless you have a) documented medical emergencies or b) documented military or other civil service.

Disabilities Services: Students with documented learning disabilities or special needs must contact me during the first week of class that you will be using the Testing Center as required by PSU policy. It is the student’s responsibility to arrange for accommodations and notify me of them.

Academic Integrity: Please familiarize yourself with the Portland State Student Code of Conduct. Minimum penalty for academic dishonesty in this class will be a letter grade of “F” for the exam or other work in question.

Cell phone Policy: You will not need a cell phone in this course. Please keep your cell phone or any other device that may disrupt the class turned off and in your bag.
Course Calendar:

Key Dates:
Midterm 1 - April 27
Midterm 2 – May 18
Final Exam – June 10, 2015; 10:15-12:05
No Class: Monday May 25 for Memorial Day holiday
Homework 1: due April 8
Homework 2: due April 22
Homework 3: due May 6
Homework 4: due May 20
Homework 5: due June 3

Course Outline

Week 1: Introduction and Review – Ch.1
Week 2: Utility and Choice – Ch. 2
Week 3: Demand – Ch. 3
Week 4: Ch. 3 cont., and Production – Ch. 6
Week 5: Production – Ch. 6
Week 6: Costs – Ch. 7
Week 7: Profit Maximization and Supply – Ch. 8
Week 8: Perfect Competition – Ch. 9
Week 9: Monopoly – Ch. 11
Week 10: Imperfect Competition and Oligopoly – Ch. 12

Note: This course schedule detailing course coverage may change slightly depending on how quickly (or not) we progress through course material.

Homework Problems:

Homework 1 due April 8: 1.2, 1.6, 1.8, 2.2, 2.6, 2.10,
Homework 2 due April 22: 3.2, 3.6, 3.10, 6.2, 6.4, 6.8
Homework 3 due May 6: 7.2, 7.4, 7.6, 8.4, 8.6
Homework 4 due May 20: 8.10, 9.2, 9.4, 9.6, 9.10
Homework 5 due June 3: 11.2, 11.10, 12.2, 12.10