ECO100C MICROECONOMICS C
(Imperfect Competition, Strategy and Information)
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT SAN DIEGO
SUMMER TERM II 2013
SYLLABUS

Lectures: Mondays and Wednesdays from 11:00am to 1:50pm in PCYNH 122
Sections: Tuesdays 12:00-1:50pm in CENTR 119

Professor:

Dr. Michael Noel: Office: TBA
                   Office Hours: Mondays 2:00pm-2:50pm
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Teaching Assistants:

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The Course

Econ 100C examines departures from the neoclassical model including imperfect competition, strategy, asymmetric information, and signaling.

Required Textbook

Perloff, J. *Microeconomics Theory and Application w/ Calculus,* 2nd Edition.

Grading

There will be one term test (40% of the total grade) held in class on <u>Monday, August 26th</u> and one final exam (60%) held during the final exam period (check the class schedule for time and location). If you have other plans on those dates, <u>then you should not take the course</u>. (Be aware that missing even one class can be difficult to recover from.) The only allowable reasons for missing a test or exam is a medically documented and unexpected illness on test day, a death in the family immediately preceding test day, or as permitted under the university policy on religious observances, disabilities, and UCSD athletics conflicts. There are no other exceptions so please check your schedules well in advance. For religious observances, disabilities, and UCSD athletic conflicts, notice must be given two we in the first week of class and alternate arrangements will be made. For illness, you must provide within one week of the test date a note from a physician stating that he/she evaluated you the same day as the test and that your illness

reasonably prevented you from taking the test. For a death in the immediate family, provide documentation within two weeks.

If you do have a valid excuse to miss the term test, there will be no makeup and your grade will be based 100% on the final exam. If you miss the final exam, you will be given a grade of incomplete if your midterm is of passing quality and an F if it is not (as required under university grading policies). Therefore if you miss both exams, you will receive an F. If you receive a grade of incomplete, you will take a new final before the end of the following quarter at a time directed by the professor.

Note that if you start taking a test, the test <u>counts</u>. Under no circumstances can you have your test result not count (for illness or otherwise) after you have started taking it. Also note that the professor or t.a. cannot pre-approve requests to miss an exam for illness (for example, a student does not feel well but comes to the start of the exam to ask permission not to have to take it), but rather a note from a licensed physician is required.

The test and exam are closed book. You do not need blue books. Exams are 100% electronics free. No calculators (you do not need them), no cell phones, no iPods, no headphones, etc., no electronics of any kind in the exam hall. Also, no sunglasses or hats are permitted on test days. The final exam is cumulative, but heavily weighted to material from the second half of the course.

The marking scheme set out here cannot be amended for individual students. A student may not have a poor result excused, or make up for it by doing extra assignments, taking makeup exams or any other kind of additional work. All requests for exceptions must be denied. So be sure to do the problem sets thoroughly and be prepared for the test and exam.

Any regrade requests for the test or exam must be submitted <u>in writing</u> one week after the exam is returned to the class, with an explanation of the specific dispute written on a separate sheet of paper and attached to the front of the exam. The entire exam, start to finish, will then be regraded and your grade may go up or down. Be aware that exams, at the discretion of the professor, are photocopied prior to being returned to students the first time to eliminate the possibility of a student altering an exam (in serious violation of academic integrity rules) before resubmitting.

<u>Problem Sets</u>

Problems set questions will be distributed every week and are <u>not</u> graded. Therefore there is no due date, but we <u>strongly</u> suggest you attempt every problem prior to the Tuesday section. Many students ignore this at their own disadvantage. Selected problem questions are taken up in section.

Exams draw very heavily from these problem sets and you want to understand how to solve these kinds of questions with confidence. Experience has shown that simply reading the solutions without really working through the problems beforehand leads to a false sense of understanding and is a sure way to a poor result. Try to do the problems yourself first!

Academic Dishonesty

There is a zero tolerance policy in this class for academic dishonesty. Any student found guilty of academic dishonesty will receive an F in the course. If you are unsure what constitutes academic dishonesty, please ask or consult with your college dean. In all cases, the student's name and test or exam will be immediately forwarded to the Academic Integrity Office, who will impose an additional penalty, up to and including expulsion from the university. Please do not even *consider* doing this. It is not worth it!

Some Friendly Advice

Summer courses move very fast! We cover a week's worth of material every class. That's two weeks of material over a three day period (Monday – Wednesday). It is imperative to stay on top of the material after every class. Several full days a week to study the course material and keep up with the problem sets is needed, more if your calculus is rusty. Begin studying for the test and exam starting on the first day of class. Do all the problem set questions well before section and before the solutions become available. By doing them in advance, you will know which ones you want to see taken up in section. The upper division 100 sequence moves **very** quickly and many students are not accustomed to the integration of calculus into economics problems. There are lots of resources available, experience shows that it is in your best interest to use them early and use them often! The professor and the teaching assistants are here to help.

Topics

Important: The chapter numbers below are taken from the first edition of the textbook. Check back in a few days for an updated syllabus using updated chapter numbers from the 2nd edition. This notice will be removed once the update is complete.

1. Review of Efficiency
(From 100B: Chapter 5, Chapter 9)

2. Government Intervention in a Market
 Taxes
 Price Ceilings
 Price Supports
(Chapter 2, Chapter 9)

3. Monopoly
 Sources of monopoly power
 Monopolist's profit max
 Deadweight loss from monopoly
 Price discrimination
(Chapter 11, Chapter 12)

4. Game Theory
 Dominant Strategies
 Static, dynamic, subgame perfection, and repeated games

(Chapter 14)

5. Oligopoly
       Cournot
       Stackelberg
       Bertrand
(Chapter 13)

6. Externalities and Public Goods
(Chapter 17)

7. Economics of Information
       Asymmetric Information, Moral Hazard
(Chapter 18, Chapter 19)