

**Econ 170B: Intermediate Microeconomics for Management Science  
Syllabus  
Spring 2006**

**Instructor: Bolong Cao**

Office: Economics 119

Office hours: Monday 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. or by appointment.

Course website: <http://dss.ucsd.edu/~bcao/econ170bs06/Econ170BSpr06.html>

Course Materials and updates on WebCT

E-mail: e-mail program on WebCT

**Teaching Assistants:**

Leslie Wallace    lwallace“at”ucsd.edu    Sequoyah 207    Office hours: Tu/Th 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Chris Wignall    cwignall“at”ucsd.edu    Sequoyah 206    Office hours: Mon 12:00-2:00 p.m.

**Textbook:** Baye, Michael R., *Managerial Economics and Business Strategy*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition. Either hardcover or paperback edition will be fine for the course. **Chapters 9, 10, and parts of Chapters 11, 12 and 14 (see below) of the textbook are required reading.**

This course is a continuation of Econ 170A and assumes familiarity with the topics taught in that course. The course is organized as follows:

**I. Introduction and Review**

**II. Oligopoly** (Chapter 9: Whole Chapter)

**Midterm I: Wed. April 19, 2006, in class** (Non-cumulative)

**III. Game Theory** (Chapter 10: Whole Chapter)

**VI. Pricing Strategies for Firms with Market Power**

(Chapter 11: up to Commodity Bundling)

**Midterm II: Mon. May 15, 2006, in class** (Non-cumulative)

**IV. Economics of Information** (Chapter 12: up to Signaling and Screening)

**V. Externalities and Public Goods** (Chapter 14: up to public goods)

**Final Exam: Mon. June 12, 2006** (Cumulative)

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Location: TAB

**Course Grade:**

The final exam will be comprehensive but will have greater emphasis on the new materials after the previous exams. The weight of the exams for the final grade will be as follows:

Midterm I      25%

Midterm II     25%

Final Exam    50%

**You are expected to take both midterms and the final exam. Make-up exams are not available.**

**If you get sick on the day of an exam**, please make sure that you see your doctor and get a written doctor's statement indicates that you were unable to take the exam. Without such a statement, I will have to assign you a failing grade for the missed exam. If you have other personal reasons why you were unable to take the exam, please provide documentation for those.

**Homeworks:** Homeworks will be assigned weekly. All the solutions to the questions at the end of each chapter will be posted on the course page on WebCT. You are encouraged to discuss homeworks with other students and with the TA's during their office hours.

Homeworks are not graded.

Sample midterms and a sample final exam will be provided on WebCT. These are based on past exams and are just a guide for how the exams *may* look like. They are not meant to tell you what will be on the exam.

**Lecture notes:** The lecture notes contain both Powerpoint files and hand-written notes. I will post my Powerpoint lectures on the WebCT. These posted notes will be only a part of all the lecture materials. You will need to come to class to get hand-written lecture notes. If you miss a class for any reason, you will need to get the notes from someone else in the class.

**How to study for this class:** We will cover a wide range of topics in this class. You need to remember the assumptions, solving strategy and conclusions of each model in every topic. On the exam, you are required to correctly recognize the model that the situation in an exam question is referring to, apply the solution techniques taught in the lecture and make judgments based on conclusions from the models. Diligent study on the lecture notes and homeworks questions is necessary to meet all these requirements. Few people manage to learn all the required topics in the last week before the exam. Limited knowledge of a few of the covered topics may not be sufficient to pass the course.

**Exam policy:**

- Exams will be close-book, close-notes, and you are only allowed to use non-graphical calculators, no calculators on cell phones can be used during exams.
- You will be provided with paper and do not need to bring bluebooks.
- The final exam date is chosen by the university scheduling office and cannot be rescheduled. You can check the final exam schedule for all your classes on TritonLink.
- Regrade requests must be submitted in with a written explanation in *required format* for why you believe the grading was incorrect. The deadline for regrade requests is one week after the exam was returned. Only exams written in pen (not in pencil!) are acceptable for regrades. Your entire exam will be regraded and your total score may go up or down as a result. The *format* for the written explanation is: first, explain the answer key *step by step*; second, explain the difference between your answer and the answer key; third, argue why you deserve a different grade.

**Note:** Sometimes students who are disappointed with their grade ask whether they can do additional work to increase their grade. The answer is no, because to do so would be completely unfair to other students in the class.