

Principles of Microeconomics  
Spring 1, 2010  
MWF 11:00 to 11:50  
Peterson 110

**Instructor:** David Bernotas  
**Office:** Econ 108  
**Email:** dbernotas@ucsd.edu (use with caution)

**Course description:** We will discuss markets and equilibria concepts, consumer choice, firm behavior in perfect competition, efficiency, some trade and a bit of monopoly.

**Discussion section and TAs:**

Monday 12:00pm (Peterson 104): Michael Furchtgott (mfurchtg@ucsd.edu)  
Monday 1:00pm (Peterson 104): Dallas Dotter (ddotter@ucsd.edu)  
Wednesday 12:00pm (Peterson 104): Jim Kwong (jkwong@ucsd.edu)  
At your service, but without section: Siwen Li (siwen\_li@yahoo.com)

**Text (optional, but recommended):** Principles of Economics, by Robert Frank and Ben Bernanke (4<sup>th</sup> ed., McGraw Hill publisher).

**Exams:** There will be three exams—Exam 1, Exam 2 and Exam C. Exam C is the final.

**Schedule:** The following dates are subject to change.

April 30<sup>th</sup>: Exam 1  
May 28<sup>st</sup>: Exam 2  
Final's week: Final exam (Exam C)

**Grades:** Your grade will be based on your performance. We will take your best 2 exam scores. Yes, this means the final exam is optional. Technically, all of the exams are optional, but you'll fail the course if you don't take at least 2 exams. We will not count your lowest exam grade. This means that, if you have to miss an exam, we don't need to hear about it. You will get a zero on that exam, and then you should plan to take the final. If you miss more than one exam, then you should immediately begin work on construction of a time machine, because only going back in time and taking one of the missed exams will allow you to pass the course—emailing us excuses is not a substitute for time travel.

There may be a curve, depending on how everybody does. Typically, it amounts to a couple of points.

**Attendance:** There is no attendance requirement for class or discussion sessions. However, if you are cool enough to miss class, then you must be cool enough to not email us asking what we covered. This is a really annoying habit.

**Cheating:** Do not cheat. There will be penalties for cheating, including failing the exam or failing the course. At some point during an exam, you'll have the thought that you can look around to get an idea about how to answer one of the exam questions. We will catch you! You're not as discrete as you may think.

**Cell phones:** Cell phones *cannot* be used as calculators. If you anticipate needing a calculator during an exam, please bring one.

**Miscellaneous:** There is absolutely no reason you should have a computer out during class. I know you only have a 1.3 second attention span (thanks in part to television and the internet), but trust me, you can stop messing around with Facebook for an hour to pay attention in class. If you can't, then you should seriously think about getting help. Besides, none of your 25,000 friends are really that interesting—I know this because I had them last quarter. Focus! Your performance in college courses significantly affects your future, your Facebook status does not.