Course description
The main objective of this course is to explore the foundations of microeconomics theory. We will study the behavior of economic agents (consumers and firms), how they make decisions, and how they interact in the marketplace. Topics that will be covered include consumer theory, producer theory, and market structure, all from Econ 202 but in greater depth. In addition, we will cover some new concepts such as consumer behavior under uncertainty, game theory (strategic interaction between economic agents), and market failure (asymmetric information, externalities, and public goods). The theories that we will discuss in this course prepare you for almost all upper division economics courses and business applications.

Prerequisite
Principles of Microeconomics (Econ 202) & Math 160. An understanding of functions and derivatives is necessary to succeed in this course. We will review the calculus topics used as we go.

Course materials
- Microeconomics, by Pindyck and Rubinfeld, 9e Pearson Education Inc (having an old edition works too). This is a reader friendly textbook with simple explanations. However, the textbook is NOT a substitute for the lectures. I may have a brief review on some topics and go into more depth and details on others.
- Access to MyEconLab. MyEconLab will be used for online assignments. See the attachment to the syllabus for registration information on MyEconLab.
- Additional reading material may be provided for critical analysis and discussion.

Additional textbook (not required)
There are two other textbooks I highly recommend if you are planning to go to graduate school: Intermediate Microeconomics by Hal Varian and Microeconomics by Jeffrey Perloff.

Assessment
- Prerequisite test: This is a department requirement, and everyone is required to take this test. This test must be taken in the Boise State Testing Center located in the Simplot Micron Academic Success Hub (SMASH) Building, Room 213. You do not need to make an appointment to take this test. Regular hours of the Testing Center are from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. You have until Friday, September 8 to take the pretest and can have up to three tries. The test is worth 10% of the class grade and only your highest score from all attempts will be recorded.
Exams: There will be three non-cumulative exams and one final exam. Each exam will consist of some multiple choice questions, short answer questions, and exercises. Out of the three regular exams, your highest grade weighs 20%, your middle grade weighs 15%, and your lowest exam grade weighs 10% of your final grade. Therefore, the three exams together are 45% of your total grade. The final exam is cumulative and will weigh 30% of your final grade. All exams are closed book, but you can use a BASIC calculator.

Class activities: Grades on assignments, quizzes, and class discussions and exercises will weight 15% of your final grade (details will be discussed in class).

Grading scale

\[ A = 90 - 100, \quad B = 80 - 89, \quad C = 70 - 79, \quad D = 60 - 69, \quad F = 0 - 59 \]

- Prerequisite test (10%)
- Midterm exams (45%)
- Final exam (30%)
- Class activities (15%)

Examination calendar

- Exam #1 ...... Wednesday, September 20, 2017 ...... 12:00 – 1:15 PM
- Exam #2 ...... Wednesday, October 18, 2017 ...... 12:00 – 1:15 PM
- Exam #3 ...... Wednesday, November 15, 2017 ...... 12:00 – 1:15 PM
- Final Exam ......... Monday, December 11, 2017 ......... 12:30 – 2:30 PM

***All exams will be held in our usual classroom***

Boot camp

The Department of Economics is offering boot camp sessions during the first three weeks of the semester to help you prepare for the Prerequisite test and review important concepts that will enable you to be successful in ECON 303. Professor John Martin is teaching the classes. Attending boot camp sessions is optional. The schedule for these sessions is: Friday, August 25, 10am – 12pm, MBEB 4003. Friday, September 1, 12 – 2pm, MBEB 4003. Friday, September 8, 10am – 2pm, MBEB 4003.

Disabilities

Any student who requires special assistant because of a disability should contact me as soon as possible to make necessary accommodations. Accommodations must be approved by the Educational Access Center (EAC).

Academic Integrity:

Any kind of Academic Dishonesty is prohibited in the class. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at [https://deanofstudents.boisestate.edu/student-code-of-conduct/](https://deanofstudents.boisestate.edu/student-code-of-conduct/).

Notes

- Attendance and class participation are important and expected.
- You will be given zero points for any test you miss. But, if you have an official and acceptable excuse, you will be allowed to make up the exam that you missed as early as possible.
- You are NOT allowed to use cell phones, or use laptops for nonrelated class activities, or engage in any form of distraction.
Tentative course outline

- **Introduction** ................................................................. Week 1,2
  - Preliminaries
  - Supply and Demand

- **Consumer Theory** ......................................................... Week 3,4
  - Consumer Behavior
  - Individual and Market Demand
  - Choice Under Uncertainty

***Summary, review, and 1st Exam*** ........................................... Week 5

- **Producer Theory** .......................................................... Week 6,7,8
  - Production Functions
  - The Cost of Production
  - Profit Maximization and Competitive Supply

***Summary, review, and 2nd Exam*** ......................................... Week 9

- **Markets and Strategy** ..................................................... Week 10,11,12
  - Competitive Markets
  - Market Power and Monopoly
  - Pricing with Market Power
  - Game Theory and Competitive Strategy

***Summary, review, and 3rd Exam*** ......................................... Week 13
Thanksgiving Holidays .......................................................... Week 14

- **Market Failure** ............................................................ Week 15
  - Markets with Asymmetric Information
  - Externalities and Public Goods

***Summary, review, and preparation for Final Exam*** .................. Week 16
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<tr>
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<th>Students in this class will learn or practice the following COBE Core Curriculum concepts, methods, and skills:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Understand and apply analytical and disciplinary concepts and methods related to business and economics:</td>
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<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1.3. Economics</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2.1. Communicate effectively: Write messages and documents that are clear, concise, and compelling</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.2. Communicate effectively: Give oral presentations that use effective content, organization, and delivery</td>
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<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>3. Solve problems, including unstructured problems, related to business and economics</td>
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<td>4. Use effective teamwork and collaboration skills</td>
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<td>5. Demonstrate appropriate principles of responsible business practices</td>
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