

Welcome to Economics 1 !

University of California, San Diego, Summer Session 1 (812467)

Instructor

Christopher Paul Steiner

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Lecture: 8:00 AM-10:50 AM, TuTh, Solis 104 (see one minor reschedule*)

Final Exam: 8:00 AM-10:59 AM, Saturday, August 2. Location TBD.

Office Hours: 11:00 AM-1 PM Wednesdays, Econ 200

Teaching Assistant

Matthew Knepper

mknepper@ucsd.edu

Discussion: 9:00 AM-10:50 AM Wed, CSB 001 (see minor reschedule*)

Office Hours: 11:00 AM-1 PM Tuesdays, Econ 120

* Minor Reschedule: Lecture on Tuesday, July 29 will be substituted for a discussion with the TA. Discussion on July 30 will be a *mandatory* flipped classroom on international trade, with Chris or another fine instructor leading. See calendar.

Course Description

Economics 1 is the first of a three part series focusing on the fundamentals and basic modeling of the economy – which encompasses all of our interactions to deliver goods and services to each other. In Econ 1, we will focus on the microeconomy – how individuals and firms interact and make these decisions. We will look at the classic supply-demand diagram, and we will ponder how prices and preferences can determine economic output without interveners *per se*. I will also take some time to hint when the models fail. However, these models are more complicated, and Econ 2 will go more in depth with market failure.

Textbook

This year, Janet Yellen was appointed as the first woman to chair the Federal Reserve Bank of the United States. We are using the textbook of the former Federal Reserve Chair, Ben Bernanke, and his colleague, Robert Frank. UCSD has a custom edition, which I will put on reserve in the library. I cannot say enough flattering things about this textbook.

Required: Robert Frank and Ben Bernanke, *Principles of Economics*, Edition 5e.

Grades

55%: Top two of three 60-minute in-class chapter tests, worth 27.5% each.

35%: Final

8%: Flipped-classroom homework assignment on international trade.

2%: Group attendance

Chapter Tests

There will be three short, 60-minute, multi-chapter tests about the material from the previous week. I will drop the lowest score, and the grade will be equally weighted between the two remaining scores.

Final

The final will be in two parts and will be 80 minutes.

Part One: 1/7 of the grade of the final exam will be multiple choice and true/false questions from chapters 1-5 (including Ch. 1 and Ch. 5 Appendices).

Part Two: 6/7 of the grade of the final exam will cover chapters 6, 7, and 8 (short answer *and* multiple choice/T/F).

Group Work

I have randomly divided you into groups. In each lecture, we will take a 10 minute break, followed by 20 minutes of group work on a worksheet I will assign.

These worksheets are **not** graded. However, I left 2% in the grade for group attendance. During groups, the group will mark out anyone not attending on a sheet. This is a very tiny portion of the grade – it's not meant to be punitive but, rather, it's meant to incentivize you to participate in your group.

Flipped Classroom

We will switch discussion section on Tuesday, July 29 with lecture on Wednesday, July 30.

Rooms will stay the same (i.e., we are in Solis on July 29 and CSB on July 30). Matt will run the discussion on July 29 in Solis.

On July 30, either another fine economics instructor or I will run a flipped classroom exercise on **International Trade**. You will not be tested on international trade, but I will upload a video lecture on it along with homework. Before July 30, do the homework. Bring it in on July 30, and you and your group will work on it together in CSB 001. The finalized homework is due on Thursday, July 31, and will be 8% of your grade.

Homework from the flipped classroom must be handed in on paper – *stapled and with your name on it* on Thursday, July 31. **Important: homework e-mailed to the professor or the teaching assistant will not be graded. Even if you missed because of traffic.** Homework not handed in before 10:55 AM on Thursday, July 30, in Solis 104 will be graded as a 0%.

Re-grade Requests

Both Matt and I take grading seriously because we know that you take your grade seriously. To prevent massive re-grade requests right after tests, I have the following re-grade policy. Matt will hand back the chapter tests during discussion section.

For multiple choice and true/false questions: You can ask Matt or me to re-grade correct multiple choice or T/F questions marked incorrect within six days of the time he hands back the tests in discussion section. You must request this *before or right when lecture ends* the following Tuesday (10:55 AM). It is highly recommended that you do this request in lecture during the break on the Thursday following receiving the test. You *must* bring the exam, and these requests *may not* be made via email.

For questions that are not multiple choice or true/false: On the Ted website for the course, there is a re-grade request form. *You should only request a re-grade if you feel you were marked incorrectly.* You need to solve the entire problem at home correctly in order to request a re-grade. Fill out the form along with the correct answer and an explanation for why you deserve a grade re-consideration. Staple the form with your name to the entire test. You must turn in the form and exam to Matt or me before 10:55 AM the Tuesday following the week after the test was handed back. Chris (me) will re-grade the question.

Under no circumstance will you be able to request a re-grade after the re-grade request due date (the Tuesday after the tests were handed back at 10:55 AM).

Extreme Circumstance Policy

You may miss *one* non-final test for any reason; this is the one dropped as described in the grading section. It is recommended, however, that you take all of the tests to maximize your score. However, unless there is an extreme, unplanned event “EUP” (family funeral, emergency room visit) for each test, multiple tests will *not* be dropped. On Ted, I will make available a very complicated exception to this for a wedding and multiple EUP’s if the wedding is not on the final. Extensive extreme circumstance policy is available on Ted. Personal irresponsibility (i.e., not getting in class in time because of alarm or traffic) is not considered an EUP, although consider yourself lucky if this happens and you only miss one non-final test!

Students with Disabilities

Students requesting accommodations for this course due to a disability must provide a *current* Authorization for Accommodation (AFA) letter issued by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) which is located in University Center 202 behind Center Hall. Students are required to present their AFA letters to Faculty (please make arrangements to contact me privately) and to the OSD Liaison in the department *in advance* so that accommodations may be arranged.

If you have a documented disability, please bring your documentation to me as soon as possible so that I can make suitable accommodations for you. If you believe that you have a disability and desire accommodation, please register with the Office for Students with Disabilities.

Contact the OSD for further information:

858.534.4382 (phone)

osd@ucsd.edu (email)

<http://disabilities.ucsd.edu> (website)

Academic Integrity

Any student found guilty of academic dishonesty will earn a failing grade for the course. In addition to my academic sanction, the Council of Deans of Student Affairs will also impose a disciplinary penalty. If you observe or otherwise know about academic misconduct in my class, I encourage you to tell me, or to use UCSD's new anonymous system at:

<https://students.ucsd.edu/academics/academic-integrity/reporting.html>

Lesson Plan

You should do the readings and homework for each lecture *before* the lecture. Obviously, you will not be able to do this for the first lecture. Feel free to email Matt, your group-mates, or me with questions.

Lecture 1: Tuesday, July 1, 2014

Chapter 1 Appendix

Introductions. Linear Equations, the Coordinate Plane, Fractions, and Using Math for Economic Problems.

Sample Problems in PDF on Ted

Discussion 1: Wednesday, July 2, 2014

Chapter 1 Appendix

Lecture 2: Thursday, July 3, 2014

Chapter 1: Thinking Like an Economist

Prereading: James Surowiecki, "That Sunk Cost Feeling," *The New Yorker*, Jan. 2013.

http://www.newyorker.com/talk/financial/2013/01/21/130121ta_talk_surowiecki

Problems for Chapter 1 available online. Also, end of chapter problems.

Lecture 3: Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Chapter 2: Comparative Advantage

Prereading: "The Trouble with Sin as Comparative Advantage," *The Economist*, Aug. 18, 2010.

http://www.economist.com/blogs/democracyinamerica/2010/08/sin_politics_and_economics_nevada

Problems for Chapter 2 available online. Also, end of chapter problems.

Discussion 2: Wednesday, July 9, 2014

Chapter 1 and Chapter 2

Lecture 4: Thursday, July 10, 2014

Test: Chapter 1 Appendix and Chapter 1

Chapter 3: Supply and Demand

Prereading: "The Lime Shortage: Still Messing with Your Margarita," NPR, May 5, 2014.

<http://www.npr.org/blogs/thesalt/2014/05/05/309073066/the-lime-shortage-still-messing-with-your-margarita>

Problems for Chapter 3 available online. Also, end of chapter problems.

Lecture 5: Tuesday, July 15, 2014

Chapter 4: Elasticity

Prereading: "Cost of Corn Soars, Forcing Mexico to Set Price Limits," *New York Times*, Jan. 9, 2007

Note: There is a limit of 10 NYT articles per month. If you need to, you may read a printout of this in either my office hours or one of the TA's.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/01/19/world/americas/19tortillas.html>

Problems for Chapter 4 available online. Also, end of chapter problems.

Discussion 3: Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Chapter 3 and Chapter 4

Lecture 6: Thursday, July 17, 2014

Test: Chapter 2 and Chapter 3

Chapter 5: Demand

Prereading: “FDA Values Cost of Lost Enjoyment if e-Cigarette Rules Prevent Smoking,” Jun. 2, 2014

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/06/02/us-fda-tobacco-insight-idUSKBN0EDoA620140602>

Problems for Chapter 5 available online. Also, end of chapter problems.

Lecture 7: Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Chapter 5 Appendix

Chapter 6: Perfectly Competitive Supply

Prereading: “Buy, Grow, Sell High: Canada’s Wheat Farmers Turn Into Commodity Traders,” *Globe and Mail*, Sept. 16, 2013

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/buy-grow-sell-high-canadas-farmers-turn-into-commodity-traders/article14365325/>

Problems for Chapter 6 available online. Also, end of chapter problems.

Discussion 4: Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Chapter 5, Chapter 5 Appendix, and Chapter 6

Lecture 8: Thursday, July 24, 2014

Test: Chapter 4, Chapter 5, Chapter 5 Appendix

Chapter 7: Efficiency, Exchange, and the Invisible Hand in Action

Prereading: “Gas-Guzzlers Lose Appeal as Mexico Ends Fuel Subsidy,” *Monitor Global Outlook*, Jan. 15, 2013

<http://monitorglobaloutlook.com/news-story/gas-guzzlers-lose-appeal-as-mexico-ends-fuel-subsidy/>

Problems for Chapter 7 available online. Also, end of chapter problems.

Discussion 9: Tuesday, July 29, 2014

Chapter 6, Chapter 7

Flipped Classroom: Wednesday, July 30, 2014

International Trade, Chapter 27

Pre-reading: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2013/12/11/everything-you-need-to-know-about-the-trans-pacific-partnership/>

Flipped-Classroom Homework available online.

Lecture 9: Thursday, July 31, 2014

Flipped Classroom Homework Due

Chapter 8: Monopoly, Oligopoly, and Monopolistic Competition

Pre-reading. Note that this is an editorial.

Access is limited to 10 NYT articles a month. If you cannot access, see me in office hours; you can read a printout of the article.

Paul Krugman Op-Ed, "Barons of Broadband," *New York Times*, Feb. 16, 2014

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/02/17/opinion/krugman-barons-of-broadband.html>

Saturday, August 2: Final. 8 AM-10:59 AM.

Tu	W	Th	
1	2	3	
Lecture: Introductions Chapter 1 Appendix	Discussion: Chapter 1 Appendix	Lecture: Chapter 1	
8	9	10	
Lecture: Chapter 2	Discussion: Chapter 1 Chapter 2	Test: Ch 1 Appendix, Chapter 1 Lecture: Chapter 3	
15	16	17	
Lecture: Chapter 4	Discussion: Chapter 3 Chapter 4	Test: Chapter 2, Chapter 3 Lecture: Chapter 5	
22	23	24	
Lecture: Chapter 5 Appendix Chapter 6	Discussion: Chapter 4 Chapter 5 Chapter 5 Appendix	Test: Chapter 4, Chapter 5, Chapter 5 Appendix Lecture: Chapter 7	
29	30	31	Saturday, Aug. 2
Discussion: Chapter 6 Chapter 7	<i>Flipped Classroom Exercise</i> <i>International Trade</i> <i>Chapter 27</i>	<i>International Trade Homework Due</i> Lecture: Chapter 8 Review: Chapter 8	Final