

ECON 101: Microeconomic Theory

UCLA Summer Session A, 2026

Course Information

Instructor: Jack Sitarski

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Location: Online

Lecture Times: MW 1:00-3:05pm PDT

Office Hours: MW 3:20-4:30pm PDT, F 10:30am-12:00pm PDT

Zoom Link: <https://ucla.zoom.us/j/95281145732>

Course Description: This course will introduce students to models commonly used in microeconomics, with a joint focus on theory and applications. Topics include choice under uncertainty, monopoly and market power, game theory and imperfect competition, and asymmetric information. By the end of this course, students will develop (i) a working knowledge of some of the most important and commonly used models in microeconomics, (ii) the ability to think strategically using tools from game theory, and (iii) the ability to use economic modeling techniques to solve new and unique problems.

Prerequisites: Students must have completed ECON 11. In addition, students should be comfortable with differential calculus.

Reading and Materials

There is no specific required textbook for this class. The homework and exams will be based on the lecture notes and other material uploaded to the class website. However, you may find the textbook *Microeconomic Theory: Basic Principles and Extensions* by Walter Nicholson and Christopher Snyder helpful.

Exams and Grading

We will have a midterm on **July 8** and a final exam on **July 29**, during the regularly scheduled lectures. Please note that although the exams are conducted remotely, **all students must take the exam during the scheduled time, regardless of what time zone they are in.**

There will be four problem sets assigned in the weeks that we do not have exams; you will have approximately one week to complete each problem set. You may work with other students on the problem sets, but each student should submit their own work.

Grades will be calculated using the following weights:

- Problem Sets (20%)
- Midterm (40%)
- Final Exam (40%)

Policy on Missed Exams: Exams must be taken at one of the scheduled times. Please note that department policy does not allow for any makeup exam to be administered if a student misses a midterm (<https://economics.ucla.edu/undergraduate/common-syllabus/>). If a student has a legitimate reason (by “legitimate reason” I mean something serious and unanticipated) and can provide acceptable documentation of such of an excuse, then additional weight will be placed on the last exam (I make an adjustment based on degree of difficulty if the final exam has a significantly different mean score). Any such documentation, such as a doctor’s note, should clearly state that the student was incapacitated and was therefore unable to take the exam or faced a serious impediment that prevented attendance at the exam. A student who misses an exam without a valid, verifiable excuse will receive a zero. If due to a verifiable emergency, a student misses the last exam, then that student will be required to take a makeup exam administered by the instructor at a time to be arranged. If a student misses all exams this student will receive an automatic grade of “F”.

Class Schedule

The following is a tentative schedule of topics, but please note that it is subject to change:

- **Week 1 (June 22-24):**
Lecture 1: Choice under uncertainty
Lecture 2: Monopoly pricing
- **Week 2 (June 29-July 1):**
Lecture 3: Price discrimination
Lecture 4: Introduction to game theory
- **Week 3 (July 6-8):**
Lecture 5: Game theory, continued
Lecture 6: Midterm
- **Week 4 (July 13-15):**
Lecture 7: Oligopolistic competition
Lecture 8: Sequential games
- **Week 5 (July 20-22):**
Lecture 9: Repeated Games
Lecture 10: Asymmetric information
- **Week 6 (July 27-29):**
Lecture 11: Public goods/externalities
Lecture 12: Final exam

Resources and Accommodations

Center for Accessible Education (CAE): Any student with a pre-existing illness or condition who requests special arrangements must (a) qualify under CAE rules for such special arrangements and (b) must take the exam with CAE. Any such arrangements with CAE must be communicated to the instructor during the first week of classes. For additional information and the qualification conditions of the Center for Accessible Education please visit their website at <https://www.cae.ucla.edu>. All other students must take the exam at the scheduled time under the same time constraints. It is the responsibility of all students who request special arrangements with CAE to be familiar with all of their rules as well as the rules of this class.

Counseling: <https://www.counseling.ucla.edu>.

Discrimination prevention, Title IX, and other resources: <https://equity.ucla.edu/campus-resources>.

Academic Dishonesty

Any cases of cheating will be reported to the Office of the Dean of Students. For more details please refer to the Office of the Dean of Students website at <https://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/academic-integrity>.