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ECO2060H1S: Microeconomic Theory (MFE) Winter 2013

This course covers topics fundamental to theoretical and empirical economic research. The objective is to introduce you to modeling techniques that are useful for economic analysis. The teaching approach will be geared toward applied research. Importantly, the course develops the general framework adopted by economists to examine individual behavior and its impact on outcomes.

 $\underline{\text{CLASSES}}$: Mondays and Wednesdays (GE 100) 2:10pm-4:00pm (except during reading week; see schedule below)

<u>RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOKS</u>: Microeconomic Analysis, by H. Varian, W.W. Norton. Advanced Microeconomic Theory, by G. Jehle and P. Reny, Addison Wesley. Microeconomic Theory, by A. Mas-Colell, M. Whinston and J. Green, Oxford University Press. Game Theory for Applied Economists, by R. Gibbons, Princeton University Press. An Introduction to Game Theory, by M. Osborne, Oxford University Press.

<u>EVALUATION</u>: Problem Sets - 10% Midterm Exam - 35% Final Exam - 45% Attendance and Participation - 10%

<u>PROBLEM SETS</u>: There will be four problem sets, which are due in class. In case of illness, problem sets may be submitted to the TA by email. Late problem sets will not be accepted. Working in groups on problem sets is encouraged, but you must submit your own answers with explanations in your own words.

<u>EXAMS</u>: The midterm exam will take place in class from 2:10 pm-4:00 pm on February 25th. The final exam will be comprehensive, but more weight will be given to material covered after the midterm. Both the midterm and final exams will be closed book. The only aid allowed is one two-sided A4 cheat sheet.

<u>TUTORIALS</u>: The TA for the course is Graham Beattie. His email is graham.beattie@utoronto.ca. He will hold tutorials during scheduled class time (see schedule below). Requests for topics to be covered in tutorials are welcome as long as they are made several days in advance. He will also hold office hours every Friday from 2:00pm-3:00pm (GE 40).

<u>COMMUNICATION</u>: There is a Blackboard website for the course. Please check it periodically for announcements, handouts, etc. Email should be used only for logistical questions about the course. Questions about course content should be asked in person, either at office hours or after class.

OUTLINE OF TOPICS:

- 1. Consumer theory. V7–10, JR1–2, MWG1–3
- 2. Aggregation. JR6, MWG4
- 3. Production. V1-5, JR3, MWG5
- 4. General equilibrium. V17–18, JR5, MWG15–16
- 5. Game theory. G1–3, O2–6, ,O9, O12
- 6. Information. V25, MWG13–14

SCHEDULE:

Lectures: Jan 21, 23, 28; Feb 4, 6, 11, 18 (2:10pm-5:00pm), 20 (2:10pm-5:00pm), 27; Mar 4, 11, 13, 18, 25, 27; Apr 1

Tutorials: Jan 30; Feb 13, 22 (11:10am-1:00pm); Mar 6, 20; Apr 3

February 18-22: reading week; we will meet during the usual time for lectures, but end at 5:00pm instead of 4:00pm, and the TA will hold a tutorial on Friday (see above)

February 25: midterm exam (in class)