



## **Class Times and Room Numbers**

**Lectures:** Tuesday, Thursday 14:40 – 15:30 in Rutherford House Lecture Theatre 1.

**Tutorials:** There will be eight tutorials. The weeks with tutorials will be announced during lecture and via Blackboard. You can sign up for a tutorial using S-CUBED, URL <http://signups.victoria.ac.nz/> starting from 5pm on Tuesday, 5 March until 5pm on Thursday, 14 March. You must copy the URL and paste it on to the address bar of your web browser to access S-CUBED.

## **Course Delivery**

There will be 24 lectures (2 lectures weekly) and 8 tutorials.

## **Tutorial Programme**

Tutorial questions will be posted on Blackboard. **There will be no model answers provided for tutorial questions.** Also, students will be given two marked assignments. The completed assignments will be due in your tutor's box (location to be notified). Each will account for 10% of the final grade.

Furthermore, each student is required to give a short presentation of a tutorial question in at least one tutorial exercise (to be assigned by his/her tutor). Failure to participate in the presentation will accrue a penalty of 5% of the final grade (see below).

You are encouraged to discuss tutorial questions and assignments with other students. However, your written answers to assignments must be your own work. If a student is caught copying a marked assignment from another student, both will incur a penalty of 50% of their assignment grade.

## **Expected Workload**

A total of 150 hours of work is expected from students in this course. That consists of 34 hours of classes, eight hours per week outside classes during teaching weeks spent reading, studying and writing assignments, and a further 20 hours revising during the mid-trimester break and study week.

## **Course Learning Objectives**

**C1** comprehend and articulate the principles of decision making and resource allocation under scarcity;

**C2** apply microeconomic techniques to seemingly disparate areas of economics;

**C3** comprehend the role and objectives of regulation;

**C4** understand the principles of consumer choice;

**C5** describe the concept of technology and production costs;

**C6** analyse the behaviour of perfectly competitive firms;

**C7** use game theory to explain models of imperfect competition;

**C8** appraise principles of decision making under uncertainty;

**C9** explain market failures due to externalities and public goods.

## **Course Content**

See the lecture programme (to be supplied).

## **Readings**

**Textbook:** Perloff, J., *Microeconomics with Calculus*, Second Edition, Pearson Education, Inc.

### **Supplementary readings:**

David Besanko and Ronald Braeutigam, *Microeconomics*, Second Edition, John Wiley & Sons, 2005. This textbook is somewhat similar to the course text. However, it is not an acceptable substitute.

Schotter, A., *Microeconomics: A Modern Approach*, Addison-Wesley 3<sup>rd</sup> edition 2001. This textbook has an extensive chapter on game theory.

Varian, H.R., *Intermediate Microeconomics: A Modern Approach*, 6<sup>th</sup> edition, Norton 2003 provides solid exposition of basic microeconomic concepts.

Nicholson, W., *Microeconomic Theory: Basic Principles and Extensions*, South-western, 8<sup>th</sup> ed 2001 (earlier editions are fine) provides exposition of microeconomic theory with full presentation of the relevant mathematics. Students who are comfortable with maths will find this a good reference.

### **Lecture Notes**

Lecture notes or slides will be provided on Blackboard. *Beware:* these will not be as complete as the notes which you will be able to take in class. You should not consider them a substitute for lecture attendance.

### **Previous Years' Tests and Exams**

These will be posted in the Course Documents section of the ECON 201 Blackboard site.

### **Assessment**

Two Assignments	20%	dates to be announced
Mid-trimester Test	20%	14:40 – 15:30 on Tuesday, 07 May
Two-Hour Final exam	60%	date to be announced

In the event of a student being unable to sit the test for a legitimate reason, the assessment components will be re-weighted to 20% on assignments and 80% on the final exam.

### **Penalties**

Late assignments will accrue a penalty of 5% per day for the first three days. After that they will not be marked. Students who copy assignments or allow their assignments to be copied will incur a penalty of 50% of their assignment grade. Students who do not give a presentation in their assigned tutorial will accrue a penalty of 5% of their final grades.

### **Examinations**

Students who enrol in courses with examinations are obliged to attend an examination at the University at any time during the formal examination period. The final examination for this course will be scheduled at some time during the following period:

14 June – 3 July

### **Mandatory Course Requirements**

A passing grade (at least 50%) on the mid-trimester test or submission of both marked assignments.

**Class Representative**

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details made available to VUWSA, the course coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the course coordinator on behalf of students.

**Communication of Additional Information**

Additional announcements will be posted on Blackboard.

**Link to general information**

For general information about course-related matters, go to

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/vbs/studenthelp/general-course-information>

**Note to Students**

Your assessed work may also be used for quality assurance purposes, such as to assess the level of achievement of learning objectives as required for accreditation and academic audit. The findings may be used to inform changes aimed at improving the quality of VBS programmes. All material used for such processes will be treated as confidential, and the outcome will not affect your grade for the course.

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