

Portland State University
Microeconomic Theory (Economics 311)—Winter 2012
Rajiv L. Sharma

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Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 10:15 to 11:15 a.m.
Text: *Microeconomics* by Pindyck and Rubinfeld (Custom Ed.).

- Course Objectives
- (1) Learning fundamental economic principles and techniques.
 - (2) Learning to apply economic techniques to aid rational thinking, problem-solving and decision-making.

Class discussions are an important part of this class. Reading the assigned material in advance is essential so you are familiar with the conceptual frameworks to be discussed that day. You are welcome to discuss economic ideas, careers, or other topics during office hours, or by appointment. During each class meeting, I will inform you of reading assignments for our next meeting. If you miss a class, contact a classmate or me to ensure that you are aware of the reading assignment for the next class. Please note that the attached attendance policy is important in determining your grade.

Grade Determination:

A mid-term will account for 20% of your grade, the final for 30%, and a term paper for 25% of your grade. The remaining 25% of your grade in this class will be based on homework assignments in MyEconLab. Note that excessive absences may have a serious impact on your grade; please see the student attendance record for details.

HAZARDOUS PRODUCT WARNING!!!

Economics is potentially hazardous to your social acceptability. Extensive exposure to economic analysis is dangerous for immature persons or any whose resistance to new understanding is not yet fully calcified. It may dispel illusions, reduce myth retention, deaden one to political oratory, alienate friends, disrupt social conversations, allay or enhance fears of market systems, curb self-serving speech, and create possibly unknown dismal side effects. Initial dosage should be by prescription and careful surveillance of an expert. The producers disclaim liability from damages from misapplication or uses not in strict accordance with principles herein stated. (Rating: X). (Submitted to conform with consumer protection, product liability, and occupational hazard laws.) (from Alchian and Allen).

Academic Honesty Policy: Academic honesty is expected and required of all students in this course. Suspected academic dishonesty will be handled according to the procedures set out in the *Student code of conduct*.

Disability resources at PSU: Students with accommodations approved through the Disability Resource Center (DRC) are responsible for contacting the faculty member prior to, or during, the first week of classes to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval should contact the DRC immediately.

Affirmative action: Portland State University supports equal opportunity for all, regardless of age, color, disability, marital status, national origin, race, religion or creed, sex or gender, sexual or gender identity, sexual orientation, veteran status, or any other basis in law.

About Professor Rajiv Sharma (Ph.D. University of Florida, 1998): I am Associate Professor of Economics at Portland State University and specialize in microeconomics and health economics. Some journals where my research has been published include the RAND Journal of Economics, Journal of Health Economics, Medical Care and the American Journal of Public Health. I have collaborated extensively with physicians, and have advised public agencies on health and economic issues.

This record must be turned in with your final exam. If you do not submit this record with your final exam, your final grade will be reduced by 10 percentage points (one letter grade).

You are allowed up to three unexcused absences in this class. If you are absent from more than three class meetings, your final grade will be reduced by 3 percentage points for each unexcused absence exceeding your three allowed absences. Absences for which you have an excuse must be documented in writing (example: an excuse from a doctor). Attach documentation for excused absences to this sheet and submit it with your final exam.

Please check whether you were present or absent in class on each of the following days.

Monday January 9 Not counted.

Wednesday, January 11 Present ____ Absent ____.

Friday, January 13 Present ____ Absent ____.

Monday, January 16 MLK Day, University closed.

Wednesday, January 18 Present ____ Absent ____.

Friday, January 20 Present ____ Absent ____.

Monday, January 23 Present ____ Absent ____.

Wednesday, January 25 Present ____ Absent ____.

Friday, January 27 Present ____ Absent ____.

Monday, January 30 Present ____ Absent ____.

Wednesday, February 1 Present ____ Absent ____.

Friday, February 3 Present ____ Absent ____.

Monday, February 6 Present ____ Absent ____.

Wednesday, February 8 Present ____ Absent ____.

Friday, February 10 Present ____ Absent ____.

Monday, February 13 Present ____ Absent ____.

Wednesday, February 15 Present ____ Absent ____.

Friday, February 17 Present ____ Absent ____.

Monday, February 20 Present ____ Absent ____.

Wednesday, February 22 Present ____ Absent ____.

Friday, February 24 Present ____ Absent ____.

Monday, February 27 Present ____ Absent ____.

Wednesday, February 29 Present ____ Absent ____.

Friday, March 2 Present ____ Absent ____.

Monday, March 5 Present ____ Absent ____.

Wednesday, March 7 Present ____ Absent ____.

Friday, March 9 Present ____ Absent ____.

Monday, March 12 Present ____ Absent ____.

Wednesday, March 14 Present ____ Absent ____.

Friday, March 16 Present ____ Absent ____.

MyEconLab®

How to Register and Enroll in Your MyEconLab Course

Welcome to MyEconLab! Your instructor has set up a MyEconLab course for you.

Textbook: Pindyck/Rubinfeld: *Microeconomics, 7e*

Course Name: EC 311 Winter 2012

Course ID: XL0S-L1MZ-101Y-2KJ2

To join your instructor's course, please complete the following **two** steps:

1. Register for MyEconLab
2. Enroll in your instructor's course

To register, you will need:

1. A valid e-mail address.
2. The access code that came with your MyEconLab Kit or a credit card or Pay Pal account if you wish to purchase access online.
3. The Course ID listed above.

Please Note: If you have an Access Kit that came with your book or that you purchased separately, the instructions may be different than what you are reading here. Please disregard those instructions and follow the steps below. The code in your kit is still valid for the version of MyEconLab that your instructor is using.



Step 1: Register for MyEconLab

1. Go to <http://www.myeconlab.com> and click the **Student** button, in the Register section.
2. Enter your Course ID: XL0S-L1MZ-101Y-2KJ2
3. Choose to **register an access code or to buy access.**
4. Follow the instructions to set up your login and password for your course.

Note: Australian users, your registration steps may be different from above. Please visit http://www.myeconlab.com/download/MEL_FDOC_Australia.doc for alternate instructions.

Step 2: Enroll in your instructor's course

1. Login to MyEconLab at <http://www.myeconlab.com> with your newly created Login Name and Password
2. Enter your course ID: XL0S-L1MZ-101Y-2KJ2.

If you purchased access, visit the **Student Center** inside your Instructor's Course for additional purchase options.

Note: If you are taking two MyEconLab courses simultaneously you will need two separate login accounts.

Need Help? For assistance, please visit <http://www.myeconlab.com/support>.