Syllabus

Introduction to Mathematical Economics - Economics 4808 - Fall 2007

Instructor: **Kremena Platikanova, Ph.D.**

E-mail: **platikan@colorado.edu**
Office: **Economics 14C**

Calculus would suffice for Econ 1078 and 1088. This course and Intermediate Micro Theory are compliments. It is **very** important that you fulfill the prerequisites **before** you take this course, and **still** understand the materials in the prerequisites. To be successful in mathematical economics, you need to first be comfortable with algebra and derivatives. If you have any uncertainty as whether you are under or over qualified to take the course, please talk to me ASAP.

Class format

The course includes lectures, problems and discussion. In-class problems will be solved both individually and in groups.

The readings for this course will be posted on the course web site although some of the material for which you are responsible will be presented in lectures only, and is not explicitly covered in the readings.

Review questions, will be posted on the course web site.

Readings

I will not assign specific readings from a text book. However, you need access to good algebra and calculus texts.

Essential Mathematics for Economic Analysis (Knut Sydsaeter and Peter Hammond) is the official math text for undergraduate econ majors here at C.U. You are expected to own a copy and understand much of the material in this book. The book is the required text for Econ 1078 and Econ 1088 and students in those courses are told to keep and use the book until they finish their undergraduate major in economics. If you don't have a copy you should be able to easily find one online. ISBN 027368180X.

You should also have an intermediate micro theory textbook that will provide you the theory that you need; e.g. the one you used in Econ 3070. *Intermediate Microeconomics* (Hal Varian) is a good example.

Evaluation

Your grade will be determined by five components. Quizzes are 15%. The better of the two midterm exams is 25%. The cumulative final exam is 35%. The problem sets (homework assignments) are 25%.

Review questions and homework problems sets will be posted for each section of the course. **Late homework will not be accepted.** Some of the assignments will be done in groups. I will tell you in advance if an assignment is a group endeavor. You choose your own group. The group will work together and turn in only one assignment.

Everyone in the group will get the same grade for that assignment. **.** Homework assignments will be graded randomly.

Use the review questions to prepare for exams. **I strongly encourage you to write out answers to these questions and discuss them with your classmates.**

MIDTERM 1: **Monday, October 1st**
MIDTERM 2: **Monday, November 12th**
FINAL EXAM: **Tuesday, December 18, 7:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.**

Tentative Course Outline
Text chapters are in parentheses.