

Economics 100C: Microeconomics. Fall 2025.

Instructor: Jay Cizeski (jcizeski@ucsd.edu)

Lectures: MWF 3:00-3:50, York Hall 4080A

Discussions: M 2:00-2:50, York Hall 4080A

Instructor Office Hours: Tuesday, 1:00 pm, Atkinson Hall 3804.

Class Website: canvas.ucsd.edu

Teaching Assistant: Vinny Armentano (varmenta@ucsd.edu).

TA Office Hours: TBD

Prerequisites: ECON 100B

Course overview: This course is the third and final in the three-part microeconomics sequence. Our focus will be on topics in consumer theory beyond those examined in 100A and 100B. We will cover expenditure minimization and compensated demand, the Slutsky decomposition of changes in demand, welfare analysis through compensating and equivalent variation, factor markets including labor supply and demand for saving, decisions over risk, and expand on general equilibrium.

Lectures: Lectures are in-person and will be podcasted. You should assume that all material covered during the lecture is testable and that it is your responsibility to understand it unless otherwise explicitly specified. You are encouraged NOT to rely on the podcast, as technical failures can and do occur, and the cameras are often imperfect when capturing writing on the board. You are encouraged to take notes during class, and in the event that you miss a class, I recommend sourcing the relevant notes from a classmate rather than relying solely on posted materials. When slides are used, they will be posted, however not all lectures will use slides, and the posted slides are not required to and are unlikely to cover all material from the lecture.

Discussion Sections: Discussions will begin on week 2 (10/6) and will review the prior week's material and go over practice problems.

Homework: I plan to assign four or five homework assignments, approximately bi-weekly, depending on the speed of progress through course material. Your grade will depend on your three highest homework scores. Homework is graded on good-faith completion; your answers do not need to be correct to earn full credit, however you must demonstrate an earnest attempt to answer the problems using the material from class. You may and are encouraged to work on homework assignments together, however each student must submit their own copy of the assignment for credit. Submissions should be handwritten; digital handwriting is acceptable.

Exams: There will be one Midterm, on 10/29 during class time, and a final exam on December 12 at 3:00 pm (as scheduled by the university). Exams are closed-note and cumulative. You are permitted to use a standard pen or pencil, eraser, and straightedge only. If you know in advance that you cannot attend an exam, please contact me as soon as possible.

Regrade Requests: Regrades will be available within a specific window post-exam. This window will open a few days after the exam and close a few days later, with the opening and closing times announced prior to the exam. Regrades are meant to be used to correct errors which sometimes occur in the grading process, not to revise discretionary partial credit.

Grading: You will be graded based on homework, the midterm exam, and a final exam, automatically weighted by the better of the distributions below:

Dist.	Homework	Midterm	Final
1	15%	35%	50%
2	15%	20%	65%

If you miss the midterm due to a university-approved reason, the whole weight of the midterm will shift on to the final exam instead. If you miss the midterm for other reasons, you will receive a zero for the exam. Final grades will be curved at the end of the course.

Academic Dishonesty: I take academic dishonesty very seriously. Students found guilty of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Academic Integrity office, receive a failing grade for the course, and further penalties imposed by the university may be possible. Detailed information about UCSD policies on academic dishonesty can be found online here: <https://academicintegrity.ucsd.edu/process/policy.html>

Resources:

- Textbook: Perloff, *Microeconomics Theory and Applications with Calculus*, (fifth edition)
 - The textbook is available online through Brytewave, which you can access through Canvas.
 - Purchasing the textbook is not required; all material required for the course will be provided in class.
 - You may opt-out of the textbook online. If you choose to do so, I encourage doing so within the first few days of the quarter.
- Intermediate Microeconomics Video Handbook (IMVH)
 - Repository of instructional videos designed for the ECON 100 sequence.
 - In general, I will attempt to synchronize notation with the IMVH
- Machina, Mark (2010), Math Handout.
 - Provided on Canvas.

Tentative Course Outline & Schedule:

Week 0 (Friday Only): Introduction, Syllabus, Overview of Microeconomic Theory

Week 1: Review of Ordinary Demand Curves, Introduction to Compensated Demand

Week 2: Compensated Demand, Income and Substitution Effects, The Slutsky Decomposition

- Oct. 10 will be a zoom-recorded lecture.

Week 3: Measures of Welfare: Compensation Variation, Equivalent Variation, Consumer Surplus

Week 4: The Slutsky Decomposition.

Week 5: Midterm (10/29), Labor Supply Decision

Week 6: Labor Supply Decision, Consumption-Savings Decision

Week 7: Consumption-Savings Decision, Decisions under Uncertainty

Week 8: Decisions under Uncertainty, Asymmetric Information

Week 9: Asymmetric Information (Thanksgiving)

Week 10: General Equilibrium