

Economics 300

Spring 1997

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### Course Description

This course is intended as an introduction to the study of the firms and individuals in their economic roles. Primary attention will be given to developing the basic microeconomic tools needed for more advanced economics courses. By the end of the semester, students should also be able to figure out the policy implications of various government initiatives, and be intelligent and critical readers of popular economics such as might be found in *The Wall Street Journal*.

Grading will be based on five problem sets, one midterm and a final. Each problem set is worth 3%. Late problem sets will receive half credit. The midterm is worth 35% and the final, 50% of the final grade. Ana Campelo will be the TA for the course. If you have questions about grading, you should first talk to her in office hours, and then, if you do not feel her explanation is satisfactory, come to me. I encourage you to set up study groups. I think that it is very helpful to work on problem sets together. However, after your discussions, you must write your understanding of the correct answers in your own words! I will not give credit for copied answers. My office is in Commerce West, 406, and my phone number is 333-4590. Office hours are between 1:30 and 2:30 on Tuesdays and Thursdays, or by appointment. If you feel you are getting lost, please come in and talk to me. It is helpful to me if you mention that you plan on coming to see me so I will be sure to be in my office. We will be using **Price Theory and Applications** by Landsburg as a primary text book. We will follow the book more or less chapter by chapter.