

**Syllabus for ECON 301, Sections 3 & 4**  
**Intermediate Microeconomics**  
**Fall 2015**

**Class Time:**

Lecture:	Monday/Wednesday/Friday	10 - 10:50 AM	Curtiss 0105
Lab for Section 3:	Wednesday	2:10 - 4 PM	Forker 0291
Lab for Section 4:	Thursday	2:10 - 4 PM	E Hall 0111

**Professor:** Katherine Lacy

Office: Heady Hall 071  
Email: [kmlacy11@iastate.edu](mailto:kmlacy11@iastate.edu)  
Phone: 347-871-3164  
Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 AM - 10:30AM, and by appointment

**Teaching Assistants**

Sandip Agarwal Section 4 Heady Hall 280B <a href="mailto:sandip@iastate.edu">sandip@iastate.edu</a> Office Hours: Thurs. 4-5 PM & Fri. 12-1 PM	Zack Martin Section 3 Heady Hall 280E <a href="mailto:zmartin@iastate.edu">zmartin@iastate.edu</a> Office Hours: Tues. 2-3 PM & Thurs. 1-2 PM
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**Economics Help Room:**

Heady Hall 180  
Monday - Thursday 9:00 - 5:00  
Friday 9:00 - 4:00

**Objectives:** After completing the course students should have developed a range of skills enabling them to understand economic concepts and use those concepts to analyze the world around them; such as: theory of consumer and business behavior, optimal consumption choices and demand, theory of firm behavior, costs, production, and supply, competitive and imperfectly competitive markets, theory of demand for and supply of factors of production and general equilibrium analysis.

As part of the Iowa State Continuous Improvement Initiative, students will be tested on the extent to which, given an economic model, they can identify the endogenous and exogenous variables, specify the conditions necessary for an equilibrium solution, characterize the reduced form solution of the economic model, and compute and interpret partial derivatives.

**Required Text:** Goolsbee, Austan, Steve Levitt and Chad Syverson. 2013. *Microeconomics*. Worth Publishers.

You have numerous options, but you must purchase the LaunchPad course supplement. When you purchase the textbook make sure it includes a LaunchPad code. You can buy the

text, buy a 3 Hole punch version, or buy only the LaunchPad code, which includes an online version of the book. To register for the course on Launchpad go to:

<http://www.macmillanhighered.com/launchpad/gls1e/1889278>

Please register on the website within 24 hours after the end of the first course session and please use your Iowa State email address.

**Blackboard:** Most handouts can be found on blackboard. Grades will be posted on blackboard.

**Topics:** You are responsible for the chapter readings each week.

Chapter	Topic
Chapter 2	Supply and Demand, Equilibrium, Elasticities
Chapter 3	Consumer and Producer Surplus, Government Interventions
Chapter 16	Externalities, Government Policy, Public Goods
Chapter 4 & 5	Utility, Indifference Curves, Consumer Behavior
Chapter 6	Production, Cost minimizing, Producer Behavior
Chapter 7	Cost Curves, Average and Marginal costs
Chapter 8	Perfect Competition
Chapter 9 & 10	Monopoly and Pricing Strategies
Chapter 11 & 12	Game Theory, Oligopoly

More topics can be added if time allows.

**Lab:** You will be randomly assigned to a 4 person group and all of your lab assignments will be done as a group. Group grade will be based on apparent effort, meaning that you have to

- 1) try the problems;
- 2) present each lab report neatly and professionally;
- 3) Set the report to the TA via email on time, which is **Sunday** at 5PM;

You will only get the credit for the group if you are present at the lab. At each lab, you will have an opportunity to grade your lab partners' efforts and grades will be adjusted according to that participation. We will drop the lowest two lab grades to allow flexibility for illness and recruiting trips, but not for obvious shirking the last two weeks.

**Problem Sets:** Problem sets will be assigned almost every week and will be online through LaunchPad. The problem set must be completed by the due date. Late problem sets will not be accepted. You can access the problem sets from anywhere so there is no excuse for not completing them.

**Exams:** There will be three exams including a final. The first two exams temporarily scheduled for **Friday, October 2** and **Friday, November 6**. The final exam will be cumulative, but with an emphasis on the material covered since the second test. The exam dates are subject to change (except for the final) depending on the progress made in class. All exams are in the same classroom as regular class. Seating on exam days will be randomly assigned. **Final Exam: Monday, December 14, 9:45 - 11:45 AM**

**Extra Credit:** Offered for attending designated evening lectures to be announced.

**Grading:**

Lab	15%
Problem Sets	20%
Midterms	40%
Final	25%
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Total	100%

**Absences:** You are expected to attend every class. If you are not able to turn in a homework assignment, take a quiz, or take an exam because of an unexcused absence, you will not be able to turn the homework in late or take the quiz or exam.

An official excuse from a scheduled class activity such as an exam must be presented in writing no later than two weeks prior to the date of the absence. An absence due to illness or family emergency may be excused, provided that you can supply acceptable written evidence if required, and that you notify the Professor *as soon as possible*. Notification is almost always possible immediately upon occurrence of an emergency. If you're too sick to telephone, you can get a friend to do it. Failure to make such timely notification may result in denial of your request.

If you are absent on the day of an exam, you must notify me before the exam. You must schedule the make-up exam before the next meeting of the class. Special arrangements can be made for extended absences due to medical, family tragedy, or school-related reasons, provided I am notified in advance. Failure to meet these requirements will result in a zero.

**Calculator:** Phones may NOT be used as calculators or at any time during class or an exam. Please see the Professor if you have any questions.

**ISU Economics Home Page:** If you want to know more about the ISU Economics Department, its faculty, its graduate or undergraduate programs, or if you are stuck with nothing to do on a Friday night, check out the ISU Economics Home Page at [www.econ.iastate.edu](http://www.econ.iastate.edu).

**Disability Policy:** Please address any special needs or special accommodations with me at the beginning of the semester or as soon as you become aware of your needs. Those seeking accommodations based on disabilities should obtain a Student Academic Accommodation Request (SAAR) form. Student Disability Resources office hours are 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Monday - Friday, Student Services Building, Room 1076. Please call 515-294-7220 to schedule an appointment.

**Academic Dishonesty** The class will follow Iowa State University's policy on academic dishonesty. Anyone suspected of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Dean of Students Office. <http://www.dso.iastate.edu/ja/academic/misconduct.html>

**Harassment and Discrimination** Iowa State University strives to maintain our campus as a place of work and study for faculty, staff, and students that is free of all forms of prohibited discrimination and harassment based upon race, ethnicity, sex (including sexual assault),

pregnancy, color, religion, national origin, physical or mental disability, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, or status as a U.S. veteran. Any student who has concerns about such behavior should contact his/her instructor, Student Assistance at 515-294-1020 or email [dso-sas@iastate.edu](mailto:dso-sas@iastate.edu), or the Office of Equal Opportunity and Compliance at 515-294-7612.