

## ***PPHA 44200: Advanced Microeconomics***

Instructor: Damon Jones  
Office: Keller 2035  
Office Hours: Mondays, 4:00p – 5:00p in Keller 0023  
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Teaching Assistants: Diego Escobar Salce, Smriti Ganapathi  
Office Hours: TBD

**Course Objectives:** Students will build upon neoclassical microeconomic theory by exploring deviations from the standard competitive model. Topics include competitive market partial equilibrium, imperfect competition, externalities, public goods and asymmetric information. Policy applications from public finance will be considered, including optimal income taxation.

**Prerequisites:** PPHA 44100 or instructor's permission. You should be comfortable with calculus and linear algebra and game theory concepts covered in the fall quarter in PPHA 41501.

### **Texts:**

Varian, *Microeconomic Analysis*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. (Chapters 13, 14, 16, and 23 provided on Canvas under fair-use standards)  
Hermalin, *Lecture Notes for Economics* (Available on Canvas for free)  
Mas-Colell, Whinston, and Green, *Microeconomic Theory* (Chapter 10, Chapter 13, also provided on Canvas under fair-use standards)

### **Additional References:**

Varian, *Intermediate Microeconomics*, any edition  
Deaton and Muellbauer, *Economics and Consumer Behavior*.  
Gibbons, *Game Theory for Applied Economists*.  
Salanié, *The Economics of Contracts: A Primer*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition.  
Kreps, *A Course in Microeconomic Theory*.  
Salanié, *The Economics of Taxation*  
Tirole, *Industrial Organization*.

**Grades:** We base grades on homework assignments, a midterm exam, and a final exam. The weights are as follows:

35% Homework  
30% Midterm Examination  
35% Final Examination

**Schedule:** Lecture will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00am – 10:20am in Keller 0001. The in-class midterm will take place on Wednesday, February 6th, and the final exam will take place on Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, from 9a to 12p.

**Homework:** You will have about 5 homework assignments for the class. You may work in groups on the homework, but each student must hand in individual assignments. Work must be handed in by the deadline. For every six (6) hours beyond the deadline, you will lose 5% of your grade, receiving zero (0%) percent once 24 hours have passed. Each assignment will receive an equal weight. **If you have an extenuating circumstance, please contact the professor to work something out.**

### Topics:

(V) Hal Varian, *Microeconomic Analysis*

(H) Hermalin, *Lecture Notes for Economics*

(MWG) Mas-Colell, Whinston, and Gren *Microeconomic Theory*

1. Partial Equilibrium (V. 13, MWG. 10)
2. Monopoly (V. 14, H. 2, 3, 4, 5)
3. Oligopoly (V. 16)
4. Externalities (V. 24)
5. Public Goods (V. 23, H. 11)
6. Asymmetric Information (MWG. 13)
7. Applications: Optimal Taxation, Redistribution through Markets

**COVID-19 Updates:** The University of Chicago has transitioned to a mask-optional policy, but currently the UChicago forward website still states: “The University is recommending that individuals wear a mask in indoor settings when others are present.” If you believe you may have symptoms, feel free to err toward the side of missing lecture. Lectures will be recorded and made available to those who miss due to illness.

### Accessibility:

This is a classroom committed to access. If there are any changes that can be implemented to facilitate your greater participation, don't hesitate to contact me so that we can make arrangements.

If you require any accommodations for this course, as soon as possible please provide the instructor with a copy of your Accommodation Determination Letter (provided to you by the Student Disability Services office) so that you may discuss with him/her how your accommodations may be implemented in this course.

The University of Chicago is committed to ensuring the full participation of all students in its programs. If you have a documented disability (or think you may have a disability) and, as a result, need a reasonable accommodation to participate in class, complete course requirements, or benefit from the University's programs or services, you are encouraged to contact Student Disability Services as soon as possible. To receive reasonable accommodation, you must be appropriately registered with Student Disability Services.

Please contact the office at (773) 702-6000/TTY 773-795-1186 or [gmoorehead@uchicago.edu](mailto:gmoorehead@uchicago.edu), or visit the website at [disabilities.uchicago.edu](http://disabilities.uchicago.edu). Student Disability Services is located at 5501 S. Ellis Ave.

## **Title IX Resources and Mandated Reporting<sup>1</sup>**

As a faculty member, I am considered an “Individual with Title IX Reporting Responsibilities.” This means that if you disclose to me instances of sexual assault, sexual harassment, other sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking, I am required to share this information with the Title IX Coordinator of the University. This person’s job is to advise members of our community on their options regarding remaining anonymous, confidentiality, the University’s process for investigating complaints of sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking, and the University’s disciplinary process.

If you wish to contact the Title IX Coordinator directly about any of these matters, you can do so by emailing [bcollier@uchicago.edu](mailto:bcollier@uchicago.edu), by calling 773.702.5671, or by writing to Bridget Collier, Office of the Provost, The University of Chicago, 5525 S. Ellis Ave., Room 171, Chicago, IL 60637.

If you need someone to talk to who does *not* have an obligation to report sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking to the Title IX Coordinators, you can reach out to these “Confidential Resources:”

- Sexual Assault Dean on Call (SADoC)  
773.834.HELP
- Student Health Service  
773.702.4156
- Student Counseling Service  
773.702.9800
- Members of the Clergy  
(See [spirit.uchicago.edu](http://spirit.uchicago.edu) for more information.)

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<sup>1</sup> Language adapted from the syllabus of Dr. Eve L. Ewing.