

University at Albany
State University of New York

Economics 210: Tools of Economics

Fall 2014

Section 7594: SS 131; MWF 01:40p.m. – 02:35p.m.

Instructor:

Linna Xu

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Office Hours: MW, 02:35p.m.-03:30p.m.; and by appointment

TA:

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Office Hours: T&TH, 10:30a.m.-11:30a.m.; and by appointment

Course Objectives:

The goal of this course is to introduce some basic mathematical tools used in economics, including the construction and comprehension of simple graphs, as well as some of the economist's conceptual tools, including marginal analysis, national income analysis, supply and demand.

Topics will (probably) include:

1. Basic mathematical review
2. Equations and graphs
3. Functions
4. Differential calculus
5. Exponential and logarithmic functions
6. Calculus of multivariable functions

Textbook:

Required: Schaum's Outline of *Mathematical Methods for Business and Economics*, by Edward Dowling, McGraw Hill.

Requirements:

There will be several assignments, one midterm exam and one final exam. The assignments must be turned in before the class begins at the due date. Late assignments are not accepted. The date of the midterm will be announced in class. The date of the final is subject to the arrangement of the department schedule.

Grading:

Attendance: 10%

Assignments: 15%

Midterm exam: 30%

Final exam: 45%

This course is A-E grading.

Important Note: Regular attendance is strongly required. Late assignments will not be acceptable for credit. Requests of rearrangement of exam will be accepted only if I am informed at least three days before the scheduled time.

Make-up Exam:

Due to documented hospitalization or other significant medical reason, a tragic or traumatic experience, or other personal emergency, you should contact me as soon as you are able to do so, and I do need your convincing proof before the original exam date. If you get my permission, then make-up exams will be given.

Course outline (subject to changes):

1. Review Chapter 1
2. Equations and Graphs Chapter 2
3. Functions Chapter 3
4. System of Equations Chapter 4
5. Differential Calculus Chapter 9, Chapter 10
6. Exponential and Logarithmic Functions Chapter 11
7. Calculus of Multivariable Functions Chapter 13