

**Basic Microeconomics
ECON 1200
Summer 2019**

Dates and assignments are tentative until the semester starts and a final syllabus is distributed.

Syllabus

Instructor: Troy Tassier
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Tel. #: (718) 817-4793
Office Hours: T 1:00-2:00
I am available by appointment in addition to regular office hours.
Classroom: TBA
Meeting time: T-Th 9:00-12:00

Textbooks

1. *Principles of Microeconomics* (Any Edition) by Robert Frank and Ben Bernanke. The most recent edition is available at the university bookstore and also can be ordered at many places on-line.
2. *The Economic Naturalist: In Search of Explanations for Everyday Enigmas* by Robert H Frank.

Attendance

For your own benefit attend classes regularly. Some quiz/ exam questions will come directly from class discussion.

Assignments

1. Example problems will be assigned on a periodic basis. Answers to the problems will be posted on my webpage. Problems are not graded; it is your responsibility to make sure you complete and understand all problems which are posted here:
<https://sites.google.com/site/troytassier/teaching/basic-micro>
2. Each student will be required to write an economic naturalist essay. The papers are due on, **June 27th**. This assignment will be discussed in more detail at the midway point of the course.

Quizzes and Final Exam

There will be a quiz in the course on **June 4th, June 11th, and June 18th**. There will be a cumulative final exam during class, **Wednesday June 26th**. If you have a pre-arranged conflict with any of these four dates you must notify me by the end of class on **Thursday, May 30th**. Other than arrangements made by this date there will be no make-ups for quizzes or exams. **Calculators will not be needed for quizzes and exams and therefore will not be allowed.**

The quizzes and the final exam will consist of problems and short answer questions. The problems will be similar to examples covered in class and in problem assignments.

Grading Policy

The final grades for the course will be determined as follows:

Quizzes	(3x20%) 60%
Economic Naturalist Assignment	10%
Final Exam	30%

There will be an opportunity to earn a small number of extra credit points during a few in-class experiments and exercises that will take place during the semester. There will not be any other extra credit assigned in the course.

Schedule:

Week 1	Introduction; What is Economics? Decision Pitfalls & “Economic Naturalism” - Chapter 1 Comparative Advantage - Chapter 2 The “Apple Market” Demand & Supply: “Econ 101” - Chapter 3 Problem Sets 1 and 2
Week 2	Quiz 1(June 4) Elasticity - Chapter 4 Demand and Consumer Surplus – Chapter 5 Problem Set 3 and Questions 1a and 1b on Problem Set #4
Week 3	Quiz 2 (June 11) Supply and Producer Surplus – Chapter 6 Efficiency and Exchange – Chapter 7 The Invisible Hand and Long Run Equilibrium – Chapter 8 Problem Sets 4 and 5
Week 4	Quiz 3 (June 18) Monopoly and Imperfect Competition – Chapter 9 Price discrimination Thinking Strategically - Game Theory – Chapter 10 Problem Sets 6 and 7
Week 5	Game Theory (continued) and review Final Exam (June 26) Economic Naturalist Papers Due (June 27)

Note: This schedule is tentative. I expect some variation in the pace at which we proceed. However, **the schedule for quizzes and the final exam is not subject to change.** Quizzes will only cover material up to that which we have covered in class.