Fall 2008

ECO 6122: Microeconomic Theory IV Economics Department University of Ottawa

Professor:

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NB Outside of the above office hours, appointments may be taken through email.

General Description:

This is a compulsory course for the MA programme in Economics at the University of Ottawa. It introduces students to some of the main tools used by economists to analyze problems of resource allocation and decision making. Concurrently, some of the most fundamental results in economics are presented. This will enable students to read scientific articles in all fields of economics as well as use the tools for their own research. Finally, the course also intends to help students develop a rigorous method to apprehend problems in the social sciences.

Most of the material covered is drawn from selected chapters of the textbook Advanced Microeconomic Theory, 2nd Ed., by Jehle and Reny, 2001 at Addison Wesley. Copies are available at Agora Bookstore, 145 Besserer Street, http://www.agorabookstore.ca. It constitutes mandatory reading. Additional useful references include:

• Microeconomic Analysis, 3rd Ed., by Hal Varian, 1992 at Norton;

• *Microeconomic Theory*, by Mas-Colell, Whinston and Green, 1995, at Oxford University Press;

• Microeconomic Theory: Basic Principles and Extensions, 7-8-9th Ed., by Nicholson, 2006, at Thomson.

All are available on reserve at the Morisset library.

Evaluation:

Problems will be assigned weekly, to be handed back the following week. Absolutely no extension will be granted. Students are expected to be up-to-date with the class material and <u>attendance is compulsory</u>. Assignments will count for 10% of the final mark. Marking is based on effort, NOT on perfect answers. After submission, some assigned problems may be discussed in class.

Students are strongly encouraged to work in teams of two or three for the assignments. However, the amount learned from an assignment is proportional to the effort put into attempting to solve the problems. One should try to solve as many end-of-chapter problems as possible.

A mid-term examination will count for 40% of the final mark. It will take place on Tuesday, October 28th.

A <u>cumulative</u> final exam will count for 50% of the final mark.

Please note that, unless specifically advised otherwise, you are responsible for all the material covered in the textbook chapters listed below.

Themes:

We will cover the following sections of Jehle and Reny (2001):

- CONSUMER THEORY (Chapters 1 and 2)
- PRODUCER THEORY (Chapter 3)
- MARKETS AND WELFARE IN PARTIAL EQUILIBRIUM (Chapter 4)
- GAME THEORY (Chapter 7)

Tutorials: Details TBA.