

EC701: MICROECONOMIC THEORY (Fall 2019)

Professor Larry G. Epstein
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Office hours: to be determined

Teaching assistant: Nan Zhao zhaonan@bu.edu

Textbook: Mas-Colell, Winston and Green, Microeconomic Theory, Oxford U. Press; Chs. 1-6, 15-17, 19 and 21

Recommended reference for the first half of the semester is: A. Rubinstein, Lecture Notes in Microeconomic Theory 2nd edition, 2012, Princeton U. Press. (Free download from his web page <http://arielrubinstein.tau.ac.il/>. He updates the book regularly. Currently there is a 2018 update.)

The main topics 1. Choice Theory: abstract choice theory, consumer theory, choice under risk (expected utility); and 2. General Equilibrium Theory: the fundamental theorems of welfare economics, existence of Walrasian equilibrium, equilibrium under uncertainty (Arrow-Debreu equilibrium, Radner equilibrium and rational expectations equilibrium).

How will the course be run?

For most weeks, there will be two lectures and one tutorial. There will be weekly assignments, for which solutions will be discussed in the tutorials.

The grade will be based on assigned exercises (20%), a midterm (35%) and on a final exam (45%).