Economics 201A: Microeconomic Theory

This course is the first part of the three micro core courses (201A, 201B, 201C) for the first year Ph. D students in Economics. The topics for this course include consumer theory, producer theory, decision under uncertainty, competitive equilibrium, and financial equilibrium etc.

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Classweb: https://moodle2.sscnet.ucla.edu/course/view/13F-ECON201A-1

Time and Location:
Monday and Wednesday, 4:00pm – 5:15pm, Dodd146
Friday, 3:00pm - 4:50pm, Dodd146

Grades:
The final grade will be based on weekly problem sets (25%), one midterm (25%), and one final exam (50%). The date of the midterm and the date of the final are November 6 and December 9, respectively.

Prerequisite:
Economics 200 (math course for incoming grad Ph.D. students) or some equivalent background in mathematics is required to take this course.

Note on the level of math: most of what you will need can be found in the math appendix of Kreps or Mas-Collel, Whinston and Green. I suggest that you read through the appendix before the course starts.
Textbooks:

- My lecture is mainly based on my slides, which will be available at the classweb.

- **Required Textbook:** *Microeconomic Foundations I: Choice and Competitive Markets*, D.M. Kreps, Princeton University Press (Note: I have been using MWG as the main textbook for quite a while, but I will use this new textbook this year).

- **Supplementary Textbook:** *Theory of Value*, G. Debreu, Yale University Press.

*Other books that might be useful.*

There are many other graduate-level textbooks on microeconomic theory. They might be helpful when you get stuck reading the above books or browsing through my slides.

- Essential Microeconomics, John G. Riley.
- *Lecture Notes in Microeconomic Theory: The Economic Agent*, A. Rubinstein (free at [http://arielrubinstein.tau.ac.il](http://arielrubinstein.tau.ac.il)).

The following book on competitive equilibrium is pretty good, although it may be out of print.


A nice small book on choice/decision theory under uncertainty is