

## ***Memo Regarding the Final Examination***

**Final: Thursday May 14, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., Haas Pavilion (on the basketball court)**

We will begin at 5:00 (not 5:10). Please be prompt. Arrival by 4:50 is encouraged.

Exam booklets will be provided. You do not need to bring bluebooks. The exam is a closed book exam. No calculators, cell phones, or other electronic devices allowed.

The final is worth 200 points, 40 percent of your grade. If you don't take the final, you fail the course. If you want to fail the course, don't take the final.

The final will have three parts. Part I (about 60-70 points) will cover the material since the second midterm. Part II (about 70-80 points) will cover the entire course. Part III (60 points) will be a comprehensive essay question that draws from the entire course. You will be given lined paper for the essay. The essay question is on the reverse side of this memo. This is exactly the question you will be given on May 14.

You can study with others but you must write your own essay. In grading the essay, the GSIs will be distinguishing between someone who clearly understands the material and someone who "mostly gets it, usually." The more clear your essay, the better your grade. You should write an essay, not an exam answer. You need paragraphs and sentences, an introduction and a conclusion. You can use symbols as shorthand but should use them in the context of a sentence. For example, "When  $Y^D$  increases, consumers tend to increase  $C$ " is ok. But " $\uparrow Y^D \Rightarrow \uparrow C$ " is not. If you think a graph helps to explain something, then include a graph. However, there is no requirement that you include graphs.

The GSIs and Professor Olney can not pre-grade your essay. In the next few days, please do not ask us to look at your outline nor ask us questions such as "How would you answer that?" You may ask clarifying questions. E-mailing questions to Prof. Olney is helpful because if the question comes up several times, she will forward the question and her answer to the entire class list.

If the alarm is pulled, we will move outside and finish the exam by 8 p.m. Panicking? Talk with your GSI or Professor Olney about your situation. We can help.

If you miss the final, you must contact **Head GSI Maylin Jue** by e-mail (mjue.econ1@gmail.com) AND phone (642-4629) **no later than 8 p.m. on May 14** and you must leave a phone number where you can be reached. Students who miss the final are **not** automatically entitled to an Incomplete; it depends on whether you were otherwise passing and why you missed the final. Incompletes are completed by taking the final exam for Economics 1 next semester when Prof. Train teaches the course. Prof. Olney is not teaching Econ 1 again until Spring 2010.

Any form of cheating whatsoever will warrant a zero (0) on the final and an "F" in the course. Instances of cheating are reported to the Center for Student Conduct which may administer additional punishment.

You may leave when you have finished the exam. Turn your completed exam in **to your GSI**. If you cannot find your GSI, put your exam in the pile at the large sign with your GSI's name on it.

Course grades are determined by adding together your scores on the midterms, section, the problem sets, and the final. Midterms are worth 20 percent each; section participation is worth 10 percent; the total of the problem sets is worth 10 percent; the final is worth 40 percent. A maximum of 10 iClicker points can be used to bring your problem set total up to a maximum of 50 points. Total points earned over the term are used to determine the course grade. Uniformity of grading standards (i.e., being sure the same quality of work receives the same letter grade) is ensured by having the GSIs cross-read each other's exams. The process has been honed over decades, and it works. This way, every GSI is giving a B for the same *quality* of work, rather than for the same *number* of points. This means that you don't have to worry if your GSI has lower averages than other GSIs, since the letter grades depend upon the quality of work and not upon the number of points. We do take improvement into account. Students taking the course under the P/NP option must earn at least a C- in order to receive a P.

You will be able to retrieve your course grade electronically via BearFacts on May 22. If you want to know your score on your final exam and your grade in this course, give your GSI a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope. The postcard will be mailed on or about May 22.

Your exam will be held by the Economics Department for 12 months. Finals cannot be re-evaluated once grades are submitted to the University. You can look at your graded exam in Room 508-1 Evans Hall after about June 10. After 12 months, the exams will be discarded.