



APPLIES TO ACADEMIC YEAR 2006/2007

GRA 6031 Microeconomics

Program

Common Course, Master of Science in Business and Economics, Master of Science in Financial Economics

Responsible for the course

Espen Moen

Department

Economics

Term

According to study plan

ECTS Credits

6

Objective

The aim of this course is to provide a comprehensive understanding of the economic principles underlying pricing decisions and competitive strategies in the market place. The objective of the course is to advance the students knowledge of microeconomics and to give them an understanding of how microeconomic theory can be applied to shed some light on central issues within private and public decision making. The main focus is on strategic interaction among firms, which is analyzed with a game theoretic approach. In addition, new results based on economics and psychology are presented. Parts of the teaching are case-based.

Prerequisites

Microeconomics from the bachelor program, SØK 2220 and SØK 2221, or equivalent.

Compulsory literature

Books:

Pepall, Lynne, Daniel J. Richards and George Norman. Industrial organization : contemporary theory & practice. 3rd ed. Mason, Ohio : Thomson/South-Western

Recommended literature

Course outline

- Competition and efficiency
- Monopoly pricing
- Product differentiation
- Oligopoly
- Mergers and acquisition
- Competition policy and antitrust
- Pricing and competition when customers are not fully rational

Computer-based tools

Blackboard/homepage

Course structure

Lectures over 42 hours

Evaluation

Term-paper (pass/fail) and 3 hours written exam. The term paper must be passed in order to sit the exam.

Evaluation code(s)

GRA 60312 for the term paper

GRA 60313 for the written exam

Both evaluations must be passed in order to get a grade in the course.

Aids at the examination

Bilingual dictionary

Makeup exam

Re-takes are only possible at the next time a course will be held. When course evaluation consists of class participation or process elements, the whole course must be re-evaluated when a student wants to retake an exam. Retake examinations entail an extra examination fee.

Honor Code

Academic honesty and trust are important to all of us as individuals, and they are encouraged and promoted by the honor system. This is a most significant university tradition. The honor system is the responsibility of students. As faculty, we share the commitment to the ideals of the honor system.

At no time should notes or papers or personal consultations based on previous semesters of this course be used. As part of the honor code papers handed in as part of the course is, at the discretion of the professor, scanned for plagiarism. We are using Safe Assignment in Black Board for this purpose. Any violation of the honor code will be dealt with in accordance with BI's procedures on cheating. These issues are a serious matter to everyone associated with the program. They are at the heart of the Honor Code and academy integrity. If you have any questions about your responsibilities under the honor code, please ask.