

Econ 204
Mathematical Tools for Economists
Summer/Fall 2010

Instructors

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Office hours:
drop-in: 11:00 – 12:00 MTWThF
other times by appointment

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Office hours for Oleksa and Ivan:
MTWThF 3-5 pm 608-1 Evans (Oleksa and Ivan will trade off days)

Course Material

The course will cover Chapters 1-5 and part of Chapter 6 of *Mathematical Methods and Models for Economists* by Angel de la Fuente. Additional material will be covered from several handouts.

Website http://elsa.berkeley.edu/users/cshannon/e204_10.html

Course Schedule

The course runs from July 26 – August 18.

Lectures: MTWThF 9:00 – 11:00 am, July 26 – August 13 180 Tan Hall

Note: We will often run past 11:00, so do not schedule anything else between 11:00 and 11:30.

Sections: MTWThF 1:00 – 2:30, 2:30 – 4:00, 608-7 Evans Hall

Final Exam: Wednesday August 18, 9:00 – 12:00, 180 Tan Hall

Course Requirements

Lectures will cover theory; the discussion sections will review the lectures, introduce additional material, and discuss problem sets. All students should attend the discussion sections and will be responsible for the material discussed in the sections.

There will be a total of six problem sets, due according to the following schedule:

Problem set 1: due Friday July 30 in lecture

Problem set 2: due Tuesday August 3 in lecture

Problem set 3: due Friday August 6 in lecture

Problem set 4: due Tuesday August 10 in lecture

Problem set 5: due Friday August 13 in lecture

Problem set 6: due Monday **August 16 – turn this in to Ivan by 9:00 am**

Students are encouraged to work in study groups. Students must turn in their own solutions in their own handwriting (or typed individually), however.

Because of the importance of posting solutions and grading problem sets promptly, **no late problem sets will be accepted**. There will be no exceptions to this rule. The problem set grade will be based on the 5 highest grades among the 6 problem sets. This allows for missing one problem set without penalty.

Grading

The grade for Econ 204 will be based on problem set scores and the final exam, according to the following formula:

Problem sets	20%
Final exam	80%

Prerequisites

Math 1A – 1B and Math 53 – 54, or equivalent

Course Outline

References below are to sections in de la Fuente. Lecture notes may contain additional material not contained in the textbook.

Lecture 1 Monday July 26

dIF 1.2-1.3, begin 1.4 (see Corrections handout), Set Formation and Axiom of Choice handouts (read dIF section 1.1 on your own)

Lecture 2 Tuesday July 27

dIF 1.4, 1.5-1.6 (read 1.7-1.8 on your own)

Lecture 3 Wednesday July 28

dIF 2.1-2.3, handout on lim sup and lim inf

Lecture 4 Thursday July 29

dIF 2.4, begin 2.6 (read 2.5 on your own)

Lecture 5 Friday July 30

dIF 2.6, 2.7

Lecture 6 Monday August 2

dIF 2.8

Lecture 7 Tuesday August 3

dIF 2.9, 2.11 (read 2.10 on your own)

Lecture 8 Wednesday August 4

dIF 3.1–3.3

Lecture 9 Thursday August 5

dIF 3.3, 3.5 – 3.6 and handouts on Matrix Representation, Diagonalization and Quadratic Forms

Lecture 10 Friday August 6

dIF 3.6, 3.4, Diagonalization and Quadratic Forms

Lecture 11 Monday August 9

dIF 4.1-4.3, 4.4 and Taylor Theorem handout (read 4.5 on your own)

Lecture 12 Tuesday August 10

dIF 4.3, begin 5.2

Lecture 13 Wednesday August 11

dIF 5.2, 5.3, 6.1(d)

Lecture 14 Thursday August 12

Handout on Difference and Differential Equations

Lecture 15 Friday August 13

Handout on Difference and Differential Equations