

Econ 5090, *Introduction to Mathematical Economics I*
Professor Ariell Reshef
University of Virginia

1 Contact information

Office: Monroe 255
Phone: 434-243-4977
Email: ariellr@virginia.edu
Office Hours: by appointment, but feel free to drop by anytime.
Course webpage: <http://people.virginia.edu/~ar7kf/Econ509/Econ509.htm>

2 Course description, goals and textbooks

The goal of this course is to familiarize you with a set of fundamental and useful mathematical tools that are ubiquitous in economics. The stress is on application, but underlying theoretical assumptions are not neglected. We will cover *all* chapters of Chiang and Wainwright, more or less in sequential order.

- Chiang and Wainwright, *Fundamental Methods of Mathematical Economics*, McGraw Hill.
- Additional reading: Simon and Blume, *Mathematics for Economists*, Norton.

My lecture notes are available on the course webpage. They contain more than what the textbook does on some topics. These notes will be revised during the course, so pay attention to changes.

3 Lectures and homework

Lectures take place in Monroe 110; we meet on most weekdays at 9:30 and 14:00, but see the detailed schedule below. Each meeting lasts 75 minutes, unless we need a bit more to conclude a topic.

Four to five problem sets will be assigned. They will be emailed to you and will be available on the course website, once assigned. Not all material will be reflected in homework; I encourage you to solve problems from CW even if they are not assigned. Most of you will be working in teams, but I require the homework submitted individually. In order to prevent free riding and in order to ensure that you all understand the material, some questions on the exams will strongly resemble homework questions.

4 Lab sessions and teaching assistant

Lab sessions take place at Monroe 110 on designated days (see schedule below) at 13:00; they are an integral part of the course. Each lab session will be 50 minutes long. Your TA is Vahid Gholampour. Let Vahid be your first source for answering questions. He will make himself available to you as much as possible, even outside of his office hours, in Monroe B10-B (in the basement). Email: vg3qc@virginia.edu; GholampourV@arden.virginia.edu. Office Hours: Tuesday and Wednesday 15:30–17:30, in the basement of Monroe Hall.

There is also a grader, who will grade your homeworks: Chris (Li) Zhang, lz2ne@virginia.edu, Office Hours: Tuesday and Friday 15:30–17:30, in the basement of Monroe Hall.

5 Grading

Your final grade will reflect your homework assignments (1/4) and three exams (3/4).

Timetable for Econ 5090, Fall 2013

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	5	6	7	8	9
9:30-11:00	Class	Class	Class	Class	
13:00-13:50			Lab		Lab, HW 1 collected
14:00-15:30	Class	Class, HW 1 assigned	Class		Class
	12	13	14	15	16
9:30-11:00	Exam	Class	Class	C, HW 2 collected, HW 3 assigned	
13:00-13:50	Lab		Lab		Lab, HW 3 collected
14:00-15:30	Class	Class, HW 2 assigned	Class	Class	Class
	19	20	21	22	23
9:30-11:00		Class	Class		Class
13:00-13:50		Lab			Lab, HW 4 collected
14:00-15:30	Exam	Class	Class, HW 4 assigned		Class
	26	27	28	29	30
9:30-12:00	Exam	Fall classes begin			