

Dear all,

You TA grades in Micro are ready. Please read carefully the information below before you inquire about your grade on the link at the end of the email.

Those of you who passed will go with this grade to the final exam on Thursday, May 23. Your TA grade will be further averaged with your Final exam grade, and rounded up to the nearest number. This number will be your final grade in Microeconomics. Those of you who did not pass will have to show up directly on the make-up exam period (годишна поправителна сесия). Please consult your academic calendar and your timetable for further details on the timing of the make up exam.

Those of you who passed, please fill a line in your student books with the following information: Microeconomics -- 45 -- 30 -- and your teachers. Then, hand your student books to your group representatives. The group reps will come at 11:00 on Monday in my office 4022 to receive zaverki for everyone who passed. I will not sign a student book without the necessary information on the subject filled in.

As you know, I gave a quiz on the last TA session. The purpose of this quiz was to check if you studied as hard in the second half of the semester as you did before the midterm. For most of the people, the quiz did not affect their TA grade relative to the grade they would have received if I did not give a quiz. However, the TA grade of 17 people was notched down, and the TA grade of 11 people was notched up relative to the grade they would have received if the pop-up quiz was not administered. That is why there is an important lesson implied by the quiz: if you want to excel, it is not enough to excel only half of the time. You have to be perfect all the time. Please also note that for two people, the quiz made a big difference: they would have failed if the quiz was not administered. Unfortunately, two other people were also close to passing but were not as lucky this time. I am sure they will pass the next time if they apply a bit more effort. The rest of the failing cases were pretty clear-cut.

Although I understand that those people could be extremely disappointed that they failed only marginally, it is important that you realize that failure is not necessarily a bad thing. If you handle the frustration productively, you can learn much more from failure than from success. A few other people experience a failure of a different kind: they are sitting just on the margin of a better grade without getting it, because they lack a tiny fraction of a point to be able to get it. Their disappointment is also quite understandable. However, their TA grade will also not change. They can still change their final Microeconomics grade through harder work before the final exam.

How to read the TA grade table: as usual in the West, it is an anonymous table with only a number identifier for each student (in this case, the faculty number). Then you have your midterm score and the quiz score. As they sum up to 50, and the maximum for the MT and the Quiz should be 40, your MT and Quiz sum is rescaled by a factor of 0.8. The rescaled number is your PTS (of 40) column. Then, this number is summed up with your attendance points. Your attendance points are formed as follows: those who never missed a class, get 10 + 1 bonus point. Those who missed only one class, receive 9.3 + 1 bonus point. They still get the bonus but their maximum attendance score is reduced by the share of one absence (i.e. 0.7 points). Those who have two or more absences lose the bonus,

and their attendance score is formed as $10 - X \cdot 0.7$, where X is the number of their absences. For example, two absences means attendance score of 8.6, and 3 absences means Att. score of 7.9. Finally, the sum of your MT, Quiz and Attendance gives a number between [0;50] which is used to grade your performance on the TA sessions according to the table published in the Syllabus from Day 1 of the semester. Please note that due to the availability of a few bonuses, the scores can go higher than the maximum for a couple of people who collected a bonus whenever it was available.

Please know your group representative for the final exam day because they will be handling your student books. There will be NO mass gathering of people in front of Prof. Gechev's office. Please consult the syllabus for further details. You have about 5 days before the Final. Give it everything you got. Best wishes,

Stankov.

Well, here it is: http://home.cerge-ei.cz/pstankov/Teaching%5CUNWE%5CMicroENG%5C2013%5C134_TA_Grades_Results.pdf

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Petar Stankov
Sr. Assistant Professor of Economics
Department of Economics, Office 4022
University of National and World Economy
J.K. Studentski Grad, 1700 Sofia
Bulgaria
Email: petar.stankov@gmail.com
Phone (office, fixed): +359.2.483.97.41
Phone (office, cell): +359.88.418.37.41
Visit: <http://pstankov.com>
