

This review sheet is intended to cover everything that could be on the exam. However, it is possible that I may have inadvertently overlooked something. You are still responsible for everything in the chapters covered except anything that I explicitly say you are not responsible for. Therefore, if I left something off of this sheet, it can still be on the exam. There will be no multiple-choice questions. Most of the questions will be like the ones on the homework assignments, and possibly a few definition questions. I am more likely to ask questions that make you use definitions rather than have you recite them. I will probably ask one of the questions from the book at the end of the chapters.

There will be no class on Friday, 3/23 because I will be at a conference.

The review session for this test will be Thursday, 2/29, at a time the class will determine.

Chapter 6: What are the production function, fixed inputs, variable inputs, short-run, long-run,  $TP_L$ ,  $MP_L$ , and  $AP_L$  are. Why do the three graphs look as drawn? What are the  $MRP_L$  and the  $MRC_L$  and why should they be equal? Understand what isoquants and isocost lines are. We will ignore the area where the isoquants slope upwards because it is outside of the feasible area. They act very similarly to indifference curves and budget constraints. The slope of the isoquant is the negative of the  $MRTS = -MP_L/MP_K$ . Understand what that means. Do not worry about isoquants for perfect substitutes and for perfect complements. Know what moves the isocost lines and be able to show those movements. Their slope is  $-w/r$ . Know how to find the expansion path. What is the equi-marginal principle as it applies to inputs in production. Know how to determine if there are increasing (IRTS), decreasing (DRTS), or constant returns to scale (CTRS). Ignore sections 6-7 through 6-9.

Chapter 7: What are implicit and explicit costs? How do economic costs differ from accounting costs? What is the difference between short-run and long-run? Be able to plot the  $SRTC$ ,  $SRTVC$ ,  $SRATC$ ,  $SRAVC$ , and  $SRMC$  curves. Derive them from the isoquant/isocost diagram by holding  $K$  constant and drawing a horizontal line at that level. **Hints on drawing them: Note that the  $SRMC$  curve must go through the minima of both the  $SRATC$  and the  $SRAVC$  curves, so draw the  $SRMC$  curve last. The distance between the  $SRATC$  and  $SRAVC$  curves is  $SRAFC$ , so those two curves must be getting closer together. Therefore, draw the  $SRAVC$  curve first, then the  $SRATC$  curve and finally the  $SRMC$  curve. Remember to start the  $SRMC$  curve at the same point as the  $SRAVC$  curve.** Also, be able to derive the  $LRATC$ ,  $LRTC$ , and  $LRMC$  curves from the isoquant/isocost diagram using the expansion path. Understand why the  $LRATC$  curve is the envelope of the  $SRATC$  curves. Be able to draw them. Understand why the  $LRTC$  curve is the envelope of the  $SRTC$  curves. Be able to draw them. Understand why the  $LRATC$  may take each of the three different  $LRATC$  curves on page 295. What is the learning curve? Why does it take that shape? How can we keep costs down by outsourcing and having immigration of labor? Skip sections 7-6 to 7-7. Understand breakeven analysis including the graph of straight-line  $TC$  and straight-line  $TR$ . How does the operating leverage affect the diagram? What is  $DOL$ ? How do we calculate it? What does high  $DOL$  imply about the firm's profitability? Why is it acceptable to use the  $SRTC$  curve that is straight? Ignore pages 313 - 316.

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This is the Assignment #7A which will be reviewed with Assignment #7.

- 1) (25 points) Suppose a firm's product sells for \$3/unit. Their fixed costs are \$1000 and their marginal costs are \$2.5/unit. Draw the break-even analysis diagram for this firm. Find the break-even sales. Suppose they are selling 2500 items. What is their  $DOL$ ? Show all work and briefly explain what you did.
- 2) (25 points) Draw the diagram with the  $LRATC$  curve and at least four  $SRATC$  curves. Is the  $LRATC$  curve the envelope of the  $SRATC$  curves? Explain your logic.
- 3) (10 points) What is bad about a high  $DOL$ ?
- 4) (25 points) We said that we can tell if there are increasing, constant, or decreasing returns to scale by looking at the  $LRATC$  curve. How can we do that? Technically, this only works if we make an assumption about the expansion path. What is that assumption? Why does it matter?
- 5) (15 points) Why isn't the  $LRMC$  curve the envelope of the  $SRMC$  curves?