EC 121a Theory of Value

1. Instructor: Farzad Pourbabaee

Email: <u>far@caltech.edu</u> (please include "EC121a" in the subject line of your emails, so I can get back to you faster) Website: <u>https://farzad-pourbabaee.github.io</u> (look for the *Teaching* tab) Classroom: Baxter Lecture Hall (Baxter 250) Lectures: Tu/Th 2:30-4 pm Office hours: end of class + Tu 4-5:30 pm (Baxter 236) other times by appointment

2. Teaching Assistant: Sumit Goel

Email: <u>sgoel@caltech.edu</u> Office hours: F 4-5pm (online via zoom)

3. **Course Description:** This is a course on intermediate microeconomics. We study comparative statics, profit maximization and cost minimization, convex analysis and Lagrange multipliers, capital theory, demand theory, welfare economics and decision theory.

4. Course Material:

- Lecture notes are the main reference for this class, and they are updated regularly on Canvas and Instructors' website.
- Recommended: Hal Varian, Microeconomic Analysis, Third Edition, 1992.

5. Grading:

There are four problems sets (40% of grade):

- Problem set 1: distributed on Th October 7; due Tu October 19
- Problem set 2: distributed on Th October 21; due Tu November 2
- Problem set 3: distributed on Th November 4; due Tu November 16
- Problem set 4: distributed on Th November 18; due Th December 2

There is a (take home) final exam (60% of grade). There is an extra 5% for class attendance.