Econ 172A, Winter 2002, Information for Final Exam

1. Where? 216 Center. Sit in the same seat you used for midterms.
2. When? Friday, March 22, 2002, 3-6 PM
3. What? You are responsible for everything that I covered in the lectures, lecture notes, and problems. I will constrain this blanket statement somewhat. First, the examination will place most weight on material covered since the first midterm: sensitivity, problem formulation, interpreting duals, complementary slackness, the transportation and assignment problems, and game theory. Second, there are limits to what you will be asked. You obviously won’t be asked to solve a linear programming problem using Excel (but you may be asked to evaluate Excel output). You need only worry about finding mixed strategy security levels for games with two strategies for each player.
4. Rules: No notes, books, or cheating. (If you are unsure about what constitutes cheating, ask me.) Learn the course material and bring something to write with.
5. How to study? If you have been doing well, continue to do what you did before. Generally, the best preparation is to do lots of problems. The course materials are an excellent source of problems. You should be able to “invent” similar problems on your own. Of course, answers will not be available to the problems that you invent, but you can ask me.
6. Specific review information: All exams, quizzes, and homework from Winter 2001 or Fall 2001 versions of the class. Use the supplementary formulation problems (and other formulation problems in homeworks and exams) to practice not only formulating, but constructing and interpreting duals, and doing sensitivity analysis. Since I did not give problems on game theory, look carefully at Fall 2001 problem set 3 and the examples in the notes on game theory. I did not talk about the transportation problem in Fall 2001 (but spent more time on game theory). Taking that into account, the finals should give you a good idea of the relative coverage of different topics. In the fall, students felt that the final examination was harder than the midterms. Be warned. I hope that the problems you have provide an accurate guide about what to expect.
7. Reminder: Most exam questions will require that you provide justification for your answer.
8. Additional resource: I will have office hours/review session on Thursday, March 21 from 11:30-1:30 (probably in Room 300, Economics; you will be able to check my office, Econ 311, to be sure).
9. How do I determine final grades? I’ll add your highest midterm score, your homework scores (properly scaled), and your final to get a raw score. I’ll translate this number into a letter grade. Your letter grade will depend on relative performance somewhat (in that I am unwilling to commit myself to a grading standard now), but absolute performance is more important. There is no limit to the number of As (or Fs) that I will give.
10. Afterwards: Examinations will be in Economics undergraduate office, 245 Sequoia Hall. You’ll be able to pick them up after the second or third week of Spring quarter classes. I will post answers on the class web page. I will not post grades. If you disagree with your final grade, leave the exam in 245 Sequoia, write me a note explaining your concern. I’ll get your exam and we’ll meet to talk about it.