Course Description

This course presents the main topics in microeconomic theory in a relatively non-technical manner with illustrations of their applications.

Prerequisite: ECON 1000 or FYSM 1003, or permission of the Department. Students who believe they have taken a similar background course or courses from another university must provide appropriate documentation to the Department of Economics Undergraduate Administrator, Amanda Wright.

Preclusions: This course is not open to students in any Economics, B.Com., B.C.S., B.Eng., B.I.D., B.I.B., B.Math., or B.Sc. programs. The course precludes additional credit for ECON 2002 (no longer offered), ECON 2003 (no longer offered), ECON 2009, ECON 2020, and ECON 2030.

Textbooks


Course structure

Week 1 - Course introduction

Week 2: Basic Assumptions about Market, Supply and Demand, Elasticity (Chapters 1 and 2)

Week 3: Consumer Choice (Chapter 3)

Week 4: Market Demand (Chapters 4 and 6)

Week 5: Production (Chapter 7)

Week 6: The Cost of Production (Chapter 8)

Week 7: Profit Maximization in Perfectly Competitive Markets (Chapter 9)
Week 8 - Midterm

Week 9: General Equilibrium (Chapter 19)

Weeks 10–12: Monopoly, Oligopoly, Market Power (Chapters 11, 10, 12, 13, and 15)

Week 13: Economics of Information, Public Goods, Externalities (Chapters 14 and 20)

Lecture notes, problem sets, announcements, due dates and other information will be posted on cuLearn. Students are responsible for regularly checking cuLearn to ensure that they have access to posted documents and that they are up to date with any announcements.

Disclaimer: Please note that modifications/additions may be made to the list of readings. Any such modifications will be announced in a timely fashion in class. Please check the updated weekly schedule at cuLearn.

Course Evaluation

Assignment 1: 10% (February 26)
Assignment 2: 10% (April 9)
Midterm Exam: 35% (March 5)
Final Exam: 45% (During the April exam period as scheduled by the university)

The assignments will consist of several questions and problems. The assignments must be submitted in person at the beginning of the lecture on the due date. Late assignments will not be accepted and will receive a grade of zero.

Students will receive a grade of zero if they miss the midterm exam unless they provide a compelling reason (doctor note, etc.). In this case, their midterm grade will be replaced with their final exam grade.

University Policies

Academic Integrity: Please be aware that all work submitted as requirements of this course must be both your own work and original to this course. Students should consult Section 14 of the Faculty of Graduate Studies Calendar, General Regulations concerning academic integrity and instructional offences.

Plagiarism: Please be aware that plagiarism is serious offence at Carleton and should be recognized and avoided. For information on how to do so, please see “Pammett on Plagiarism and Paraphrasing” at carleton.ca/economics/courses/writing-preliminaries.

Course grades: Note that no course grades are final until approved by the Faculty Dean. Note also that course grades may be scaled upwards or downwards in a rank-preserving manner to better fit the relevant departmental distributional norm.

Academic Accommodation: You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:
Pregnancy obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: www.carleton.ca/equity/

Religious obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: www.carleton.ca/equity/

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca. After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).