



**Carleton University
Department of Economics
Summer 2026
ECON 2020A
Intermediate Microeconomics I:
Producers and Market Structure**

Instructor: Haozhen Zhang

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Office Location: Loeb, B-840

Office Hours: After class or by appointment

Course Location/Delivery: Online Scheduled Section with In-Person Assessments

Course Day and Time: 6:05 pm – 8:55 pm, Mondays and Wednesdays

Office Hours: After class or by appointment

Brightspace Course Page: <https://brightspace.carleton.ca/d21/home/420531>

Course Description: This course examines the economic behavior of firms and the functioning of markets. It covers the theory of the firm, including production and cost analysis, input allocation, and pricing decisions. The course explores firm behavior in competitive markets as well as in monopoly, oligopoly, and monopolistic competition. Additional topics include the role of information, strategic interaction through game theory, and the implications of market outcomes for public policy.

Precludes additional credit for ECON 2001, ECON 2002 (no longer offered), ECON 2003 (no longer offered), and ECON 2009.

Prerequisites: ECON 1001 or ECON 1000 or FYSM 1003 with a grade of C- or higher; ECON 1401 (or equivalent) with a grade of C- or higher; and ECON 1402 (or equivalent), which may be taken concurrently with ECON 2020. 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. A grade of C- or higher is required to qualify for ECON 2030; a grade of C+ or higher is required to qualify for ECON 4020. DEF (erred final grade) status at the end of this course precludes (continued) registration in any other course for which the former is a prerequisite.

Required Textbook:

Perloff, Jeffrey M.: *Microeconomics: Theory & Applications with Calculus*, 5th edition. According to Pearson's website, the textbook costs \$89.94 for lifetime access or \$9.99 per month for 6-month access. We will cover chapters 1, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15, although not necessarily all of each.

Course Outline

1. Introduction to microeconomics and economic models (Perloff: Ch. 1)
2. Firms and production (Perloff: Ch. 6)
3. Firms: costs (Perloff: Ch. 7)
4. Competitive firms and markets (Perloff: Ch. 8)
5. Monopoly and monopsony (Perloff: Ch. 11)
6. Pricing and advertising (Perloff: Ch. 12)
7. Game theory (Perloff: Ch. 13)
8. Product markets: Oligopoly and monopolistic competition (Perloff: Ch. 14)
9. Factor markets (Perloff: Ch. 15)

Please note that the course content may be adjusted as the term progresses. Any changes will be communicated in a timely manner via email and/or Brightspace.

Tutorial: Tutorials will be run by teaching assistants (TAs) and will give students an opportunity to review course material and work through practice questions. Tutorials will be held from 4:35 p.m. to 5:25 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Student Evaluation & Course Grades

Each student's grade in the course will be calculated as a weighted average of scores for two assignments (25%), a mid-term examination (30%), and a final examination (45%). Assignments will be due before specific lectures (TBA).

- Two Assignments 25% (12.5% for each)
- Mid-term Exam, 30% (in class on May 27 2026)
- Final Exam (**In-person**; scheduled by the University) 45%

In the event that one or more assignments are not submitted, the weight of the missed assignment(s) will not be transferred to the final examination without a documented and compelling reason. Applications to write a deferred final examination must be made at the Registrar's Office.

Late Submissions: Late submissions will not be accepted. Any work submitted after the deadline without an acceptable, instructor-approved reason will receive a grade of zero.

Brightspace and the Carleton email system will be used extensively as a means of communication with students. Therefore, students are strongly advised to access Brightspace and check their Carleton email at regular intervals in order to check for new information. To access Brightspace and the Carleton email system, students require a MyCarletonOne account. For questions about MyCarletonOne accounts, students should access <http://carleton.ca/ccs/get-started/> (and then click on either New Students or New Grad Students, as appropriate) or contact the ITS Service Desk (4th Floor, MacOdrum Library, telephone: 613-520-3700).

NOTE: For verification and security purposes, I will not reply to emails originating from non-Carleton e-mail accounts, and which are not signed with a student's name and student number. Please ensure that you have a Carleton email account.

Academic Standing

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Plagiarism:

Please be aware that plagiarism is serious offense at Carleton and should be recognized and avoided. For further information on how to do so, please see “Academic Integrity and Offenses of Conduct”: <https://carleton.ca/economics/courses/writing-preliminaries/academic-integrity-and-offenses-of-conduct/>

Requests for 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

Please contact your instructor 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: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Religious obligation

Please contact your instructor 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: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. carleton.ca/pmc

Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and is survivors are

supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor 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. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: students.carleton.ca/course-outline