

Economics 2020B: Intermediate Microeconomics I: Producers and Market Structure

Carleton University, Economics

Fall 2026

Instructor: Eric Stephens

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Loeb Building D898

Meeting Times:

Lecture: In person, Wednesdays and Fridays, 11:35a.m-12:55p.m, for location see Carleton Central.

Tutorial: In person, either Wednesday or Friday depending on your section, 1:05-2:25p.m, for location see Carleton Central.

Office hours: In person, Loeb D-898, Wednesdays, 2:30-4pm.

Website: Accessible at <https://brightspace.carleton.ca>

Course Objectives:

The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to the economic analysis of the production side of the economy. The main components are: theory of the firm; elements of production and cost; input allocation, pricing, and firm behaviour under perfectly and imperfectly competitive market structures; the role of information; game theory and public policy, including basic competition policy.

Preclusions/Prerequisites:

Precludes additional credit for ECON 2001 and ECON 2009. Prerequisite(s): ECON 1001 or FYSM 1003 with a grade of C- or higher; ECON 1401(with a grade of C- or higher) and ECON 1402, (or equivalent department-approved MATH course pair with a grade of C- or higher in each). May be taken concurrently with ECON 1402. Elementary mathematical tools (including calculus) will be used throughout the semester. If you are unsure of your background please see me to discuss whether the course is appropriate for you.

Topics:

The following outlines the list of major topics to be discussed throughout the semester, along with associated text readings. The amount of time devoted to each will vary, and some may be skipped entirely.

1. Firms and Production (Chapter 6)
2. Costs (Chapter 7)
3. Competitive Firms and Markets (Chapter 8)
4. General Equilibrium and Welfare (Chapter 10)
5. Monopoly and Monopsony (Chapter 11)

6. Pricing and Advertising (Chapter 12)
7. Game Theory (Chapter 13)
8. Oligopoly and Monopolistic Competition (Chapter 14)
9. Factor Markets (Chapter 15)

Readings and Textbooks:

The course will follow *Microeconomics: theory & applications with calculus, 5th edition.* by Jeffrey Perloff. The text will be followed closely and access to the MyLab platform is required. An e-version of the textbook, including MyLab access, is available at the bookstore for a price of \$116.25. Any other materials will be available on Brightspace course page.

Grading:

Marks are based on a participation grade, two midterm exams, and one final exam (**all exams are cumulative**). Midterm exams are written in class, while the final examination will be scheduled by the University. All exams are in-person, weights are as follows:

Table 1: *

Grading Scheme 1

Participation / assignments	10 %
Midterm I - October 16 th	20 %
Midterm II - November 27 th	30 %
Final	40 %

Table 2: *

Grading Scheme 2

Participation / assignments	10 %
Midterm II - November 27 th	40 %
Final	50 %

Grades for the first midterm exam will be counted only if they increase the student's grade. In other words, I will calculate each student's final grade using both schemes and take the highest of the two.

Participation grades are assigned based on the percentage of completed homework that is assigned through the MyLab platform. Beyond the assignments, students are also encouraged to work through as many textbook problems as possible, especially those suggested by the instructor, since working through problems is the best way to learn the course material.

There will be no make-up midterm exams. Students who can document a compelling reason for missing a midterm examination will be excused. Students must inform the instructor of such an

absence in advance if possible. The weight of an examination missed for valid reasons will be evenly distributed between the remaining examinations. Should the final exam be missed for any reason, a grade of 0 will be assigned and the student must arrange for the possibility of a deferred examination through the Registrar's Office within 3 working days of the exam. If granted by the Registrar's Office, this exam will take place during the time designated in the Calendar. Special final exams will not be given.

See Academic Regulation 3.2 for the official meanings of final grades, and note that regulations stipulate that no course grades are final until approved by the Faculty Dean. Further, course grades may be scaled upwards or downwards in a rank-preserving manner to better fit the relevant departmental distributional norm.

Plagiarism:

Please be aware that plagiarism is serious offence at Carleton and should be recognized and avoided. The following is an excerpt from Carleton's Academic integrity policy:

"The University Academic Integrity Policy defines plagiarism as 'presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one's own.' This includes reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, artworks, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, material on the internet and/or conversations."

For further information, please see <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>.

Statement on Mental Health:

"As a student you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. For more information, please consult <https://wellness.carleton.ca/>"

Course Copyright:

Classroom teaching and learning activities, including lectures, discussions, presentations, etc., by both instructors and students, are copyright protected and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s). All course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, outlines, and other materials, are also protected by copyright and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s). Students registered in the course may take notes and make copies of course materials for their own educational use only. Students are not permitted to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly for commercial or non-commercial purposes without express written consent from the copyright holder(s).

Accommodation Statement:

“Carleton is committed to providing academic accessibility for all individuals. You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. The accommodation request processes, including information about the Academic Consideration Policy for Students in Medical and Other Extenuating Circumstances, are outlined on the Academic Accommodations website (students.carleton.ca/course-outline).”