

Department of Economics
ECON 6501 F
PhD Microeconomic Theory I
Fall 2026

Instructor: Zhiqi Chen
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Office Hours: Mondays 2:00pm – 3:30pm or by appointment

Course Location/Delivery: In Person, Log into Carleton Central to view the location on your timetable.

Lectures: Fridays 11:35am – 2:25pm

Brightspace Course Page: <https://brightspace.carleton.ca/d21/home/449427>

Course Description

This course will cover topics including demand, production, general equilibrium, and welfare economics.

Precludes additional credit for ECON 6020 (no longer offered).

Learning Outcomes

Students will acquire the main elements of advanced theory of individual decision-making and general equilibrium.

Required Text

Mas-Colell, A., M.D. Whinston, and J.R. Green, *Microeconomic Theory*, New York: Oxford University Press, 1995

Estimated cost of the required text is \$74.99 for 180-day access to eBook. Note that your actual cost may differ depending on the time, location and book format of your purchase.

Other References

Varian, H. R., *Microeconomics Analysis*, 3rd ed. New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 1992

Jehle, Geoffrey, A, and Philip J. Reny, *Advanced Microeconomic Theory*, 3rd edition, London: Financial Times Prentice Hall, 2011

Topics

I. Individual Decision-Making

- Classical Demand Theory
- Aggregate Demand
- Production
- Choice under Uncertainty

Mas-Colell, et al., chapters 3 to 6

II. General Equilibriums

- Examples of General Equilibrium
- Welfare Properties of Competitive Equilibrium
- Existence of Walrasian Equilibrium
- Core and Equilibria
- General Equilibrium under Uncertainty

Mas-Colell, et al., chapters 15-19

Evaluation

Each student's grade in the course will be determined based on the following three components:

Midterm Examination: 45% (In person, to be held in class on November 6)

Final Examination: 45% (In person, to be scheduled by Scheduling and Examination Services)

Class Participation: 10%

Any student who fails to write the midterm exam without a valid medical or equivalent excuse will receive a zero for that exam. With a valid excuse, a substitute exam will be scheduled.

Failure to write the final examination when the student has achieved satisfactory performance during the term will result in a grade of F until an appeal to write the deferred final exam is granted. Application to write a deferred final examination must be made at the Registrar's Office.

Marks for class participation are based on a student's attendance and participation in class discussions.

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.

Use of Brightspace

Students are advised to check the course website in Brightspace regularly for course materials and updates. Lecture slides and suggested exercises will be posted at the Brightspace course website.

Course Materials

Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the authors. They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author.

Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Students may use AI tools to assist their studies. However, the midterm and final examinations will be written without access to AI tools or any other reference materials.

Academic Integrity

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.

Student 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/>.

Academic Accommodations

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).