

ECON 310-1: Microeconomics I

Summer 2024
TuWTh 10:00-12:00, KGH 3301

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Office Hours: M 10-12 in KGH 3227

Course Description: The first part of the intermediate microeconomic sequence is a formal and rigorous introduction to the core microeconomic concepts. These include consumer theory and the derivation of demands, producer theory, and analysis of equilibria in competitive and monopolistic markets. The course will make heavy use of differential calculus.

Textbook:

The textbook for this course is Microeconomics by Besanko and Braeutigam (6th edition), but you can use any other intermediate micro textbook for reference.

Weekly Homework: Each week, I will post practice problems on Canvas. They will not be graded. The best way to prepare for the exams is to form study groups, work on the problems on your own in the beginning and then go over the problem sets together. It is essential that you practice solving these questions.

Exams: Grading will be based on two midterms (30% each) and a final examination (40%). The final exam will be cumulative. You must take both midterms. The dates for the midterms are August 8th and August 15th. The final exam is Thursday, 8/22, at 10:00am. All exams are closed book, and you may not use calculators.

Schedule (Textbook Chapters in Parentheses)

Week 1	Elasticity (2.2); Consumer Preferences: Indifference curves and Utility Functions (3.1-3.3); Budget Constraints (4.1);
Week 2	Constrained Optimization, Derivation of Demand Functions (4.2, 4.5); Income and Substitution Effects (5.1, 5.2);
Week 3	Welfare Measures: Compensating and Equivalent Variations, Consumer Surplus (5.3); Short-Run and Long-Run Production (6.1-6.5);
Week 4	Short-Run and Long-Run Cost Functions (7.2-7.5; 8.1, 8.2);
Week 5	Perfect Competition (9.2-9.4) Monopoly (11.1, 11.2, 11.5);

Northwestern Syllabus Statements

Academic Integrity: Students in this course are required to comply with the policies found in the booklet, "Academic Integrity at Northwestern University: A Basic Guide". All papers submitted for credit in this course must be submitted electronically unless otherwise instructed by the professor. Your written work may be tested for plagiarized content. For details regarding academic integrity at Northwestern or to download the guide, visit: <https://www.northwestern.edu/provost/policies/academic-integrity/index.html>

Accessibility: Northwestern University is committed to providing the most accessible learning environment as possible for students with disabilities. Should you anticipate or experience disability-related barriers in the academic setting, please contact AccessibleNU to move forward with the university's established accommodation process (e: accessiblenu@northwestern.edu; p: 847-467-5530). If you already have established accommodations with AccessibleNU, please let me know as soon as possible, preferably within the first two weeks of the term, so we can work together to implement your disability accommodations. Disability information, including academic accommodations, is confidential under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

Course Details Subject to Change: Please note that the specifics of this course syllabus are subject to change in the case of unforeseen circumstances. Instructors will notify students of any changes as soon as possible. Students will be responsible for abiding by the changes.

COVID-19 Classroom Expectations: Students, faculty, and staff must comply with University expectations regarding appropriate classroom behavior, including those outlined below and in the [COVID-19 Code of Conduct](#). With respect to classroom procedures, this includes:

- Policies regarding masking and social distancing evolve as the public health situation changes. Students are responsible for understanding and complying with current masking, testing, Symptom Tracking, and social distancing requirements.
- In some classes, masking and/or social distancing may be required as a result of an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accommodation for the instructor or a student in the class even when not generally required on campus. In such cases, the instructor will notify the class.
- No food is allowed inside classrooms. Drinks are permitted, but please keep your face covering on and use a straw.
- Faculty may assign seats in some classes to help facilitate contact tracing in the event that a student tests positive for COVID-19. Students must sit in their assigned seats.

COVID-19 Testing Compliance: If a student fails to comply with the [COVID-19 Code of Conduct](#) or other University expectations related to COVID-19, the instructor may ask the student to leave the class. The instructor is asked to report the incident to the Office of Community Standards for additional follow-up.

To protect the health of our community, Northwestern University requires unvaccinated students who are in on-campus programs to be tested for COVID-19 twice per week.

Students who fail to comply with current or future COVID-19 testing protocols will be referred to the Office of Community standards to face disciplinary action, including escalation up to restriction from campus and suspension.

Exceptions to Class Modality: Unless otherwise instructed by the university, class sessions for this course will occur in person. Individual students will not be granted permission to attend remotely except as the result of an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accommodation as determined by AccessibleNU.

Prohibition of Recording of Class Sessions by Students: Unauthorized student recording of classroom or other academic activities (including advising sessions or office hours) is prohibited. Unauthorized recording is unethical and may also be a violation of University policy and state law. Students requesting the use of assistive technology as an accommodation should contact [AccessibleNU](#). Unauthorized use of classroom recordings – including distributing or posting them – is also prohibited. Under the University’s [Copyright Policy](#), faculty own the copyright to instructional materials – including those resources created specifically for the purposes of instruction, such as syllabi, lectures and lecture notes, and presentations. Students cannot copy, reproduce, display, or distribute these materials. Students who engage in unauthorized recording, unauthorized use of a recording, or unauthorized distribution of instructional materials will be referred to the appropriate University office for follow-up.

Support for Wellness and Mental Health: Northwestern University is committed to supporting the wellness of our students. Student Affairs has multiple resources to support student wellness and mental health. If you are feeling distressed or overwhelmed, please reach out for help. Students can access confidential resources through the Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS), Religious and Spiritual Life (RSL) and the Center for Awareness, Response and Education (CARE). Additional information on all of the resources mentioned above can be found here:
<https://www.northwestern.edu/counseling/>
<https://www.northwestern.edu/religious-life/>
<https://www.northwestern.edu/care/>