

INTERMEDIATE MICROECONOMIC THEORY I

ECONOMICS EC2150A-SECTION 001

Department of Economics
Western University

September 2024

General Information:

Instructor: Mohammad Iftekher Hossain
Office: 4081 SSC
Phone: 519-661-2111 ext. 85054
E-mail: mhossa87@uwo.ca
Office hours: Wednesday 11:00 am – 1:00 pm, SSC 4081
Lectures: **In Person***
T 12:30 PM 2:30 PM Room: TC 141
Th 12:30 PM 1:30 PM Room: TC 141
Course website: OWL Brightspace: <https://westernu.brightspace.com/>
Undergraduate inquiries: 519-661-3507 or SSC Room 4078 or econugrd@uwo.ca

Registration:

You are responsible for ensuring you are registered in the correct courses. If you are not registered in this course, the Department will not release any of your marks until your registration is corrected. You may check your timetable by using the Login on the Student Services website at <https://student.uwo.ca>. If you notice a problem, please contact your home Faculty Academic Counsellor immediately.

Prerequisite Note:

Antirequisite(s): Economics 2260A/B.

Prerequisite(s): Economics 1021A/B and Economics 1022A/B, or Economics 2001A/B, and one of MCV4U, Mathematics 0110A/B, Calculus 1000A/B, Calculus 1500A/B, Mathematics 1225A/B.

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that you have not taken any anti-requisite courses. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as a basis for appeal. If you are found to be ineligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time, and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. This decision cannot be appealed.

If you find that you do not have the course prerequisites, it is in your best interest to drop the course well before the end of the add/drop period. Your prompt attention to this matter will not only help protect your academic record but will ensure that spaces become available for students who require the course in question for graduation.

Course Objectives:

This course aims to equip undergraduate students with essential knowledge of microeconomic theories related to consumers, producers, and competitive markets. We will explore consumer and producer theories, their applications, and the equilibrium in competitive markets in both the short and long run, utilizing three key microeconomic tools: constrained optimization, equilibrium analysis, and

comparative statics. Additionally, we will analyze the effects of government interventions in perfectly competitive markets on output, pricing decisions, and the welfare of economic agents.

Course Learning Outcomes:

After successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Solve utility maximization problems subject to the constraints.
- Decompose the price effect in the market into substitution and income effects.
- Explain the theories of demand, applying the techniques of constrained optimization and comparative static analysis.
- Describe a firm's cost-minimization problems in the long run and the short run.
- Derive the long-run and short-run cost curves.
- Obtain the short-run and long-run equilibrium of perfectly competitive firms.
- Analyze the consequences of government interventions in perfectly competitive markets.

Textbook(s) and Course Materials:

David Besanko and Ronald R. Braeutigam, Microeconomics, 6th edition, Wiley., 2020

Below is the link for the eBook version that the students can purchase through the Book Stores website:

https://bookstore.uwo.ca/textbook-search?campus=UWO&term=W2024A&courses%5B0%5D=001_UW/ECO2150A

The bookstore also carries print versions of the text. In place of the the eBook, students can also use the print version.

Essential Resources and Instructions:

Textbook: I strongly recommend to buy the Textbook; this is the most important resource in this course.

PPTs: Publisher's PPTs will be available through OWL before the commencement of the semester.

Chapter Notes (a synopsis of the chapter): Chapter notes will be available through OWL with the progression of the course. They do not contain all of the material that you need to know! You must read the Textbook.

Online resources: Some of the following online resources you may find helpful. All parts of these online resources are not necessary for this course. Please follow the instructions available in chapter notes and lectures:

https://economics.uwo.ca/undergraduate/undergraduate_resources/math_resources_for_ec_2100_required_courses_.html

In-Person Classes: I will arrange in-person classes following the course schedule. In the in-person classes, I will discuss some important concepts and examples. I will not record in-person classes, and there are no perfect substitutes for in-person classes.

Assessments and Grading:

Your grade point is the total points (out of 100) that you will earn in this course when the semester ends. Two Midterm Exams and one Final Exam will contribute 100% of the total points.

<i>Exam</i>	Date and Time* (Tentative)	Covers (Tentative)	Weight
Midterm 1 (IN-PERSON)	Tuesday, 08-Oct, 12:45 PM - 2:00 PM	Ch. 1-4	25%
Midterm 2 (IN-PERSON)	Tuesday, 12-Nov, 12:45 PM – 2:00 PM	Ch. 5-7	25%
Final Exam (IN-PERSON)	TBA	Cumulative	50%

* When the Registrar's office confirms the Date and time for the tests/ exams, I will notify you earliest.

Exam Format:

Midterms and the final exam will be mixed-format (MCQs, True-False, Short-Answer Questions, Questions Requiring Calculations), in-person, closed-book exams.

Exam Duration:

The duration of each midterm exam is 75 minutes. The duration of the final exam is 120 minutes.

Exam Locations:

Exam locations for the midterms and final exam will be announced at least seven days in advance.

During exams, you may have pens, pencils, a ruler, erasers, your student card, and **a non-graphing, non-programmable calculator** out of its case at your desk. All other items, including watches and cell phones, must be left in your bag at the front of the examination room.

Students should keep this schedule and workload in mind, given their other courses. Students should notify the instructor of conflicts with any of these test dates before 28-Sep.

Policy Regarding Missed Exams:

Midterm Exams

- There will be no make-up exams for missed midterm exams.
- Students are allowed to miss one midterm exam using self-attestation and notification to the instructor within 24 hours. If a student misses both midterm exams, they must obtain approval from Academic Counselling for the other missed exam and must notify the instructor within 24 hours. If a student misses both midterms without using self-attestation and without approval from Academic Counseling, they will receive a grade of zero for both exams.
- The weight of any approved missed midterm exam or exam using self-attestation will be transferred to the final exam..

Reallocation of Missed Exam Weight to the Final Exam

- If a missed exam's weight is reallocated to the final exam, the student will take the regular final exam with the rest of the class. However, the weight of the final exam will be higher for students with such reallocations. Students do not need to notify the professor about missed exams.

Final Exam

The final exam will cover material from the entire term. Students who miss the final exam must provide documentation to Academic Counselling and notify the instructor within 24 hours. Once Academic Counselling approves the documentation for the missed final exam, the instructor will schedule a makeup date.

Students who miss any assessment must follow Western University's procedures to have their absence approved for accommodation. Missed tests/exams without approved, documented official accommodation from Academic Counseling or without a self-attested absence (where applicable) will be given a zero mark. Please note again that students of Economics 2150A001 can miss one midterm exam using self-attestation without informing Academic Counseling.

General Information about missed work:

“University policy on academic considerations are described here (https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration_Sep24.pdf).

This policy requires that all requests for academic considerations must be accompanied by a self-attestation. Further information about academic considerations, and information about submitting this self-attestation with your academic consideration request may be found here. Please note that any academic considerations granted in this course will be determined by the instructor, in consultation with the academic advisors in your Faculty of Registration, in accordance with information presented in this course outline.”

Course Schedule (Tentative):

Week 1 & Week 2	Ch. 1	Analyzing Economic Problems
Week 3	Ch. 2	Demand and Supply Analysis
Week 4	Ch. 3	Consumer Preferences
Week 5	Ch. 4	Consumer Choice
Week 6 & Week 7	Ch. 5	The Theory of Demand
Week 8	Ch. 6	Inputs and Production Functions
Week 9	Ch. 7	Costs and Cost Minimization
Week 10	Ch. 8	Cost Curves
Week 11	Ch. 9	Perfectly Competitive Markets
Week 12	Ch. 10	Competitive Markets: Applications
Week 13	Review	

Professionalism, Privacy, and Copyright:

- Students are expected to follow the [Student Code of Conduct](#).
- All lectures and course materials, including slides, presentations, outlines, and similar materials, are protected by copyright. Students may take notes and make copies of course materials for their own educational purposes only.
- Students may not record lectures, reproduce (or allow others to reproduce), post or distribute lecture notes, assessments, or any other course materials publicly and/or for commercial purposes without written consent.
- Recordings (audio or video) are not permitted without explicit, written permission. Permitted recordings may not be distributed or shared.

PLEASE NOTE
DEPARTMENT & UNIVERSITY POLICIES FOR FALL 2024

The University expects all students to take responsibility for their own Academic Programs. Students should also check their registration to ensure they are enrolled in the correct courses.

1. **Guidelines, policies, and your academic rights and responsibilities** are posted online in the current Western Academic Calendar at: <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca>. Claiming that “you didn’t know what to do” is not an acceptable excuse for not following the stated policies and procedures.
2. A [*new academic consideration and flexibility in assessment*](#) policy is in effect starting September 2024. Students can miss one assessment per course per term without medical documentation. Faculty can designate one assessment per course for which students cannot self-attest.
3. Students must familiarize themselves with the “**Rules of Conduct for Examinations**” http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/administration.pdf.
4. **Cheating as an academic offence:** Students are responsible for understanding what it means to “cheat.” The Department of Economics treats cheating incidents very seriously and will investigate any suspect behavior. Students found guilty will incur penalties that could include a failing grade or being barred from future registration in other Economics courses or programs. The University may impose further penalties such as suspension or expulsion.
5. **Plagiarism:** Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. When taking an idea/passage from another author, it must be acknowledged with quotation marks where appropriate and referenced with footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is an academic offence (see Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students in the Western Calendar at http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_20).

Western University uses software to check for plagiarism and students may be required to electronically submit their work. Those found guilty will be penalized as noted in point 4.

6. It is a Department of Economics policy that **NO** assignments be dated, stamped or accepted by staff. Students must submit assignments to the instructor.
7. **Appeals:** University policies and procedures for appealing a mark can be found in the Student Academic Appeals section in the current Western Academic Calendar at: http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_14. **Please note the relevant deadlines.**

Department of Economics procedures for appealing a mark can be found here: https://economics.uwo.ca/undergraduate/program_counselling/responsibilities_policies.html#appeals. The Department will not consider an appeal unless an attempt has been made to settle the matter with the instructor first. Students who remain dissatisfied with the outcome may proceed to submit an appeal to econugrd@uwo.ca. Please follow the instructions and use the appeal form shown in the above link.

8. **Systematic adjustments of a class grade distribution** (either up or down) can occur in Economics courses. The fact that grades have been adjusted is **not** grounds for an appeal.

9. ADD AND DROP DEADLINES:

- Deadline to **ADD** first term full or half course: **Fri, Sept 13, 2024**
- Deadline to **DROP/WITHDRAW** first term full or half course: **Mon, Dec 2, 2024**

Policy Regarding Makeup Tests and Final Examinations

Faculty of Social Science policy states that oversleeping or misreading an exam schedule is NOT grounds for a makeup. This rule applies to midterm and final exams in the Department of Economics.

Policies Regarding Academic Accommodation

- Academic accommodation will not be granted automatically on request. Students must demonstrate by documentation that there are compelling medical or compassionate grounds before academic accommodation will be considered. The Faculty of Social Science's policies on academic accommodation are found at https://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/academic_consideration.html
- **Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:** Students with disabilities or accessibility challenges should work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD, see http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible_education/index.html), which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).
- **Rewriting Exams and Retroactive Reweighting are NOT Permitted:** Students who proceed to write a test or examination must be prepared to accept the mark. Rewriting tests or examinations, or retroactive reweighting of marks, is **not** permitted. Students must also book travel arrangements AFTER final exam dates have been posted as they must not conflict with test or final exams.
- Unless medically incapable of doing so, students must notify their instructor prior to the test date or at least within **48 hours** when requesting a makeup exam. Failure to follow this procedure may result in denial of academic accommodation and a grade of zero. Students should also set up an appointment as soon as possible to meet with their instructor. If the instructor is not available, send an email message to the instructor, copying the Undergraduate Coordinator at econugrd@uwo.ca. **Notifying instructors of a missed exam does not automatically entitle students to a makeup.**
- For medical illnesses, students may consult Student Health Services and request a Student Medical Certificate from the physician. If assessed by an off-campus doctor, students must obtain a certificate from his/her office at the time of the visit/assessment. Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is available here: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf
- **Documentation for Accommodation:** Individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds or for other reasons.
- **Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence** is available here: https://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/probation_rtw/appeals.html
- **Religious Accommodation:** Students should consult the University's list of recognized

religious holidays and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

Policy Regarding Class Attendance and Engagement: If the instructor deems a student's attendance or engagement in the class to be unsatisfactory, that student may be prohibited from writing the final examination. Examples of unsatisfactory class engagement include frequent absences from an in-person or synchronous online class, lack of assignment submissions, and inadequate use of online course materials. Instructors who intend to make use of this policy will notify the student in advance.

Statement on Mental Health and Support Services: Students under emotional/mental distress should visit http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/ for more information and a complete list of resources on how to obtain help.

Statement on Remote Proctoring: While Western intends to hold most classes, mid-terms and finals in-person, the London-Middlesex Health unity may require western to teach in a remote format. If this occurs, all assessments will be done remotely and may involve the use of remote proctoring software (i.e., Proctorio, ProctorTrack). Instructors will provide information on the details should the need arise.