

INTERMEDIATE MICROECONOMIC THEORY I
ECONOMICS EC2150B-002
Department of Economics
Western University

January 2025

Instructor: Aisha Arooj Khan
Office: 4082 SSC
Phone: 519-661-2111 ext. 85276
E-mail: akha83@uwo.ca

Office hours: *W 12-2 PM*
Delivery mode: *In-person class time and office hours*
Meeting time(s): *Section 002- M 6:30-9:30PM*
Classroom: *SSC 2024*
Course website: <https://westernu.brightspace.com/>
Undergraduate inquiries: 519-661-3507 or SSC Room 4075 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/Antirequisite Note:

The prerequisites for this course are **Economics 1021A/B and Economics 1022A/B; one of MCV4U, Mathematics 0110A/B, Calculus 1000A/B, Calculus 1500A/B, Mathematics 1225A/B, or Mathematics 1230A/B.**

The antirequisite for this course is **Economics 2260A/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 Description:

This course will acquaint students with the behavior of consumers and producers and their interaction in society. You will be introduced to key microeconomic tools and shown how they work and why they are important. Intuitive explanations complemented with graphs and numerical and real-life examples will be used to teach the key concepts, helping to illuminate the power and versatility of the microeconomic way of thinking. For exams, students will be required to know not only the theory but also how to apply the theory to solve analytical problems.

Course Learning Outcomes:

- Students will be able to explain the concept of scarcity and how it influences the choices of what, how and for whom goods and services are provided.
- Students will be able to apply the principles of constrained optimization to model consumer choice of consumption goods subject to a budget constraint and producer choice of inputs subject to a technological constraint.
- Students will be able to identify the conditions that characterize a perfectly competitive market and explain the concepts of equilibrium and comparative statics analysis.
- Students will be able to analyze the effects of government actions on individual and social welfare.

Textbook(s) and Course Materials:

David Besanko and Ronald R. Braeutigam, *Microeconomics*, 6th edition, John Wiley and Sons Inc., 2020.

Link to purchase:

<https://www.wiley.com/en-us/Microeconomics%2C+6th+Edition-p-9781119554936>

All updates will be posted to OWL Brightspace: <https://westernu.brightspace.com/d2l/login>
Lectures will be based on the book and follow the book; however, they will also include extra material not found in the book such as practice and examples. As an extra resource, the Economics Department's [webpage](#) of math resources for students in required 2100 courses can be very helpful.

If students need assistance with the course OWL site, they can seek support on the OWL Help page. Alternatively, they can contact the Western Technology Services Helpdesk. They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

	Topics	Chapters	Notes
1	Introduction to Micro -constrained optimization -equilibrium analysis -comparative statics	1-2	
2	Consumer Theory -preferences -utility	3-5	Midterm 1: <i>Tentative Feb 3</i> (1-4)

	-choice -demand		
3	Production and Cost Theory -productions functions -cost minimization -cost curves	6-8	Midterm 2: <i>Tentative</i> March 10 (5-7)
4	Perfectly Competitive Markets -profit maximization -supply -market equilibrium	9	
5	Comparative Statics and Welfare Analysis -economic efficiency -government intervention -deadweight loss	10	
	FINAL EXAM: TBD	Final exam will be cumulative.	

Assessments and Grading:

The overall course grade will be calculated as listed below:

Midterm(s) exam	(2- 30% each)	60%
Final Exam (cumulative)		40%

Tentative Exam dates

Midterm 1: February 3 (in class)

Midterm 2: March 10 (in class)

Final Exam date will be determined later in the semester.

- Students must inform of any potential conflicts with the Midterm date(s) by **January 20, 2025**. Conflicts can be accommodated and potentially change the tentative Midterm date.
- Exams are closed book, calculators will be allowed. During exams, students are forbidden to communicate with any person other than an examination proctor or the instructor.
- Missed exams without approved, documented official accommodation from Academic Counseling or without a self-attested absence (where applicable) will be given a zero mark.
- If there has been approved documented official accommodation from Academic Counseling or a self-attested absence (where applicable), the weight of a missed midterm will be transferred to the final exam.
- If a student misses the final exam, University and Economics Department policies require

that they (a) request academic consideration from the counselors and (b) contact the instructor, both within 48 hours. Failure to do so will typically invalidate any excuse in all but extreme circumstances. Make-up final exams will be scheduled by the instructor.

- Students who have been excused from one or more exams may find that their final exam differs in form and/or content from the final exam given to students who have written all exams at the regularly scheduled times. For example, a student who has not written one of the midterms may find that their final exam (whether regularly scheduled or make-up) has more questions concerning the material that would have been tested on the unwritten midterm.

Communication:

- *Students should check the course OWL site every 24-48 hours*
- *Students should use the OWL “messages” tool to email the instructor(s) and teaching assistant(s)*
- *Students must setup an appointment during office hours.*
- *Emails will be monitored daily; students will receive a response in 24 – 48 hours*
- *Students with accommodations are responsible for contacting the instructor **two weeks prior** to an assessment to confirm and allow for arrangements to be made.*

Technical Requirements:

- Laptop or computer
- Stable internet connection
- Non-programmable calculator
- Microphone and Webcam

Tips on How to be Successful in this Class:

- Attend classes, follow the material and ask questions.
- Questions are strongly encouraged during lectures and welcomed after a class.
- Read the book, practice questions and examples done in class.
- Meet with the TA during their office hours and ask practice questions during the term and in advance of assessments.

PLEASE NOTE
DEPARTMENT & UNIVERSITY POLICIES FOR WINTER 2025

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** second term full or half course: **January 14, 2025**
- Deadline to **DROP** second term full or half course: **March 31, 2025**

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/medical_certificate.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/academic_consideration.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 2024 Diversity Calendar available at <https://www.edi.uwo.ca/> (see bottom right of page).

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 Gender-Based and Sexual Violence: Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence (GBSV) and providing compassionate support to anyone who is going through or has gone through these traumatic events. If you are experiencing or have experienced GBSV (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at the following website: [Get Help](#). To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca.

Statement on Mental Health and Support Services: Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about 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.