

**York University**  
**Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies**  
**Department of Economics**  
**AP/ECON 2350 P Intermediate Microeconomic Theory II**  
**Winter 2020**

**Prerequisites:** AP/ECON 2300 3.00 or equivalent. Course credit exclusions: GL/ECON 3230 6.00.

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**Course Instructor**

Name: Matias Cortes  
Office: 1088 Vari Hall  
Office Hours: Mondays 10:00-11:00am, Wednesdays 11:00-12:00pm  
Email: gmccortes@yorku.ca

**Lecture Time and Location**

Time: Wednesdays 7:00-10:00pm  
Location: CLH K

**Expanded Course Description**

Economics 2350 3.0 is a continuation of Econ 2300 3.0. The course applies the analytical tools from AP/ECON 2300 3.00 to analyze resource allocation in imperfectly competitive markets and factor pricing in alternative market structures. We will consider basic concepts of general equilibrium and welfare economics.

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- understand the structure and underlying assumptions of the standard models used in microeconomic analysis and how the models' predictions change when the standard assumptions are relaxed;
- be able to identify and solve constrained optimization problems;
- demonstrate facility with the calculus-based methods used to analyze microeconomic problems;
- be able to explain in non-technical terms the fundamental economic intuition associated with the standard models.

**Course Text / Readings**

Hal R. Varian, *Intermediate Microeconomics with Calculus*, W.W. Norton & Company.

## Evaluation

The breakdown of the course grade is as follows:

<b>Midterm Exam</b>	40%
<b>Final Exam</b>	60%

- The **Midterm** will be held on **February 12<sup>th</sup>** during class time. **There will be no make-ups for the midterm exam.** If a student misses the midterm for a reason deemed acceptable by the instructor, the weight from the midterm will be transferred to the final exam, i.e. the final will account for 100% of the student's final grade. Appropriate documentation (e.g. a doctor's note) must be provided in order to transfer the weight from the midterm to the final exam.
- The **Final Exam** will take place **during the official exam period** and will include the material covered during the **entire semester**.
- There will be regular **assignments** with practical applications of the theory. The assignments do not need to be submitted, but you are strongly encouraged to work on them, so that you stay up-to-date with the material and improve your preparation for the exams. We will discuss the solutions in class, but note that I will **not** post solutions to Moodle.

## Grading and Missed Tests

**Grading:** The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Assignments and tests will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 90, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.)

**Missed Tests:** **There will be no make-ups for the midterm exam.** If a student misses the midterm for a reason deemed acceptable by the instructor, the weight from the midterm will be transferred to the final exam. Appropriate documentation (e.g. doctor's note) must be provided to the instructor in order to transfer the weight from the midterm to the final exam. A deferral for the final exam will be granted only for medical reasons. In such cases students should submit a deferred exam application together with the supporting documents (attending physician's statement) to the Economics Department to my attention. The date and time of the deferred exam will be set at a later date. Students who may require further extensions or accommodation will have to submit a formal petition to the Faculty.

## Important Course Information for Students

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Academic Standards, Curriculum & Pedagogy webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents): <http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/>

- Senate Policy on Academic Honesty and the Academic Integrity Website
- Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants
- Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities
- Student Conduct Standards
- Religious Observance Accommodation

## Course Add/Drop Deadlines

	<b>Fall Term 2019 (F)</b>	<b>Winter Term 2020 (W)</b>
Last date to add a course <b>without permission</b> of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Sept. 17	Jan. 19
Last date to add a course with permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Oct. 1	Feb. 3
Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)	Nov. 8	March 13
<b>Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a grade of “W” on transcript – see note below)</b>	<b>Nov. 9 - Dec. 3</b>	<b>March 14 - Apr. 5</b>

**\*\*Policy and Guidelines on Withdrawn from Course:** <http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/withdrawn-from-course-w-policy-and-guidelines/>  
<https://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/fw19>

**Course Outline and Approximate Schedule**  
*The following is a guide to the lecture schedule, time permitting.*  
*Exact dates and coverage may vary.*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Key Reading</b>
Jan 8	Imperfect Competition: Monopoly	Varian ch 25
Jan 15	Monopoly Behaviour	Varian ch 26
Jan 22	Imperfect Competition: Factor Markets	Varian ch 27
Jan 29	Oligopoly	Varian ch 28
Feb 5	Game Theory	Varian ch 29
Feb 12	<b>Midterm</b>	
Feb 19	<b>Reading Week – No Class</b>	
Feb 26	Game Applications	Varian ch 30
Mar 4	General Equilibrium: Exchange	Varian ch 32
Mar 11	General Equilibrium: Production	Varian ch 33
Mar 18	General Equilibrium: Welfare	Varian ch 34
Mar 25	Uncertainty and Asymmetric Information	Varian ch 11, ch 38
Apr 1	Externalities and Public Goods	Varian ch 35, ch 37