Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies
Intermediate Microeconomic Theory 2
ECON 2350N
Winter 2021

Course instructor(s):
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Teaching Assistant: TBA

Technical requirements for taking the course:
Several platforms will be used in this course (e.g., eClass, Zoom, etc.) through which
students will interact with the course materials, the course director/TA, as well as with
one another. Please review this course outline to determine how the class meets, and
how office hours will be conducted.

Students shall note the following:
- Zoom is hosted on servers in the U.S. This includes recordings done through
  Zoom.
- If you have privacy concerns about your data, provide only your first name or a
  nickname when you join a session.
- The system is configured in a way that all participants are automatically notified
  when a session is being recorded. In other words, a session cannot be recorded
  without you knowing about it.

Please review the technology requirements for eClass.

In order to fully participate in your course, you will need access to a stable, higher-
speed Internet connection.

Here are some useful links for student computing information, resources and help:
Zoom@YorkU Best Practices
Zoom@YorkU User Reference Guide
Computing for Students Website
Student Guide to eLearning at York University

To determine Internet connection and speed, there are online tests, such as Speedtest,
that can be run.

Times and locations:
Please note that this is a course that depends on remote teaching and learning. There
will be no in-person interactions or activities on campus.

Organization of the course
The lectures for this course will be held synchronously, during the regularly scheduled

class times. That is, I will be teaching on **Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2:30-4:00pm (EST)**.

I will be teaching using Zoom. Please download Zoom to follow the lectures.

To accommodate students who may be unable to attend live sessions, I will record all live sessions and make them available for student viewing.

Every lecture is 90 minutes long, but will be broken into several segments to allow for short breaks, sometimes involving other activities.

Course webpage: eClass

Virtual office hours:
I will be having a Zoom virtual office hour for student meetings/consultations every Wednesday at 1:30-2:30pm (EST). If that time does not work for you, we can also arrange for office hours at a mutually convenient time—please let me know by email.

During my Wednesday 1:30-2:30pm virtual office hour, I will be available to students on a first come first serve basis using a waiting room.

Prerequisite / Co-requisite: AP/ECON 2300 3.0 or equivalent.

Expanded course description: Economics 2350 3.0 is a continuation of Econ 2300 3.0. 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. Considers basic concepts of general equilibrium and welfare economics. The lectures will cover approximately the second part of the textbook. Course credit exclusions: GL/ECON 3230 6.00.

Course objectives and learning outcomes:
(1) **Brief statement of the purpose**:
The purpose of this course is to assist students in developing the tools to analyze optimal choice in the use of limited resources. Theoretical analyses of the concepts will be followed by more specific examples in assignments.

(2) **Brief list of specific learning outcomes of the course:**
The specific outcomes of the course are that students will be able to:
- Understand trade offs using simple models
- Understand and solve constrained optimization problems
- Analyze decision problems with equations and graphs
- Understand the intuition behind the theoretical outcomes analyzed

Course readings
The textbook for this course is **REQUIRED** and it is:
Hal R. Varian, *Intermediate Microeconomics with Calculus: A Modern Approach: Media Update*, W.W. Norton & Company, 2019.

Evaluation

Assessment	Due date	Value (% of final grade)
10 weekly quizzes	Every week	30
Midterm	February 20	30
Final exam	April TBA	40

There is one midterm for this course. It will be held on Saturday, February 20 at 9:00-10:00am EST. The final exam will be held during the final examination period determined by the University.

Course policies
There will be no makeup tests for this course. If you miss any of the tests, the weight of the test will be shifted to the final exam. I strongly encourage all students to take all of the tests as, historically, students taking the tests have done significantly better.

Final exam: The final exam will cover the entire course, with more emphasis on the material covered after the second midterm.

Assignments: There will be regular assignments with practical applications of the theory. I will give bonus marks at the end of the course for regular participation.

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.).
(For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar - http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/2010-2011/academic/index.htm)

Academic honesty and integrity
In this course, we strive to maintain academic integrity to the highest extent possible. Please familiarize yourself with the meaning of academic integrity by completing SPARK's Academic Integrity module at the beginning of the course. Breaches of academic integrity range from cheating to plagiarism (i.e., the improper crediting of another's work, the representation of another's ideas as your own, etc.). All instances of academic dishonesty in this course will be reported to the appropriate university authorities, and can be punishable according to the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty.

Topics:

Imperfect Competition
Game Theory
General Equilibrium
Uncertainty and Asymmetric Information
Market Imperfections

Schedule of readings and activities
Please note the following important dates for the Winter 2021 term:
- Classes will start on January 11, 2021.

- Reading Week will occur between February 13 and 19, 2021 in the Winter term.
- The formal exam period in the Winter will run from April 14 to 28, 2021.