

York University

Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies

Department of Economics
Fall 2024

Course # and Title:

Intermediate Mathematics for Economists – ECON 3530 3.00 A

Course Webpage:

Will be available through eClass.

Course Instructor/Contact:

Name: Mat Brzozowski
Office: 1086 Vari Hall
Email: brzozows@yorku.ca use your York email account when contacting the professor.
Phone: 416-736-2100 Ext: 20152

Office Hours: Monday: 5:00-6:00PM, VH 1086 or by appointment.
Be advised that economics department closes at 4:00PM. Therefore, when you come for the office hours the department doors will be locked. Call my office extension and I will come to the main entrance to the department and open the door for you.

NOTE: The instructor reserves a right not to be disturbed under ANY circumstances during the one hour immediately preceding the lecture time – this applies especially to the days the tests are held.

Lecture Time and Location:

Lecture: Monday: 7:00-10:00 PM
Location: DB 1016

Prerequisite / Co-requisite:

Prerequisites: AP/ECON 1530 3.00 and AP/ECON 1540 3.00 or equivalents. Course credit exclusions: None. PRIOR TO FALL 2009: Course credit exclusion: AS/ECON 3530 3.00.

Course Description:

Develops and demonstrates the mathematics commonly used in the analysis of static economic models. Topics range from concavity and convexity to constrained optimization and comparative static analysis including the implicit function and envelope theorems.

This course is an introduction to some of the mathematical tools used in economic theory. It is designed to prepare students for the fourth-year courses in economic theory. In my experience, students who struggle with these courses do so because of inadequate mathematical preparation. This course is designed to help you avoid such troubles. It covers topics in calculus, linear algebra, optimization and difference and differential equations. While the main focus is on mathematical tools, illustrations will be drawn from economic applications. You will need to know your basic micro and macro theory.

Problem sets:

Multiple problem sets will be posted on eClass. These will not be graded. These are meant as practice questions for the students. **Do not ask the instructor to send you answers to the problems sets.** The instructor is happy to discuss your solutions to those questions during office hours or during lectures (time permitting).

Weighting of Course:

Evaluation

Important dates and grading scheme are as follows:

Term Test 1	25%	October 7 th , regular class hours	Location: regular classroom
Term Test 2	25%	November 18 th , regular class hours	Location: regular classroom
Final Exam	50%	Date: TBA	Location: TBA

The tests and the final will not be re-weighted in order to benefit any single student or any group of students.

Missed exams/Tests:

There will be no make-up for the term tests. If you are unable to take a term test **for a valid reason ONLY**, the weight of the test will be added to the final exam. Students missing a term test must provide detailed documentation in the manner required by York. The instructor must be contacted about missing the term test via e-mail at brzozows@yorku.ca or in person within 48 hours after the end of the test (*since it is student's responsibility to make sure that the instructor has been contacted e-mail works much better than any other means of communication*). Students missing the mid-

term exam who do not provide such documentation will receive a grade of zero for the mid-term exam.

For both tests, students are responsible for **all** the material covered until the date of the test.

The final exam will be held during the university exam period. While it will be weighted towards the material covered after the second term test, it will cover **all** the material since the first lecture in September.

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.)

Course Text / Readings:

Required Text

Mathematics for Economists, by Carl P. Simon and Lawrence Blume, 1994, W. W. Norton & Company

Organization of the Course (Topics):

Topics and Readings

Univariate Calculus (Chapters 2-5, Appendix 1)
Linear Algebra (Chapters 6-11, 26)
Multivariate Calculus (Chapters 12-15, parts of 30)
Static Optimization (Chapters 16-22)
Difference Equations, Differential Equations (Chapters 23, 24)

Additional Information/Notes:

Important Dates

	Fall Term 2024 (F24)
Last date to add a course without permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	September 18
Last date to add a course with permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	October 2
Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)	November 8
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and	Nov. 9 - Dec. 3

receive a grade of "W" on transcript)	
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Important Academic Forms

- Religious Accommodation - http://registrar.yorku.ca/sites/registrar/files/pdf/exam_accommodation.pdf
- Deferred Standing - http://registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/deferred_standing_agreement.pdf
- Attending Physician's Statement Form - <http://registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/attending-physicians-statement.pdf>

Important Information for Students

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards webpage.

- York's Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures is located on the York University Senate webpage. As per Senate Policy, academic honesty and integrity is defined as conduct that violates the ethical or legal standards of the University community or of one's program or specialization is subject to severe penalties. Students are responsible for understanding the nature and consequences of these offences, as contained in the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty. More information on academic integrity for students can be found on the York Academic Integrity Website.
- Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants located using the Senate Policy Research Involving Human Participants link
- Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities can be accessed using the Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities link.
- Information on student conduct standards can be reviewed on the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities webpage.
- Students requiring religious accommodation should review the Religious Accommodations Guidelines using the Religious Observance link.