

# Faculty Liberal Arts and Professional Studies

## Department of Economics

**Course:** [AP/ECON 2300 M – Intermediate Microeconomic Theory I](#)

**Course\_Webpage:** <http://eclass.yorku.ca/>

**Term:** [Winter 2025](#)

**Prerequisite / Co-requisite:** [Prerequisite / Co-requisite](#) Prerequisites: [AP/ECON 1000 3.00](#), [AP/ECON 1010 3.00](#), and [AP/ECON 1530 3.00](#), or equivalents. Prerequisites/Co-requisites: [AP/ECON 1540 3.00](#). Course credit exclusion: [GL/ECON 3230 6.00](#). PRIOR TO FALL 2009: Course credit exclusions: [AK/AS/ECON 2300 3.00](#), [GL/ECON 3230 6.00](#).

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### Course Instructor/TA

[Shin-Hwan Chiang](#)  
[schiang@yorku.ca](mailto:schiang@yorku.ca)

TA: TBA

### Time and Location

Lecture [R 4:00-7:00pm, DB0010](#)

Office hours [R 2:30-3:30pm \(by appointment\) via Zoom.](#)  
[Arrangement can also be made for in-person meetings](#)

### Course Objectives

#### (1) Brief statement of the purpose:

Studies how individuals, households, and firms make decisions given the incentives and constraints of their economic environment. Topics include consumer decision-making, production and costs, competitive equilibrium, and the role of prices in a market economy.

#### (2)

The specific outcomes of the course are that students will be able to:

- [critically examine issues related to functioning of markets.](#)
- [identify and describe current approaches to Microeconomic policy.](#)
- [apply theory to critically evaluate case studies](#)

### REQUIRED TEXTS

[Hal R. Varian, \*Intermediate Microeconomics with Calculus\*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, W.W. Norton & Company, 2024.](#)

### OPTIONAL

[Hal R. Varian and Theodore C. Bergstrom, \*Workouts in Intermediate Microeconomics\*, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition, W.W. Norton & Company, 2014.](#)

## Organization of the Course (Topics):

The course would cover the following topics from the textbook from respective chapters including appendix (as time permits):

1. Consumer Theory
  - Budget Constraint: Chapter 2
  - Preferences: Chapter 3
  - Utility: Chapter 4
  - Choice: Chapter 5
  - Demand: Chapter 6
  - Slutsky Equation: Chapter 8
  - Consumer's Surplus: Chapter 14
2. Producer Theory
  - Technology: Chapter 19
  - Profit Maximization: Chapter 20
  - Cost Minimization: Chapter 21
  - Cost Curves: Chapter 22
  - Firm Supply: Chapter 23
3. Markets for Goods
  - Market Demand: Chapter 15
  - Industry Supply: Chapter 24
  - Equilibrium: Chapter 16

## Evaluation \*

The final grade for the course\*\* will be based on the following items weighted as indicated:

Midterm Test:	30% (Thursday, May 27, 4:00pm-5:30pm)
Final Examination:	70% (TBA by the University)

Final exam will be held on the date and time scheduled by the registrar's office during the official exam period in April. There will be no makeup for missed midterm. A missed midterm will automatically make final exam worth 100%.

"Final course grades may be adjusted to conform to Program or Faculty grades distribution profiles."

**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.)

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

\* If an alternative number grade/percentage system is used for assignments or tests, it must be fully described in the course outline.

Students may take a limited number of courses for degree credit on an ungraded (pass/fail) basis. For full information on this option see Alternative Grading Option in the (*Faculty name*) section of the Undergraduate Calendar: ([provide web link to calendar description of this option for the Faculty offering the](#)

course)

### **ECON deferred exam request:**

<https://www.yorku.ca/laps/econ/undergraduate-programs/academic-resources/department-policies/deferred-standing/>

## **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.info.yorku.ca/files/CourseInformationForStudentsAugust2012.pdf>

- 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

Academic integrity is a fundamental and important value of York University. To maintain a fair and honest learning environment, students in this course are responsible for understanding and upholding academic integrity in all of their academic activities. To better understand expectations, familiarize yourself with the [Senate Policy on Academic Conduct](#). To learn more about how to demonstrate academic integrity in your courses and to access related resources and support, visit the [Academic Integrity website](#).

### **Course ADD/Drop Deadlines**

<https://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/su20>

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

## **Private Third-Party Tutoring Companies, Academic Honesty and Support Resources**

Many private, third-party tutoring companies advertise their services to YorkU students. One way you can help eliminate these advertisements is by changing your eClass profile settings to private (see instructions below). Some of these private companies claim to be affiliated with, or recognized and supported by, York University. Some also claim to help you by providing you with quiz and test answers, suggesting that this practice is safe and permitted by York. These claims are **not** true. York University has not officially recognized or endorsed any third-party tutoring service. When you are provided with quiz, test and exam answers, you run the risk of violating the [university's academic honesty policy](#). Students have been caught using these services to cheat and gain unfair advantage over honest students. The cheating students and "tutors" have received academic dishonesty punishments ranging from failing courses, to being expelled, to losing their YorkU degrees. Officially supported resources to help students learn course material will be provided by YorkU officials, such as your professors and your department. These services are offered at no cost to you as a student. Your professor will likely provide weekly office help hours to meet with students and if you are a first- or second-year student and would like help with course material, make sure you join one of our weekly [Peer Assisted Study Sessions \(PASS\)](#). If you require help with any of your numeracy-related courses that involve math, statistics or Excel, drop in online to meet with one of our peer tutors at the [Student](#)

[Numeracy Assistance Centre at Keele \(SNACK\)](#). If you are ever unsure of whether a resource is allowable or endorsed by YorkU, please feel free to email the Department of Economics at [lapsecon@yorku.ca](mailto:lapsecon@yorku.ca) and they would be happy let you know.

**To hide your email address in eClass:** Step1: Click your name on the top-right of the eClass website, then click "Profile" on the drop-down menu; Step 2: Under "User details" click "Edit profile"; Step 3: From the "Email display" drop-down menu choose "Hide my email address from non-privileged users"; Step 4: Scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the "Update profile" button.