

University of Florida
Department of Economics
ECO 3101: Intermediate Microeconomics

Spring 2021 Syllabus

Instructor: Urbashi Mookerjee
Class Hours: M/W 9:35am -11:30am
Office Hours: M/F 2pm -3pm, and by appointment

E-mail: umookerjee@ufl.edu
Room: Anderson Hall 32

Prerequisites:

Principles of Microeconomics (ECO 2023 or equivalent) and Calculus I (MAC 2233 or equivalent)

Required Material and Textbooks:

Required: "Intermediate Microeconomics" by Hal R. Varian, Ninth edition, Norton Publishers

Recommended: "Microeconomics" by Robert S. Pindyck and Daniel L. Rubinfeld, Ninth edition, Pearson Publishers

All students are expected to have a computer with a webcam and reliable internet access. The computer must be able to handle online texting through Honor Lock.

Course Description

This course is designed to give the students a deeper understanding of the core concepts of microeconomic theory, such as consumer behavior and market demand analysis, firm production theory as well as the analysis of the different types of market structures. The main purpose of this course is to develop the tools required, theoretical and mathematical, to analyze economic problems.

Exams

There will be three exams in total, 2 midterms and 1 final, all of which will be non-cumulative and will be conducted online. If you cannot take one of the exams, please let me know as early as possible.

All exams will be closed book exams. A simple four function calculator will be allowed, graphing calculators will not be allowed.

Homework and Quiz

There will be 10 quizzes and 10 homeworks. Quizzes will be posted along with the lectures and will be due the next day (Tuesday) by midnight. Homework, quizzes, grades and homework solutions will be posted online. Homework is to be submitted on Canvas by 9:35 am on the day it is due.

Grading

Attendance is mandatory and will account for 5% of your grade. There will be 10 homeworks and 10 quizzes during the semester which will account for 15% of your final grade. Both the homeworks and quizzes will be graded based on completion. Please upload your homework and quizzes as a single pdf file on Canvas. Feel free to work in groups but each of you must submit an individual non-plagiarized solution. Late homeworks (a doctor's note or an email informing me about circumstances will be accepted) and unexcused absences from in-class exams will result in a grade of 0.

The exams and the homeworks will be given the following weights:

1. Midterm I : 30%
2. Midterm II: 25%
3. Final: 25%
4. Homework and Quizzes: 15%
5. Attendance: 5%

Baseline Grading scale

1. 90-100 A
2. 87-89 A-
3. 84-86 B+
4. 78-83 B
5. 75-77 B-

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6. 72-74 C+
 7. 65-71 C
 8. 62-64 C-
 9. 59-61 D
 10. 0 -58 E

For the final letter grade, I will curve based on overall class scores at the end of the semester. Any curve will only ever make it easier to obtain a certain letter grade.

Course Policies

Attendance Policies and Online Meeting Requirements: Requirements for class attendance, make-up exams, assignments and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <http://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx> and

<http://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx> respectively.

Most of our one-on-one communication will occur via email. There are two important course policies regarding email: 1) I expect that you are reading your email at least once per day, and 2) All emails that you send must follow basic rules for professional correspondence. If you are unsure of what constitutes professionalism, feel free to ask or simply err on the side of caution.

Academic Honesty: The university's policies regarding intellectual honesty are given in detail in the Student Honor Code

(see <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>).

Counseling: If you are ever having general issues with your coursework in any course or trouble in your personal life, please seek help from myself or another faculty member. I also encourage you to utilize the FREE and ANONYMOUS services of the UF Counseling and Wellness Center (352- 392-1575; <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/>).

Disabilities: "Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester."

Online Course Evaluations: I strongly encourage you to fill out the online course evaluation forms which can be found at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu> .

Course Outline

Every Monday the lecture videos for the week will be posted online. The video links will be provided on the Canvas page. No class will be held on Mondays. A quiz based on the lecture videos will be posted on Monday and must be submitted online by Tuesday midnight. If there is no class on Monday then the lectures and the quiz will be posted on Wednesday and the quiz will be due by Thursday midnight. Wednesdays during class time, we will have a synchronized discussion session regarding the material posted. You will be expected to watch the lecture videos before attending the discussion session.

- Week 1: **Module I**
January 11th: Syllabus and Math Review
Budget Constraint, Varian Chapter 2: Lecture posted
January 13th: Math Review and Budget Constraint: Discussion Session
Assignment 1 posted
- Week 2
January 18th: Holiday
January 20th: Preferences, Varian Chapter 3: Lecture posted and discussion session
Assignment 1 due
- Week 3
January 25th: Utility, Varian Chapter 4
Choice, Varian Chapter 5: Lecture posted
Assignment 2 posted
January 27th: Utility and Choice: Discussion Session
- Week 4
February 1st: Demand, Varian Chapter 6
Revealed Preference, Varian Chapter 7: Lecture posted
Assignment 2 due
Assignment 3 posted
February 3rd: Demand and Revealed Preference: Discussion Session
- Week 5
February 8th: Slutsky Equation, Varian Chapter 8
Assignment 3 due
Assignment 4 posted
February 10th: Slutsky Equation: Discussion Session
- Week 6
February 15th: Exam Review I
Assignment 4 due
February 17th: Midterm I

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- **Week 7: Module II**
February 22nd: Technology, Varian Chapter 19
Profit Maximization, Varian Chapter 20: Lecture posted
Assignment 5 posted
February 24th: Technology, Profit Maximization: Discussion Session
 - **Week 8**
March 1st: Cost Minimization, Varian Chapter 21
Cost Curves, Varian Chapter 22: Lecture posted
Assignment 5 due
Assignment 6 posted
March 3rd: Cost Minimization, Cost Curves: Discussion Session
 - **Week 9**
March 8th: Firm Supply, Varian Chapter 23
Industry Supply, Varian Chapter 24: Lecture posted
Assignment 6 due
Assignment 7 posted
March 10th: Firm Supply, Industry Supply: Discussion Session
 - **Week 10**
March 15th: Exam Review II
Assignment 7 due
March 17th: Midterm II
 - **Week 11: Module III**
March 22nd: Holiday
March 24th: Holiday
 - **Week 12**
March 29th: Monopoly, Varian Chapter 25: Lecture posted
Assignment 8 posted
March 31st: Monopoly: Discussion Session
 - **Week 13**
April 5th: Monopoly Behaviour, Varian Chapter 26
Oligopoly, Varian Chapter 28: Lecture posted
Assignment 8 due
Assignment 9 posted
April 7th: Monopoly Behaviour, Oligopoly: Discussion Session
 - **Week 14**
April 12th: Game Theory, Varian Chapter 29
Game Applications, Varian Chapter 30: Lecture posted
Assignment 9 due

Assignment 10 posted

April 14th: Game Theory, Game Applications: Discussion Session

- Week 15

April 19th: Exam Review III

Assignment 10 due

April 21st: Final Exam