

University of Florida  
Department of Economics  
ECO 3101: Intermediate Microeconomics

Fall 2020 Syllabus

Instructor: Urbashi Mookerjee

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Class Hours: M/W 1:55pm -3:50pm    Office Hours: M/F 10am -11am, and by appointment

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**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.

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## Grading

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 attend 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, grades and homework solutions will be posted online. Homework is to be submitted on Canvas by 1:55pm on the day it is due.

There will be 10 homeworks during the semester which will account for 10% of your final grade. Homework will be graded based on completion. Please upload your homework 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: 30%
3. Final: 30%
4. Homeworks: 10%

### Baseline Grading scale

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

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## 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.

This class requires all students to have their webcams turned on. This requirement is simply to promote a more interactive learning environment. Feel free to use appropriate Zoom backgrounds.

**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/](http://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> .

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## Course Outline

Every Monday the lecture videos for the week will be posted online, (unless it is a holiday, in which case it will be posted on Wednesday morning). The video links will be provided on the Canvas page. No online class will be held on Mondays. Wednesdays during class time, we will have an online discussion session regarding the material posted. You will be expected to watch the lecture videos before turning up for the discussion session.

- Week 1: **Module I**  
August 31st: Syllabus and Math Review  
Budget Constraint, Varian Chapter 2: Lecture posted  
September 2nd: Math Review and Budget Constraint: Discussion Session  
*Assignment 1 posted*
- Week 2  
September 7th: Holiday  
September 9th: Preferences, Varian Chapter 3: Lecture posted and discussion session  
*Assignment 1 due*
- Week 3  
September 14th: Utility, Varian Chapter 4  
Choice, Varian Chapter 5: Lecture posted  
*Assignment 2 posted*  
September 16th: Utility and Choice: Discussion Session
- Week 4  
September 21st: Demand, Varian Chapter 6  
Revealed Preference, Varian Chapter 7: Lecture posted  
*Assignment 2 due*  
*Assignment 3 posted*  
September 23rd: Demand and Revealed Preference: Discussion Session
- Week 5  
September 28th: Slutsky Equation, Varian Chapter 8: Lecture posted  
*Assignment 3 due*  
*Assignment 4 posted*  
September 30th: Slutsky Equation: Discussion Session
- Week 6  
October 5th: Exam Review  
*Assignment 4 due*  
October 7th: Midterm I

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- **Week 7: Module II**  
October 12th: Technology, Varian Chapter 19  
Profit Maximization, Varian Chapter 20: Lecture posted  
*Assignment 5 posted*  
October 14th: Technology, Profit Maximization: Discussion Session
  - **Week 8**  
October 19th: Cost Minimization, Varian Chapter 21  
Cost Curves, Varian Chapter 22: Lecture posted  
*Assignment 5 due*  
*Assignment 6 posted*  
October 21st: Cost Minimization, Cost Curves: Discussion Session
  - **Week 9**  
October 26th: Firm Supply, Varian Chapter 23  
Industry Supply, Varian Chapter 24: Lecture posted  
*Assignment 6 due*  
*Assignment 7 posted*  
October 28th: Firm Supply, Industry Supply: Discussion Session
  - **Week 10**  
November 2nd: Exam Review II  
*Assignment 7 due*  
November 4th: Midterm II
  - **Week 11: Module III**  
November 9th: Monopoly, Varian Chapter 25: Lecture posted and discussion session  
*Assignment 8 posted*  
November 11th: Holiday
  - **Week 12**  
November 16th: Monopoly Behaviour, Varian Chapter 26  
Oligopoly, Varian Chapter 28: Lecture posted  
*Assignment 8 due*  
*Assignment 9 posted*  
November 18th: Monopoly Behaviour, Oligopoly: Discussion Session
  - **Week 13**  
November 23rd: Game Theory, Varian Chapter 29  
Game Applications, Varian Chapter 30: Lecture posted  
*Assignment 9 due*  
*Assignment 10 posted*  
November 25th: Holiday

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- Week 14  
November 30th: Game Theory, Game Applications: Discussion Session  
*Assignment 10 due*  
December 2nd: Externalities, Varian Chapter 35: Lecture posted and discussion session
  - Week 15  
December 7th: Exam Review III  
December 9th: Final Exam