



蘇州大學  
Soochow University

# ECO 220 Intermediate Microeconomics

Winter 2024

**Course Credits:** 4

**Contact Hours:** 56 hours

**Instructor:** TBA

**Email:** TBA

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

This is an intermediate-level course in microeconomics that builds upon the foundational concepts covered in introductory microeconomics. This course focuses on the analysis of individual economic agents, such as consumers and firms, and their interactions in various market structures. Major topics covered include supply, demand, cost curves, government policies, consumers, producers, and the efficiency of markets, perfect competition, general equilibrium, monopoly, oligopoly. Students will develop a deeper understanding of microeconomic theory and its applications to real-world economic issues.

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Develop a comprehensive understanding of intermediate microeconomic theory and its applications;
2. Use fundamental theoretical tools to formulate and solve economic models;
3. Enhance analytical and critical thinking skills through the application of microeconomic concepts;
4. Analyze and evaluate economic decision-making by consumers and firms in various market structures;
5. Apply microeconomic theory to real-world economic problems and policy issues;
6. Prepare themselves for advanced courses in microeconomics and related fields.

## **PREREQUISITES**

ECO 110 Microeconomics



## GRADING

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Grades will be determined by accumulating points, with 100 points being the maximum, as follows:

ITEM	POINTS
Problem Sets	40 Points
Midterm 1	15 Points
Midterm 2	15 Points
Final Exam	30 Points
Total	100 Points

Late submissions will be graded at the end of the course. Grades will be assigned according to the following rule:

$$A \geq 90 > B \geq 80 > C \geq 70 > D \geq 60 > F.$$

We reserve the right to make adjustments to the overall grading policy.

## COURSE MATERIALS

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### Required Texts:

Hal R. Varian, *Intermediate Microeconomics: A Modern Approach*, 9th Edition, W. Norton & Company, 2014.

### Recommended (Optional) Texts or Other Materials:

None

## COURSE TOPICS

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MODULE	TASKS
Module 1	<p><b>Topics:</b> Topic 1: Course Introduction: Microeconomics and the Real World Topic 2: Preferences and Utility Theory Topic 3: Budget Constraints and Consumer Choice Topic 4: Demand Analysis and Elasticity</p> <p><b>Assessments:</b> Problem Set#1</p>



Module 2	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 5: Producer Theory: Production Functions and Cost Analysis Topic 6: Profit Maximization and Supply Topic 7: Perfect Competition and Market Supply Topic 8: Market Structures <b>Assessments:</b> Problem Set#2
Module 3	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 9: Monopoly and Monopolistic Competition Topic 10: Oligopoly and Game Theory Topic 11: Market Power and Antitrust Policy Topic 12: General Equilibrium <b>Assessments:</b> Problem Set#3 Midterm#1
Module 4	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 13: Efficiency and Market Failures Topic 14: Externalities and Public Goods Topic 15: Uncertainty and Information: Risk and Expected Utility Theory Topic 16: Adverse Selection and Moral Hazard <b>Assessments:</b> Problem Set#4 Midterm#2
Module 5	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 17: Behavioral Economics Topic 18: Applications of Microeconomic Theory Topic 19: Environmental Economics and Natural Resource Management Topic 20: Health Economics and Healthcare Policy <b>Assessments:</b> Final Exam

## ATTENDANCE

1) Class attendance is required. Missing classes without permission will lead to decrease in overall grade.

Missing less than two classes: no penalty.

Missing more than two classes: 7% will be taken off from the overall grade.

If the instructor reports a student's frequent missing of class to the Soochow University Academic Administration Office, the student might get a written warning and might be prohibited from attending final exam.



2) Participants in this course are expected to arrive in class promptly and adequately prepared. The primary objective of this course is to critically engage with the readings and the subject matter. Therefore, course participants are expected to have completed the reading prior to class and prepare thoughtful reflections/commentaries to share with fellow colleagues.

### **LEARNING REQUIREMENTS**

- 1) Late assignments are not acceptable and are subjected to grade deductions.
- 2) Assignments submitted in the wrong format will be counted as not submitted.
- 3) Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.
- 4) Make-up for midterm and final exams only with valid excuses, as defined by the University.
- 5) In order to earn a Certificate of Completion, participants must thoughtfully complete all assignments by stated deadlines and earn an average quiz score of 50% or greater.

### **TECHNOLOGY POLICY**

The use of electronic devices in class is distracting, both for the user and for the rest of the class. Only non-programmable calculators can be used in the tests and exam. Any attempts to use cell phones and other electronic communication devices will be seemed as cheating. Laptops are discouraged, unless you use them for activities DIRECTLY related to the course (e.g., note taking, reading course documents).

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY**

Soochow University highly values the academic integrity and aims to promote the academic fairness, honesty and responsibility. Any academic dishonesty behaviors and any attempts to cheats and plagiarism will be reported to the university administration office. A written warning and the relevant penalties will be imposed. The record might be shown on the official university transcript.

### **DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION**



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Soochow University is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at Soochow University. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome.

Note:

Please contact the University Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material.