

**UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO**

**Department of Economics**

**Syllabus for Econ 101 (005)**

**Introduction to Microeconomics, Fall 2016**

Instructor:	Teferi Mergo
Office:	STP 227
Office Hours:	Tue. & Thu. 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.
Email:	tmergo@uwaterloo.ca
Class time:	Tue. & Thur. 2:30 – 3:50 p.m.
Location:	STP 105

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**Course Objectives and Expectations**

Econ 101 is an introductory course in which you will learn that market forces allocate scarce resources efficiently under certain conditions. You will study that the key principles driving these forces are determined by the natural optimizing proclivity of economic agents. You will also discover the limitations of the market in generating optimal outcomes. Whenever possible, concrete examples based on current developments will be offered to illuminate class discussions.

You are expected to attend classes as well as read the suggested chapters (in brackets in the outline below), ideally before and after each class. I will initiate class discussions as needed, and give you opportunities to ask questions on any topic that might be unclear. Should you remain uncertain about a particular concept or idea, please see me during office hours.

## Required Textbook, Study Guide and Relevant Course Materials

### Textbook

Parkin, M. and R. Bade, **Microeconomics: Canada in the Global Environment**,  
(Ninth Edition), Pearson

### Study Guide

Cohen, A. and H. King/Parkin, M. and R. Bade, **Microeconomics: Canada in the Global Environment**, (Ninth Edition), Pearson

### Additional Course Resources

I will post announcements and useful course materials on **LEARN**. Here is the website: <http://learn.uwaterloo.ca>. I will also conduct interactive class quizzes and other exercises; specific announcements pertaining to the quiz will be made in class.

### Grading

Your grade for this course will be determined as follows:

Class Quizzes (Every week, as deemed necessary) 20%\*

First Midterm (TBA): 20%

Second Midterm (TBA): 20%

Final Exam (TBA): 40%

\*On the first day of class, I will offer students the option to opt out of the quizzes, in which case their final grade will be calculated as follows: First Midterm (25%); Second Midterm (25%); Final Exam (50%).

## Course Outline

### 1. Introduction:

The Scope of Economics (Ch. 1 & 2)

### 2. The Competitive Market:

a. The Demand and Supply Model (Ch. 3)

b. Elasticity (Ch. 4)

### 3. The Theories of Consumer Behavior - Two Alternative Explanations of Consumer Demand

a. The Marginal Utility Theory (Ch. 8)

b. The Indifference Curve Theory (Ch. 9)

### 4. The Theory of the Firm and Market Structure

a. Production and Costs (Ch. 10 & 11)

b. Market Structure:

I. Perfect Competition (Ch. 12)

II. Monopoly (Ch. 13)

III. Monopolistic Competition (Ch. 14)

IV. Oligopoly (Ch. 15)

### 5. Market Failure - (Ch. 5, 6, 16, and 17)

a. Background

b. Examples

c. Some Potential Remedies

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## **Economics Department Deferred Final Exam Policy**

Deferred Final Exam Policy found at <https://uwaterloo.ca/economics/current-undergraduates/policies-and-resources/deferred-final-exam-policy>.

## **Cross-listed course**

Please note that a cross-listed course will count in all respective averages no matter under which rubric it has been taken. For example, a PHIL/PSCI cross-list will count in a Philosophy major average, even if the course was taken under the Political Science rubric.

## **Academic Integrity**

**Academic Integrity:** In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

**Discipline:** A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71 - Student Discipline](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71) (<https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71>)

**Grievance:** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read [Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70) (<https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70>), Section 4.

**Appeals:** A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read [Policy 72 - Student Appeals](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72) (<https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72>).

## **Other sources of information for students:**

[Academic Integrity website \(Arts\)](https://uwaterloo.ca/arts/current-undergraduates/student-support/ethical-behaviour)

<https://uwaterloo.ca/arts/current-undergraduates/student-support/ethical-behaviour>

[Academic Integrity Office \(UWaterloo\)](https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/)

<https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/>

## **Accommodation for Students with Disabilities**

**Note for students with disabilities:** The [AccessAbility Services](https://uwaterloo.ca/disability-services) office (<https://uwaterloo.ca/disability-services>), located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AS office at the beginning of each academic term.

## **If you are using Turnitin in your course**

**Turnitin.com:** Plagiarism detection software (Turnitin) will be used to screen assignments in this course. This is being done to verify that use of all material and sources in assignments is documented. In the first week of the term, details will be provided about the arrangements for the use of Turnitin in this course.

Note: students must be given a reasonable option if they do not want to have their assignment screened by Turnitin. See [Turnitin at Waterloo](https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/integrity-waterloo-faculty/turnitin-waterloo) for more information. (<https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/integrity-waterloo-faculty/turnitin-waterloo>)

It is the responsibility of students to ensure that they write exams in the location, date, and time assigned to their section. Students writing exams in the wrong section will be assessed a 20% penalty on the final exam grade. There will be no accommodation for possible differences in exam material or content.