

ECON 401/601, Microeconomic Theory 3/Micro 1

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Fall 2019, Waterloo

- **Lectures:** MW 10h00-11h20, RCH206. First class is Wednesday September 4, final class is Monday December 2.

- **Office Hours:** Fridays 13h30-15h00.

Office hours are the appropriate venue for asking questions about the material from the course. Email is an inefficient method for communicating course content, and I will not respond to detailed questions regarding the material other than during class or office hours.

- **Textbook:** Mas-Colell, A. Whinston, M.D. and Green, J.R., *Microeconomic Theory*, Oxford University Press, 1995.

- **Course Materials on D2L:** I will post class announcements, assignments and other relevant material on the [Desire2Learn](#) network. Students are responsible for staying updated with the material posted on D2L.

- **Topics:** In this course, I plan to cover the fundamental models of economic decision-making, with a particular focus on the theory of choice under uncertainty and game theory. The chapters from MWG listed below may not be covered in their entirety. Emphasis on certain topics may also change during the term due to time constraints.

- i. Choice Theory

- (a) Preference and Choice (MWG Ch. 1)
- (b) Preference and Utility (MWG Ch. 3A-C)
- (c) Application: the Consumer's Problem (MWG Ch. 3D)
- (d) Choice Under Uncertainty (MWG Ch. 6)

- ii. Game Theory

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- (a) Basic Elements of Noncooperative Games (MWG Ch. 7).
 - (b) Simultaneous-Move Games (MWG Ch. 8).
 - (c) Dynamic Games (MWG Ch. 9).
- **Evaluation:** There will be assignments, a midterm and a final exam. Undergraduate students enrolled in ECON 401 will be held to a different standard than graduate students enrolled in ECON 601.
 - i. There will be four assignments. These are worth 10% of the final grade and their aim is to help you integrate the material from class and prepare you for the exams. Teamwork is expected (and to some degree recommended), although each student must hand in their own assignment.
 - ii. The midterm, worth 40% of the final grade, will take place on Wednesday October 23 in the class period and in the room classes are held. The subjects covered by the midterm will be specified in class prior to the test.
 - iii. The final exam is worth 50% of the final grade. The material on the final is cumulative.
 - **Policy on Missed/Late Assignments and Tests:** Any assignment that is not handed in to me during the lecture at which this assignment is due will not be marked and will receive a grade of zero. If you miss that lecture due to illness and therefore cannot hand in your assignment, a relevant medical certificate is required to shift the weight of the assignment to the final exam. No make-up tests will be provided for the midterm exam. Students who miss the midterm and do not have a relevant medical certificate will receive a mark of zero. Students with a valid medical certificate will have the weight of the midterm shifted to their final exam.
 - **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:** 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. See the [UWaterloo Academic Integrity](#) webpage and the [Arts Academic Integrity](#) webpage for more information.
 - **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 offense, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offenses (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](#). For typical penalties check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

- **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](#), Section 4. When in doubt, please be certain to contact the department's administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.
- **Appeals:** : A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to [Policy 72 - Student Appeals](#).
- **Note for students with disabilities:** The [AccessAbility Services \(AS\) Office](#), located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension (1401), 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.