

Intermediate Microeconomics - Syllabus

Course Number: 30510743

Course Name (CH): 中级微观经济学

Course Name (EN): Intermediate Microeconomics

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: Principles of Economics, Calculus

Teaching Language: English

Instructor

| | |
|-------------|---------------------------|
| Instructor | 吴星晔 |
| Office | Lihua B625 |
| Email | wuxy3@sem.tsinghua.edu.cn |
| Office Hour | Monday 1:30-2:30 pm |

Teaching Assistants

Part 1: 黄京磊 (hjl20@mails.tsinghua.edu.cn)

Part 2: 袁帅 (yuans20@mails.tsinghua.edu.cn)

Part 3: 魏文石 (wei_wenshi@163.com)

Part 4: 董浩廷 (dht23@mails.tsinghua.edu.cn)

Part 5: 李嘉晟 (lijch.17@sem.tsinghua.edu.cn)

All announcements will be made through learn.tsinghua.edu.cn.

Course Description

The course presents basic theories of microeconomics and its applications. Topics covered include consumer theory, producer theory, industrial organization, general equilibrium, and externality. The economic modeling methods and analytical tools are emphasized throughout the course.

This is a certified English course, so I will speak English for most of the time in class.

Textbook

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

References

- Theodore C. Bergstrom and Hal R. Varian: Workouts in Intermediate Microeconomics
- Hal R. Varian: Intermediate Microeconomics with Calculus. 1st Edition. W.W. Norton & Company. 2014.

More Advanced Textbooks Just for Those Interested

- Microeconomic Theory: Basic Principles and Extensions (12th Edition), by Walter Nicholson and Christopher M. Snyder, 2016, Cengage Learning.
- Advanced Microeconomic Theory (3rd Edition), by Geoffrey A. Jehle and Philip J. Reny, 2011, Pearson.
- Microeconomic Theory, by Andreu Mas-Colell, Michael D. Whinston, and Jerry R. Green, 1995, Oxford University Press. (Standard first-year Econ PhD textbook)

Grading

| Assessment method | Percentage |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Problem Sets (5 in total) | 25% |
| Midterm exam | 30% |
| Final exam | 45% |
| Course Participation | Bonus (Detailed below) |

Tentative Schedule

The course is **divided into 5 parts** as marked by different colors:

| Lecture | Contents | Reading |
|---------|---|-----------------|
| 1 | The Market | Varian Ch1 |
| 2 | Budget Constraint Preferences | Varian Ch2-3 |
| 3 | Utility Choice Demand | Varian Ch4-6 |
| 4 | Slutsky Equation Buying & Selling | Varian Ch8-9 |
| 5 | Intertemporal Choice Consumer's Surplus | Varian Ch10, 14 |
| 6 | Market Demand Equilibrium | Varian Ch 15-16 |
| 7 | Technology Profit Maximization | Varian Ch19-20 |
| 8 | Cost Minimization Cost Curves | Varian Ch21-22 |
| 9 | Firm Supply Industry Supply | Varian Ch23-24 |
| 10 | Monopoly | Varian Ch25-26 |
| 11 | Oligopoly | Varian Ch28 |
| 12 | General Equilibrium | Varian Ch32-33 |
| 13 | Welfare | Varian Ch34 |
| 14 | Externalities | Varian Ch35 |
| 15 | Public Goods | Varian Ch37 |

Problem Sets and TA Sessions

There will be one problem set for each part of the course. After each problem set is due, our TA will hold a TA session discussing the problem set questions. Time and location of TA sessions are to be announced.

Exams

There will be a midterm exam that covers the first two parts of the course, and a final exam that covers the last three parts. The exam questions will be in English, but you may provide answers in either Chinese or English.

Course Participation

To encourage in-class participation, bonus points will be given to students who speak up in class. It may be asking a question, answering my question, sharing your view, etc. It will be capped at 1% per lecture, and **3%** for the whole semester. Students who speak up in class should tell me your student ID during the breaks or after class. Whether your participation is helpful to our discussion and therefore deserves a bonus point will be (very subjectively) judged by me, and course participation will be important in my consideration of giving A+.