

ECN 301 Intermediate Microeconomics
2019 Summer Session I (May 20 – June 27)

Schedule: Monday – Thursday: 10:00 – 11:45 AM

Location: Bowne Hall 105

Instructor: Rachel Jarrold-Grapes

Email: rcjarrol@syr.edu

Office hours: Monday – Thursday: 12 – 1 PM, Lyman Hall 318

Class Website

All materials and announcements will be posted on Blackboard (<https://blackboard.syr.edu>). It is each student's responsibility to check for the announcements on a regular basis.

Recommended Textbook

Microeconomics, 2nd Edition by Goolsbee, Levitt, and Syverson. The bookstore should have this available. It can also be found on Amazon to rent or purchase. Note that the 1st edition is also acceptable. Though I do not require you to have the text, I do recommend it as a reference. The end-of-chapter problems can help you practice the material and I find their explanations of concepts detailed and helpful.

Prerequisites

The prerequisite for this course is ECN 203, Economic Ideas and Issues. A good knowledge of graph-reading and simple algebra is also necessary. No calculus is required. The first lecture will serve as a math review to help address any questions you may have prior to engaging with the material. If you ever have questions on math concepts, please feel free to come to office hours; I will be happy to help you.

Course Description

This course presents basic theories of microeconomics and its applications. Topics covered include consumer theory, producer theory, competitive equilibrium, and market power. Optional topics on game theory and public goods may be covered. Economic modeling and analytical problem-solving tools are emphasized continuously throughout the course.

Course Assessments

Five In-Class Assignments 10%

Three Problem Sets 15%

Three Exams 75%

Exam 1 (Consumer Theory)

Exam 2 (Producer Theory)

Exam 3 (Competitive Equilibrium and Market Power)

In-Class Assignments

Attendance at every class is strongly encouraged for successful retention of the material. To help you with mastering the material, we will work on problems together in class. You will submit your in-class work on Thursdays at the beginning of class. I will grade it for completion and hand it back the same day so you can reference it when working on the problem sets. Each completion grade counts for 2% of your total class grade. I will collect work five of the six weeks of the session, so this comes to a total of 10% for in-class assignments.

Problem Sets

There will be three problem sets. You are encouraged to work together and seek help during office hours. Each student must hand in their own completed problem set at the beginning of class the day it is due. Each problem set will be worth 5% of your final grade, so problem sets total 15% of your final grade.

Exams

There will be three separate exams: consumer theory, producer theory, and competitive equilibrium and market power. The exams are not cumulative, but keep in mind that the material does build on itself throughout the course. Your best exam score will be worth 35% of the total class grade. The remaining exam scores will each represent 20% of your final course grade. You will have the entire class period to complete the exam. Absence from exams is excused only under the most extreme of circumstances. To obtain an excused absence from an exam, one must notify me prior to the exam.

Grade Scale

<u>Grade</u>	<u>% Range</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>% Range</u>
A	93 – 100	C+	77 – 79
A-	90 – 92	C	73 – 76
B+	87 – 89	C-	70 – 72
B	83 – 86	D	60 – 69
B-	80 – 82		

Additional Notes

You are expected to meet the “Academic Integrity Expectations” of the university. The SU policy is as follows: “The Syracuse University Academic Integrity Policy holds students accountable for the integrity of the work they submit. Students should be familiar with the Policy and know that it is their responsibility to learn about instructor and general academic expectations with regard to proper citation of sources in written work. The policy also governs the integrity of work submitted in exams and assignments as well as the veracity of signatures on attendance sheets and other verifications of participation in class activities. Serious sanctions can result from academic dishonesty of any sort.” In this class, this means you must write up your assignments independently and do your own work on exams. Please see details at <http://academicintegrity.syr.edu>.

Students with disabilities should consult with me and with the Office of Disable Services. “If you believe that you need academic accommodations for a disability, please contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), <http://disabilityservices.syr.edu>, located in Room 309 of 804 University Avenue, or call 315-443-4498 for an appointment to discuss your needs and the process for requesting accommodations. ODS is responsible for coordinating disability-related accommodations and will issue students with documented disabilities Accommodation Authorization Letters, as appropriate. Since accommodations may require early planning and generally are not provided retroactively, please contact ODS as soon as possible.”

Three Suggestions for Class Success

1. Come to class. I guarantee that you will do well in the course if you show up for lectures, participate, and complete the in-class assignments.
2. Ask questions. If you are curious or confused, speak up! It is likely that one of your peers has the same question and the whole class will be better off if you ask. You can also come to office hours. I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.
3. Practice. The more you work with the material, the greater your probability of success in the course. Try redoing the problems from assignments rather than reading through them when you study. Explain concepts to others in your own words. These techniques will deepen your understanding of the material.