



University of Waterloo
Department of Economics

ECON 101: Introduction to Microeconomics

Spring 2018, 05/01/2018 – 07/25/2018

Instructor Information:

Sining Wang, *PhD*

Office: Hagey Hall 128

Office Hours: 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM, Mon&Wed, **AND** by appointment

Email: s555wang@uwaterloo.ca

Personal Website: www.siningwang.com

Class Details:

Classroom: STP 105

Meeting Time: 10:30 AM - 11:20 AM, MWF

Required materials:

a. Textbook

Parkin, Michael and Robin Bade. Microeconomics: Canada in the Global Environment, 9th edition.

If you have an older version of this book, it is ok to use it in this class.

The e-textbook and the MyEconLab are optional.

b. MobLab application

MobLab is an on-line application that turns economics classrooms into interactive learning environments where students learn by doing. It is a useful tool in actively involving our students in a different way, which helps keep us interested in the material and helps spark questions that would have been asked otherwise. The Cost of using it is \$18 USD per student. Please see appendix for detailed enrollment infor.

Course Description:

Many years ago, Frank William Taussing (1859 - 1940) said, “Our subject offers peculiar opportunities for training people to think, and to think with care and consistency.” The ultimatum goal of this course is to enhance the student’s ability to think, and to think as economist.

In Microeconomics, we learn about the actions of individuals in the economy. The study materials will help students understand the behaviors of households, firms and individuals. We will apply economic concepts and principles to various practical issues such as: why we work as many hours as we do? how we choose to allocate our time? why certain products cost what they cost? what we mean by profit? how businesses earn a profit? how companies operate and many other issues.

At the conclusion of the course, you will have an appreciation of the tools economic analysis that will enable you to proceed into other economics courses, and more importantly, you will be able to apply these economic concepts to situations in everyday life such as reading the newspapers, conversation, business and other coursework. Years from now, when your college years are distant memories, the payoff from taking this course will probably be the ability to understand (and perhaps appreciate) how economics attempts to explain the world around us.

Grading:

A student's grade will be determined according to the following criteria and percentages.

• Homework	10%
• Class Participation	15%
• Mid-term Exam 1	25%
• Mid-term Exam 2	25%
• Final Exam	25%

Explanation of the evaluation criteria:

- **Exams:** Most of the exam questions will be a straightforward review of the study material in class. All exams will be comprehensive, but focusing on different topics.
- **Homework:** There will be 5 homework assignments through the quarter. Usually, assignments will be available on Friday, and should be submitted a week later .
- **Class Participation:** You should be prepared for class and expect to be called upon without notice to contribute to class discussion. Occasionally, a student may be swamped with work and unprepared for a class meeting or simply not wish to be called on. This is understandable. If you occasionally do not wish to be called on, simply let me know before the class. Class attendance is not required, but I strongly urge you to come to class in a regular manner. We will have some in-class experiments during this term. Missing these in-class activities will damage your class participation credit.

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>.

Academic integrity, grievance, discipline, appeals and note for students with disabilities:

Academic integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. [Check [the Office of Academic Integrity](#) for more information.]

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.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity to avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. [Check the Office of Academic Integrity for more information.] 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 instructor, academic advisor, or the undergraduate associate dean. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71, Student Discipline. For typical penalties, check Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties.

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: AccessAbility Services, located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, 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 AccessAbility Services at the beginning of each academic term.

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.

Mental Health Support

All of us need a support system. The faculty and staff in Arts encourage students to seek out mental health supports if they are needed.

On Campus

- Counselling Services: counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca / 519-888-4567 ext 32655
- MATES: one-to-one peer support program offered by Federation of Students (FEDS) and Counselling Services
- Health Services Emergency service: located across the creek from Student Life Centre

Off campus, 24/7

- Good2Talk: Free confidential help line for post-secondary students. Phone: 1-866-925-5454
- Grand River Hospital: Emergency care for mental health crisis. Phone: 519-749-433 ext. 6880
- Here 24/7: Mental Health and Crisis Service Team. Phone: 1-844-437-3247
- OK2BME: set of support services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning teens in Waterloo. Phone: 519-884-0000 extension 213

Full details can be found online at the Faculty of ARTS website

Territorial Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are living and working on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (also known as Neutral), Anishinaabeg and Haudenosaunee peoples. The University of Waterloo is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes six miles on each side of the Grand River.

Tentative Schedule:

(This schedule is subject to change, with prior notification of the Instructor)

WEEK	Topics	Contents
Week 1 May 01 – May 04	Warming Up	
Week 2 May 07 – May 11	The Economic Problem	Chapter 1 & Chapter 2
Week 3 May 14 – May 18	The Price System (1)	Chapter 3 & Chapter 4 & Chapter 5
Week 4 May 21 – May 25	The Price System (2)	
Week 5 May 29 – June 01	Consumer Behavior (1)	Chapter 8 & Chapter 9
Week 6 June 04 – June 08	Consumer Behavior (2)	
Week 7 June 11 – June 15	Producer Behavior (1)	Chapter 10 & Chapter 11 & Chapter 12
Week 8 June 18 – June 22	Producer Behavior (2)	
Week 9 June 25 – June 29	Market Structure (1)	Chapter 11 & 12 & 13 & 14
Week 10 July 02 – July 06	Market Structure (2)	
Week 11 July 09 – July 13	TBA (1)	
Week 12 July 16 – July 20	TBA (2)	
Week 13 July 23 – July 27	Wrapping Up & Term Review	

Important Dates: Mark your Calendar !

Schedule	Important Dates
Class Begin	May 01
Victoria Day	May 21
Make-up day for Victoria Day	May 22
Exam 1	May 25
Exam 2	June 29
Canada Day	July 02
Class End	July 25
Final Exam	TBA

Note: The final exam is scheduled by the registrar's office during the final examination period: July 28 - August 11 (inclusive). Travel plans are not an acceptable reason to reschedule final exams. 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.