The aim of the course is to provide students with a thorough understanding of the core concepts and methods of microeconomics. The course can serve as a foundation for more advanced undergraduate electives which require a microeconomics background. Students will develop understanding of economic models specified in standard mathematical and/or game theoretic terms. Course content includes core topics of consumption, production, and decision-making by firms, both with and without market power, under perfect and imperfect information, as well as the analysis of market failure due to externalities and public goods. Depending on time available, the course will cover a selection of further topics, such as asymmetric information, general equilibrium, and behavioral economics. Because this course caters to the policy concentration stream, the level of mathematics is somewhat lower than it would be on the theory concentration, and the course will make extensive use of diagrams and stress the intuition of results. Whereas the level of mathematics is not advanced, all students must be prepared for some mathematical analysis involving the use of calculus.

The course is taught in 14 three-hour sessions with two 10 to 15 minutes breaks. Each session will be a combination of traditional lectures, problem-solving, discussion of homework and assessments, and open question and answer time. The mix of these components is not fixed and will vary from week to week.

The topics listed below for each session should be regarded as a guide. While the objective is to adhere as closely as possible to the outline, the rate at which the course progresses cannot be predicted exactly, and it may be possible to proceed more rapidly (and introduce some supplementary topics) or necessary to take things a bit more slowly, in which case some minor reductions of the course content may be required.

At the completion of the course students should be:

- familiar with the main elements and techniques of microeconomic theory at intermediate level.
- able to solve and interpret stylized problems based on microeconomic models.
- able to use these models to analyze real-world microeconomic phenomena and to evaluate issues of microeconomic policy.

The assessment has four components:
• Final exam (2.5 hours): 35%.
• One mid-term exam (1.5 hours): 20%
• One essay (2,000 words): 35%
• Homework (10 assignments): 10 X 1%

The exams and the homework assignments will contain analytical problems and short-answer questions. The essay topics will be distributed in week 10. The completed essays must be submitted in week 14.

Failure to submit or fulfil any required course component results in failure of the class.

### Assessment Expectations

**Grade A:** Clear and thorough analysis, responding directly to questions set. Demonstration of both rigor and the ability to explain economic intuition.

**Grade B:** Well organized, clearly expressed response to questions asked. Evidence of good analytical skills and appropriate reading.

**Grade C:** Answers broadly correct with effective grasp of basic concepts. Ability to apply material from textbook and lectures, but lacking depth and subtlety.

**Grade D:** Some effort and understanding although analysis may be incomplete and/or flawed.

**Grade F:** Evidence of lack of effort and/or containing significant errors in even basic parts of answer. Incomplete/incorrect exposition of material from textbook/lecture notes. Lack of understanding of significant portions of core course content.

### Required Text(s)


The previous edition (2013, Eighth Edition; ISBN: 978-0132857123) can also be used, in conjunction with the classroom lecture notes and exercises.

### Supplemental Texts(s) (not required to purchase as copies are in NYU-L Library)


ISBN: 978-1-118-71638-0

### Internet Research Guidelines

Internet sources used for completing assignments must be cited with the full URL address and the date/time of last access.

### Additional Required Equipment

Hand calculator

### Session 1

Introduction: markets and prices (Ch. 1&2)

### Session 2

Consumer behaviour (Ch. 3)

### Session 3

Individual and market demand (Ch. 4)
Session 4
Homework 1 due.
Uncertainty and consumer behaviour (Ch. 5)
Homework 2 due.

Session 5
Production (Ch. 6)
Homework 3 due.

Session 6
The cost of production (Ch. 7)
Homework 4 due.

Session 7
Mid-term exam
Profit maximization and competitive supply (Ch. 8)

Session 8
The analysis of competitive markets (Ch. 9)
Homework 5 due.

Session 9
Market power: monopoly and monopsony (Ch. 10)
Homework 6 due.

Session 10
Pricing with market power (Ch. 11)
Homework 7 due.

Session 11
Monopolistic competition and oligopoly (Ch. 11)
Homework 8 due.

Session 12
Investment, time, and capital markets (Ch. 15)
Homework 9 due.

Session 13
Externalities and Public Goods (Ch. 18)
Homework 10 due.

Session 14

Behavioural economics (Ch. 19)

Essay submission deadline.

Session 15

Final exam
Please arrive in time. No extension will be given for arriving late.

Classroom Etiquette

- Please arrive punctually as lectures begin on time and late arrivals disrupt others.
- Phones must be turned off during classes (there is a break in each session during which phones can, of course, be used).
- Laptops or tablets can be used for taking lecture notes but for no other purposes.

Required Co-curricular Activities

N/A

Estimated Travel Costs

N/A

Suggested Co-curricular Activities

Public lecture series at the Institute for Fiscal Studies, London School of Economics, University College London, and King’s College London (the details to be circulated to students by NYUL).

Your Instructor

Nigar Hashimzade is a Professor of Economics at Durham University, Research Fellow at the Institute for Fiscal Studies, and a member of CESifo research network. She holds a PhD in Economics from Cornell University. Her current research is in applied microeconomic theory. She has published articles in economics and econometrics journals and contributed chapters to academic monographs. Among her recent publications are the Oxford Dictionary of Economics (5th Ed., 2017) and Routledge Companion to Tax Avoidance Research (2017).

NYU GLOBAL ACADEMIC POLICIES

Policies and procedures for Global Academic Centres, including policies on academic integrity and the Study Away Standard, can be found here: https://www.nyu.edu/about/policies-guidelines-compliance/policies-and-guidelines/student-services.html
Absences: Key information on NYU London’s absence policy, how to report absences, and what kinds of absences can be excused can be found here: http://www.nyu.edu/london/academics/attendance-policy.html

NYU London work submission policies can be found here: http://www.nyu.edu/london/academics/academic-policies.html

Classroom conduct: Academic communities exist to facilitate the process of acquiring and exchanging knowledge and understanding, to enhance the personal and intellectual development of its members, and to advance the interests of society. Essential to this mission is that all members of the University Community are safe and free to engage in a civil process of teaching and learning through their experiences both inside and outside the classroom. Accordingly, no student should engage in any form of behaviour that interferes with the academic or educational process, compromises the personal safety or well-being of another, or disrupts the administration of University programs or services.

Please refer to the NYU London Disruptive Student Behaviour Policy at https://goo.gl/Nvt5Vu for examples of disruptive behaviour and guidelines for response and enforcement.