

ECON 2310 - 01, 02, 03
Intermediate Microeconomics
Fall 2026
0.5 Credits

General Course Information

Instructor:	Eric Chi
<i>Email</i>	chie@uoguelph.ca
<i>Office Location</i>	MacKinnon 704
<i>Office Hours</i>	Tues, Thurs from 10:00-11:00am
<i>Department/School</i>	Economics and Finance
Class Schedule:	ECON 2310.01: Tues, Thurs, 11:30 – 12:50pm MCKN 120 ECON 2310.02: Tues, Thurs, 8:30 - 9:50am LA 204 ECON 2310.03: Tues, Thurs, 2:30 – 3:50pm THRN 1307
Pre-requisites:	(ECON*1050 or FARE*1040), (1 of IPS*1500, MATH*1030, MATH*1080, MATH*1200)

Course Description

This course will provide students with a deeper understanding of the basic concepts of microeconomic analysis. We will study topics such as consumer and producer theory, perfectly and imperfectly competitive markets, strategic behavior, game theory, and externalities and public goods, among others. There will be an emphasis on analytical tools to complement the intuitive understanding of the subject.

Please note that the tools and techniques learned in the MATH prerequisites are necessary. Please use the math review posted on CourseLink to assess your level of understanding and get help if you feel that it is necessary. I will expect that you know these tools and techniques. Please note that timing of topics may not be the same in all three sections, so it is advisable that you only come to the lecture you are registered for. Otherwise, you may miss critical content/ information.

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successfully completing this course, you will be able to:

Numerical Problem Solving:

Students will learn basic problem-solving techniques used in microeconomics.

This includes, for example, techniques to calculate elasticities, determine market equilibria, compute different costs, solve the profit-maximizing problem of a firm, and use simple game theory to analyse strategic interactions between different firms. This will be tested in online quizzes and tests.

Analytical Problem Solving:

Students will use algebraic and graphical analysis to demonstrate and interpret various economic models, including the demand-and-supply model, determination of the market equilibrium, the impact of government intervention, different market systems (perfect competition, monopoly, oligopoly, among others), strategic interactions between firms, and social welfare. It will be tested in the quizzes and the exams.

Problem Solving in a Real-World Context:

Students will apply the microeconomic principles learned in this course to critically examine everyday economic events.

Knowledge:

Microeconomic modelling, analysis of specific markets (e.g., perfect competition, monopoly, oligopoly), economic policy and government intervention, mathematical methodology.

Course Assessment

Math Assessment	2%	Due: Sunday, September 27, 2026 at 11:59pm
Class Participation	18% (Lowest 2 will be dropped)	Ongoing (See Class Schedule on last page)
10 Online Quizzes	5% (Lowest 2 will be dropped)	Ongoing (See Class Schedule on last page)
Midterm	35%	Saturday, October 17
Final Exam	40%	TBD
Total	100%	

Course Resources**Required Text:**

Bernheim, B., and Whinston, M., (2014), Microeconomics 2nd Edition, McGraw Hill Irwin. **(Cost: \$139.95)**

Note: Several copies will be placed in reserve in the library. You may buy a used textbook. You **DO NOT NEED** access to the online website of the book, as we will **not** use the Connect Study and Testing Program. You may, however, decide to buy the **eBook** instead of a hard copy. **Please be aware that the eBook without Connect is cheaper. Make sure you buy only the eBook, as we will not use connect.** You may also use a secondhand copy or an older version. However, it will be your responsibility to ensure that course contents align with the current version.

Course Website:

The course website is on CourseLink. Most importantly, the quizzes will be done through CourseLink. On the website, you will also find all necessary information regarding the course, as well as all announcements made throughout the course and additional online materials (such as solutions to midterm exams). Grades will be posted there as well.

Students are required to visit the course website regularly: Announcements will only be posted there and not sent by email. Students are expected to be aware of all announcements made on the website.

Lectures

This is an in-person course. Coming to lectures is critical to your success in the course. I will be posting incomplete lecture notes before each class. It is recommended that you either download and print the incomplete notes or download them to a Notepad onto your tablet or iPad. You will need to bring the incomplete notes. During lectures, we will fill in the details.

Math Assessment

This assessment is to be completed through CourseLink. You will have unlimited attempts, and the highest grade will count. It will be released at the beginning of the semester, and you will have 3 weeks or so to complete it. The objective of this assessment is to encourage you to build a strong foundation in mathematics. Mastering mathematical tools is critical in succeeding in this course. All math knowledge is tested from high school math curriculum.

Class Participation

A short group quiz will be completed in class. As you complete them, you can discuss with your classmates, or refer to your notes, but using Generative AI is NOT permitted. The goal of this exercise is for you to learn concepts and consolidate your understanding with your classmates. Once completed, you will upload/submit it to Gradescope. Uploading instructions will be given closer to the date. The lowest two grades will be dropped. There is no makeup for missed class participation.

Online Quizzes

Online Quizzes are to be completed through CourseLink. If you miss a quiz, you DO NOT have to submit documentation or explain to me why you missed it. There is no make-up for missed quizzes. We will have 10 quizzes, but only the best 8 counts. Therefore, you can miss up to 2 quizzes without penalty. If you decide to complete all quizzes, the 8 best quizzes will count.

- 1) Start the quiz any time between Monday at 9am until Sunday 9pm.
- 2) There is only one attempt per quiz. Once you submit your quiz, your answers are final. If you don't submit your quiz, you can keep changing your answers.
- 3) You have until exactly Sunday 9pm to submit your quiz **independent of what the program tells you. By default, it indicates 'unlimited time'. This is not the case.** Access to the quiz expires on Sunday at 9pm. **Please disregard the clock/timer! I will not accept any excuses regarding a misunderstanding of the clock/timer or time allowed indicated by the program!**

Please note also: For technical reasons, I can under no circumstances extend the availability of the quiz for individual students beyond Sunday at 9pm. **It is the student's responsibility to make sure that the quiz is started and completed on time. Make sure ahead of time that your computer and access to CourseLink work properly. It is not at all possible to extend due dates/times for individual students (technical reasons).**

Quiz questions will be drawn randomly from a pool of questions, so that it is not likely that two students will have the same quiz. The level of difficulty of each question and the number of questions per quiz will be the same for every student. No student's quiz will be easier or more difficult than another student's quiz.

- 4) Once you submit the quiz your answers are fixed. I will not be able to re-open the quiz for you. Please submit the quiz only if you are completely sure of your answer.

- 5) Please note that you don't have to complete the quiz in one sitting. You can work on some questions, log out, and later log back in to continue working.
- 6) Once you submit your quiz, you will be able to see the number of points you got. Since other students may still be working on the quiz, you will not be able to see correct solutions and feedback until Monday morning after the quiz. If you log back in on Monday (or any other time after), you can see your answer, the correct answer, and feedback.

Communication and Office Hours

I am available for students during my office hours. If you have a question about the course in general, or about the course material, feel free to drop by my office hour. You can also email me your inquiries; however, I will only respond to emails that are quick to answer, in a couple of lines. I will not reteach a missed class via email. I will respond to emails within 24-48 hours and during standard working times and days. **I do not accept or answer emails that do not come from a *uoguelph* account and do not have "Econ 2310" in the subject line.**

If you have a time conflict with my office hours, please email me and we can arrange an appointment at a different time.

Missed Exams and Time Conflicts

Students with time conflicts with the final exam cannot register for this course. If the final exam is missed, the course is not completed.

If you have a documented medical or compassionate reason for missing a midterm, the weight of the midterm will be transferred to the final exam. If you miss a midterm without a legitimate excuse, your grade for the midterm will be 0%.

It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor of a time conflict with a midterm exam within the first two weeks of the course and to discuss how this time conflict will be handled. After this period, it is in the instructor's discretion to decide how the time conflict will be handled.

Students who find themselves unable to meet course requirements by the deadlines or the criteria expected because of medical or personal reasons, should review the regulations on academic consideration in the Academic Calendar and discuss their situation with the instructor, program counselor or other academic counselor as appropriate.

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-grds.shtml>

If you have religious observances which conflict with the course schedule or if you are registered with Student Accessibility Services, please contact the course instructor.

Academic Consideration

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the academic calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml>

Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community, faculty, staff, and students to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring.

University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection. Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for the finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar:

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

Accessibility

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect for individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or short-term disability should contact Student Accessibility Services as soon as possible.

For more information, contact SAS at 519-824-4120 ext. 56208 or email sas@uoguelph.ca or see the website: <https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/accessibility/>

Course Evaluation Information

Please refer to the <https://www.uoguelph.ca/economics/course-evaluation>

Recording Materials

Presentations which are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer.

Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

Drop date

The last date to drop one-semester courses, without academic penalty, is **Friday, December 4, 2026**. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the Academic Calendar:

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

Detailed Class Schedule

Only the materials covered in the assigned chapters, and in the quizzes is required for exams.

Week	Important Dates	Topics	Assessments
1	Thursday, September 10 Tuesday, September 15 Thursday, September 17	Introduction Chapter 2 (Supply and Demand) Chapter 4 (Consumer Preferences)	
2	Tuesday, September 22 Thursday, September 24	Chapter 5 (Constraints, Choices, and Demand) – excluding 5.5 and 5.6 Chapter 10 (Choices Involving Time) – only section 10.2	
	Sunday, September 27	Week 1	Online Quiz 1 Due at 9pm
	Sunday, September 27	Math Prerequisite	Math Assessment Due at 9pm
3	Tuesday, September 29 Thursday, October 1	Chapter 6 (Demand and Welfare) – excluding 6.3, 6.4, and 6.5	Class Participations 1, 2
	Sunday, October 4	Week 2 topics	Online Quiz 2 Due at 9pm
4	Tuesday, October 6 Thursday, October 8	Chapter 7 (Technology and Production) – excluding 7.5 Chapter 8 (Cost)	Class Participations 3, 4
	Sunday, October 11	Week 3 topics	Online Quiz 3 Due at 9pm
5	Saturday, October 17	Week 1 – 4 topics	Midterm
	Sunday, October 18	Week 4 topics	Online Quiz 4 Due at 9pm
6	Tuesday, October 20 Thursday, October 22	Chapter 9 (Profit Maximization) – excluding 9.6	Class Participations 5, 6
	Sunday, October 25	Week 5 topics	Online Quiz 5 Due at 9pm
7	Tuesday, October 27 Thursday, October 29	Chapter 14 (Equilibrium and Efficiency) Chapter 15 (Market Interventions) – only 15.1	Class Participations 7, 8
	Sunday, November 1	Week 6 topics	Online Quiz 6 Due at 9pm
8	Tuesday, November 3 Thursday, November 5	Chapter 17 (Monopoly) – excluding 17.4, 17.5, and 17.7	Class Participations 9, 10
	Sunday, November 8	Week 7 topics	Online Quiz 7 Due at 9pm
9	Tuesday, November 10 Thursday, November 12	Chapter 18 (Pricing Strategies) – excluding 18.4	Class Participations 11, 12
10	Tuesday, November 17 Thursday, November 19	Chapter 12 (Choices Involving Strategy) – excluding 12.5	Class Participations 13, 14
	Sunday, November 22	Week 8 and 9 topics	Online Quiz 8 Due at 9pm

11	Tuesday, November 24 Thursday, November 26	Chapter 19 (Oligopoly) – 19.1, 19.2, 19.3, and 19.7 only, read 19.8 (optional)	Class Participations 15, 16
	Sunday, November 29	Week 10 topics	Online Quiz 9 Due at 9pm
12	Tuesday, December 1 Thursday, December 3	Catch-Up and Review	Class Participations 17
	Sunday, December 6	Week 11 topics	Online Quiz 10 Due at 9pm
		All topics	Final Exam