

Department	International College of Liberal Arts		
Semester	Fall 2024	Year Offered (Odd/Even/Every Year)	Every Year
Course Number	ECON201		
Course Title	Intermediate Microeconomics		
Prerequisites	101 Microeconomics		
Course Instructor	NAN Zhang	Year Available (Grade Level)	1
Subject Area	Global Business & Economics	Number of Credits	3
Class Style	Lecture	Language of instruction	English

(NOTE 1) Depending on the class size and the capacity of the facility, we may not be able to accommodate all students who wish to register for the course

Course Description	<p>This course aims to provide students with the conceptual foundations and critical analytic approaches for understanding modern microeconomics at the intermediate level. The course covers the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The basic theory of consumer behavior.</li> <li>2. Demand, elasticity, and consumer surplus.</li> <li>3. Technology, production, and costs.</li> <li>4. Supply and producer's surplus.</li> <li>5. Partial equilibrium analysis of pricing in competitive and monopolistic markets.</li> </ol> <p>This course is recommended for students planning to apply to graduate school in economics, finance, or accounting or for students aiming at Civil Service Examination (the microeconomics part) or Economics Record Examination.</p>
Class plan based on course evaluation from previous academic year	<p>This syllabus may alter as the result of consideration of students' course evaluation and feedback in previous academic year.</p>

Course related to the instructor's practical experience (Summary of experience)	This course is taught by an instructor with practical experience.
Learning Goals	<p>After completing this course, students should have developed analytical approaches to microeconomics and adequate mathematical skills to perform rigorous analysis.</p> <p>By the end of this course, students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use microeconomic principles and diagrams to understand and explain economic events and other social phenomena.</li> <li>• Understand how individuals and firms make themselves as well off as possible in a world of scarcity.</li> <li>• Use basic calculus to solve optimization problems faced by economic agents.</li> <li>• Understand how prices influence the decisions about which goods and services to produce, how to make them, and who gets them.</li> <li>• Understand how government policies affect the allocation of resources in a market economy.</li> <li>• Understand how market structure (perfect competition, monopoly, duopoly, and oligopoly) influences the allocation of resources.</li> <li>• Use economic reasoning to explain the strategic choices of individuals or organizations.</li> <li>• Appreciate the usefulness of economic reasoning in personal decision-making</li> </ul>

iCLA Diploma Policy	DP2/DP4
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## iCLA Diploma Policy

(DP1) To Value Knowledge – Having high oral and written communication skills to be able to both comprehend and transfer knowledge

(DP2) To Be Able to Adapt to a Changing World – Having critical, creative, problem-solving, intercultural skills, global and independent mindset to adopt to a changing world

(DP3) To Believe in Collaboration – Having a disposition to work effectively and inclusively in teams

(DP4) To Act from a Sense of Personal and Social Responsibility – Having good ethical and moral values to make positive impacts in the world

Active Learning Methods	Problem-Based Learning/Discussion, Debate
More details/supplemental information on Active Learning Methods	None.
Use of ICT	Use mathematical software to present function graphs for better understanding of materials.

Contents of class preparation and review	Students are expected to spend 5 hours per week on class preparation and review. Class preparation includes reading the textbook and working on problems and question. Class review includes summarizing contents in the textbook and lectures, doing drills, and working on the assignment.	Hours expected to be spent preparing for class (hours per week)	2 hours	Hours expected to be spent on class review (hours per week)	3 hours
Feedback Methods	<p>a) In-class practice. Correction will be given.  b) Feedback will be collected and responded through the Comments function on UNIPA.  c) Quizzes, mid-term exam, and final exam, will provide explanations of solutions and model answers to questions in the class.  d) Will meet with students individually by request.</p> <p>You can book a session meeting with me through the link below:  The MS Outlook's Bookings website for making an online appointment.  <a href="https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/MakinganAppointmentwithProfNan@c2c.ac.jp/bookings/">https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/MakinganAppointmentwithProfNan@c2c.ac.jp/bookings/</a></p> <p>Or sending me an email to:  nan.zheng@c2c.ac.jp</p>				

Grading Criteria		
Grading Methods	Grading Weights	Grading Content
Classroom participation	20%	
Homework assignments	20%	
Mid-term exam	20%	
Final exam	20%	
Oral presentation	20%	

Required Textbook(s)	Required Materials and Textbooks: Intermediate Microeconomics, 8th Edition, by H. Varian  Available for download at <a href="http://www3.nccu.edu.tw/~100258501/file/H.%20Varian_Microeconomics(2010,%208th%20ed.).pdf">http://www3.nccu.edu.tw/~100258501/file/H.%20Varian_Microeconomics(2010,%208th%20ed.).pdf</a>
Other Reading Materials/URL	Class materials.
Plagiarism Policy	Plagiarism is the dishonest presentation of the work of others as if it were one's own. Duplicate submission is also treated as plagiarism. Depending on the nature of plagiarism, you may fail the assignment or the course. The repeated act of plagiarism will be reported to the University, which may apply additional penalties.

Other Additional Notes (Outline crucial policies and info not mentioned above)	<p>Students should read the textbook carefully. The lectures synthesize overall views, highlight important points, and help understand complex topics but are insufficient by themselves.</p> <p>The class will cover consumer theory in the middle term, containing cha. 1-8, 14, and 15. By the end of the period, we will focus on the producer theory (cha. 18-22), competitive markets (cha. 16, and 31-33), imperfective markets (cha. 24 and 27), and market failure (cha. 34, 36, and 37).</p>
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(NOTE 2) Class schedule is subject to change

Class Schedule	
Class Number	Content
Class 1	Introduction Cha 1. The market 1.1 Constructing a Model 1.2 Optimization and Equilibrium 1.3 The Demand Curve 1.4 The Supply Curve 1.5 Market Equilibrium
Class 2	Cha 1. The market (cont.) 1.6 Comparative Statics 1.7 Other Ways to Allocate Apartments 1.8 Which Way Is Best? 1.9 Pareto Efficiency 1.10 Comparing Ways to Allocate Apartments 1.11 Equilibrium in the Long Run
Class 3	Cha 2. Budget constraint 1.11 Equilibrium in the Long Run 2.2 Two Goods Are Often Enough 2.3 Properties of the Budget Set
Class 4	Cha 2. Budget constraint (cont.) 2.4 How the Budget Line Changes 2.5 The Numeraire 2.6 Taxes, Subsidies, and Rationing
Class 5	Cha 3. Preference 3.1 Consumer Preferences 3.2 Assumptions about Preferences 3.3 Indifference Curves
Class 6	Cha 3. Preference (cont.) 3.4 Examples of Preferences 3.5 Well-Behaved Preferences 3.6 The Marginal Rate of Substitution 3.7 Other Interpretations of the MRS 3.8 Behavior of the MRS

Class 7	Cha 4. Utility 4.1 Cardinal Utility 4.2 Constructing a Utility Function 4.3 Some Examples of Utility Functions
Class 8	Cha 4. Utility (cont.) 4.4 Marginal Utility 4.5 Marginal Utility and MRS 4.6 Utility for Commuting Quiz 01 on Cha. 2-4
Class 9	Cha 5. Choice 5.1 Optimal Choice 5.2 Consumer Demand 5.3 Some Examples
Class 10	Cha 5. Choice (cont.) 5.4 Estimating Utility Functions 5.5 Implications of the MRS Condition 5.6 Choosing Taxes
Class 11	Cha 6. Demand 6.1 Normal and Inferior Goods 6.2 Income Offer Curves and Engel Curves 6.3 Some Examples 6.4 Ordinary Goods and Giffen Goods
Class 12	Cha 6. Demand (cont.) 6.5 The Price Offer Curve and the Demand Curve 6.6 Some Examples 6.7 Substitutes and Complements 6.8 The Inverse Demand Function
Class 13	Cha. 7 Revealed Preference 7.1 The Idea of Revealed Preference 7.2 From Revealed Preference to Preference 7.2 From Revealed Preference to Preference 7.4 The Weak Axiom of Revealed Preference
Class 14	Cha. 7 Revealed Preference (cont.) 7.5 Checking WARP 7.6 The Strong Axiom of Revealed Preference 7.7 How to Check SARP 7.8 Index Numbers 7.9 Price Indices
Class 15	Cha 8. Slutsky Equation 8.1 The Substitution Effect 8.2 The Income Effect 8.3 Sign of the Substitution Effect 8.4 The Total Change in Demand

Class 16	Cha 8. Slutsky Equation 8.5 Rates of Change 8.6 The Law of Demand 8.7 Examples of Income and Substitution Effects 8.8 Another Substitution Effect 8.9 Compensated Demand Curves
Class 17	Cha. 18 Technology 18.1 Inputs and Outputs 18.2 Describing Technological Constraints 18.3 Examples of Technology 18.4 Properties of Technology  Quiz 02 on Cha. 5-8
Class 18	Cha. 18 Technology (cont.) 18.5 The Marginal Product 18.6 The Technical Rate of Substitution 18.7 Diminishing Marginal Product 18.8 Diminishing Technical Rate of Substitution 18.9 The Long Run and the Short Run
Class 19	Cha. 18 Technology (cont.) 18.9 The Long Run and the Short Run 18.10 Returns to Scale  Cha. 19 Profit maximization 19.1 Profits 19.2 The Organization of Firms 19.3 Profits and Stock Market Value 19.4 The Boundaries of the Firm
Class 20	Cha. 19 Profit maximization (cont.) 19.5 Fixed and Variable Factors 19.6 Short-Run Profit Maximization 19.7 Comparative Statics
Class 21	Cha. 19 Profit maximization (cont.) 19.8 Profit Maximization in the Long Run 19.9 Inverse Factor Demand Curves 19.10 Profit Maximization and Returns to Scale 19.11 Revealed Profitability 19.12 Cost Minimization
Class 22	Cha. 20 Cost minimization 20.1 Cost Minimization 20.2 Revealed Cost Minimization 20.3 Returns to Scale and the Cost Function 20.4 Long-Run and Short-Run Costs 20.5 Fixed and Quasi-Fixed Costs 20.6 Sunk Costs
Class 23	Cha. 20 Cost minimization (cont.) 20.5 Fixed and Quasi-Fixed Costs 20.6 Sunk Costs  Cha. 21. Cost curves 21.1 Average Costs 21.2 Marginal Costs 21.3 Marginal Costs and Variable Costs
Class 24	Cha. 21. Cost curves 21.4 Cost Curves for Online Auctions 21.5 Long-Run Costs 21.6 Discrete Levels of Plant Size 21.7 Long-Run Marginal Costs  Quiz 03 on Cha. 18-20

Class 25	Cha. 22 Firm supply 22.1 Market Environments 22.2 Pure Competition 22.3 The Supply Decision of a Competitive Firm 22.4 An Exception 22.5 Another Exception
Class 26	Cha. 24 Monopoly 24.1 Maximizing Profits 24.2 Linear Demand Curve and Monopoly 24.3 Markup Pricing 24.4 Inefficiency of Monopoly 24.5 Deadweight Loss of Monopoly
Class 27	Cha. 24 Monopoly (cont.) 24.6 Natural Monopoly 24.7 What Causes Monopolies?  Cha. 25 Monopoly Behavior 25.1 Price Discrimination 25.2 First-Degree Price Discrimination 25.3 Second-Degree Price Discrimination 25.4 Third-Degree Price Discrimination
Class 28	Cha. 25 Monopoly Behavior (cont.) 25.5 Bundling 25.6 Two-Part Tariffs 25.7 Monopolistic Competition 25.8 A Location Model of Product Differentiation 25.9 Product Differentiation 25.10 More Vendors
Class 29	Cha. 27 Oligopoly 27.1 Choosing a Strategy 27.2 Quantity Leadership 27.3 Price Leadership 27.4 Comparing Price Leadership and Quantity Leadership 27.5 Simultaneous Quantity Setting 27.6 An Example of Cournot Equilibrium
Class 30	Cha. 27 Oligopoly (cont.) 27.7 Adjustment to Equilibrium 27.8 Many Firms in Cournot Equilibrium 27.9 Simultaneous Price Setting 27.10 Collusion 27.11 Punishment Strategies 27.12 Comparison of the Solutions