

ECON 6100: Advanced Microeconomic Theory

Bowling Green State University
College of Business Administration
Department of Economics

Communication

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Webpage: Announcements, problem sets, and other materials will be posted to Canvas.

Office Hours

My office is Business Administration 306. Please feel free to stop by! I will be happy to get to know you better and to help you. My regular office hours are planned for Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 10:30–11:15.

Additional office hours will be scheduled for the days leading up to exams.

Catalog Description

Introduction to optimization methods, theories of utility, consumer behavior, production, and firm behavior. Introduction to uncertainty and the economics of information and to non-competitive market structure. Introduction to general equilibrium and welfare economics.

Prerequisites

ECON 3020 or ECON 5110, and MATH 1260 or equivalent, or consent of graduate coordinator.

Required Text

Hal R. Varian, *Microeconomic Analysis*, Third Edition, Norton, 1992.

Other Learning Resources

For students who want more background in mathematics, the following texts may be useful:

- Simon and Blume, *Mathematics for Economists*, Norton, 1994.
- Chiang and Wainwright, *Fundamental Methods of Mathematical Economics*, McGraw-Hill, 2005.

Assessment

A student's total score in the course will be calculated according to these weights:

Points	Assessment	Date(s)	Time
360	Problem Sets 1-9	See schedule	9:30 am
40	Math Quiz	September 6	10:00 – 10:20 am
250	Midterm Exam	TBA	9:30 – 10:20 am
350	Final Exam	December 11	8:30 – 11:30 am
1000	TOTAL		

A score of 900 points or better will receive at least at A; a score of 800 points or better will receive at least a B; a score of 700 points or better will receive at least a C. Exact cutoffs will be determined once the total scores are calculated.

Problem Sets

Each of the nine problem sets will be valued at 40 points. See our tentative schedule.

Math Quiz

This quiz is intended to encourage you to solidify your understanding of concepts and tools that will be used throughout the course. You will benefit greatly from having a solid grasp of some key terms and techniques *before* we dive into the economic theory! Therefore, our first three lectures will address functions, sets, matrices, and optimization. This material will be the subject of a quiz held at the end of our class period on September 6.

Midterm Exam

This will be a closed-book exam held in the same time and place as our regular class meetings.

The midterm exam will assess student learning on material covered after our math unit. (These topics will probably span chapters 1-10; see our tentative schedule.)

Exam items may include: defining terms, explaining or applying properties of economic functions, making calculations with production functions or utility functions, and providing proofs or counter-examples to statements.

Final Exam

This will be a closed-book exam held on December 11 from 8:30 – 11:30 am (location to be announced).

The final exam will be cumulative, but will emphasize the topics covered after the midterm.

Exam items may include: defining terms, making calculations related to firm or consumer behavior, performing a game theoretic analysis of a market, and writing short essay answers explaining or applying economic concepts.

Academic Integrity

“Academic honesty is essential to the academy. Honest pursuit of academic challenges and higher learning are the essence of the university experience. Respect for one another is fostered when our academic environment is free from cheating, lying and stealing not only of property, but ideas as well. Individual and personal quests for knowledge will expand and challenge students creativity and intellect. Academic dishonesty is contrary to intellectual growth and pride in a job well done.”
– Academic Honesty Policy

In other words: Do not cheat. Do not help someone else to cheat. Are you unsure about what counts as cheating? Our university’s standards of academic integrity specify that “unawareness of the policy is not a defense”! You can inform yourself about standards of academic integrity, and penalties for violating those standards, by consulting the [Code of Academic Conduct](#).

Accommodations

To obtain disability-related academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the course instructor at the beginning of the semester and make this need known. Students with disability may verify their eligibility for accommodations through the [Office of Disability Services for Students](#), 413 South Hall, (419) 372 - 8495.