



Module Syllabus - 2017

Microeconomics II (first module)

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Office Hours:	Tuesdays 16:45 – 17:15 without booking, or book appointment at website

Course description

The course is the natural continuation of the microeconomics material from the Microeconomics I course. While Microeconomics I examines consumer and production theory, Microeconomics II covers the areas of competition and the organization of markets (first module) and general equilibrium (second module). The topics for the first module include: cost review, perfect competition, monopoly, pricing with market power, monopolistic competition, oligopoly and game theory.

Goals

The primary goal of the course is to nurture the economic way of thinking by exploring the theory and the intuition of microeconomic analysis. By completing the course students will be able to understand basic real world microeconomic problems and to develop critical thinking about economic matters.

Course Webpage

A webpage dedicated to the course will be maintained at www.kmarinakis.org (under the tab: teaching). Everything you will need for the course will be on there: announcements, lab material, homework assignments, handouts, the course calendar and more. Students are responsible to check the webpage regularly. The website will be the most accurate information source for the course and the schedule.

Teaching

There will be 2 lectures per week, 80 minutes each. The lecture always starts and ends in time. The lecture and the resources for the module will be exclusively in English. Days and times for lectures and classes are available on the course website, which also features a complete and updated course calendar.

Readings

- Pindyck & Rubinfeld, Microeconomics (any version).
- Varian, Intermediate Microeconomics (any version).
- Slide handouts (posted after every lecture)

The instructor may also provide supplementary readings and notes.

Office hours

There will be “open-door” office hours every Tuesday between 16:45 – 17:15 for short questions with no appointment necessary. For longer inquiries, students may book an appointment with the professor through the automated system on the website.

Attendance

Attendance plays a key role in this course. According to previous experience, it will be hard to receive a passing grade without excellent attendance record. The course is lecture-oriented and lecture notes will be the single irreplaceable reading. Students are encouraged to participate in the lecture. Questions during the lecture are welcomed.

Homework

There will be 4 – 6 homework assignments for the module, which must be submitted in the lecture on the due day. Submissions in any other way or time will be ignored with no exceptions. Assistants will grade the papers and return them in the classes. Homework will be posted on the website and will contain sufficient instructions.

Grading

The grade for module III will be weighted as: homework average: 15%; mid-module test: 30%; end-module exam: 55%. The final grade for the course will be the average over the 4 modules. All tests and exams will be cumulative and required. A makeup exam may be offered only if a serious and officially certified excuse is presented to the lecturer.

Classroom manners – Professionalism

During the lecture and classes students are required to exhibit a flawless professional behavior. The use of electronic devices (including cellphones, tablets and laptops) is not allowed during the lecture. Chatting, texting, reading irrelevant material or studying for other courses during the lecture are disrespectful and will not be tolerated.

Academic integrity

A zero tolerance stand against dishonest academic behavior will be kept. The instructor commits that cheating or plagiarism will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the Code of Student Conduct of HSE and the Russian Law. The course utilizes the honor pledge. Failure to sign the honor pledge in any test, exam or assignment before its submission will result to a zero grade.

Harassment

Harassment or “bullying”, of any kind, against a student or a member of the course personnel must be reported immediately to the lecturer. Offenders will be turned in to the authorities with no exceptions.

Students with disabilities 

Reasonable accommodations will be provided to students with verifiable disabilities registered at the HSE Study Office.

Course Structure – Material

Check the website for an extended and updateable class calendar – schedule.