

ECO200Y1Y: Microeconomic Theory

Instructor:	Prof. Khazra	Email:	nazanin.khazra@utoronto.ca
Sections:	L0101 and L0201	Times:	W2-4 online
TAs:	Posted on Quercus	Tutorials:	Posted on Quercus
Course email*:	eco200.khazra@utoronto.ca		*shared with the TAs

Important: please check your Quercus daily and make sure notifications is on. Read the syllabus thoroughly, mark your calendars with important dates, and familiarize yourself with course rules regularly.

1 Course Description

This course is the foundation of almost any micro course that you take in the future. Learning micro theory helps you think about microeconomic problems in a more structured way by formulating them in math. It will teach you to solve optimizations and explain consumers' and firms' behavior and decision-making processes. We will also talk about cool applications of the tools that we learn in this course.

1.1 Required Material

- Microeconomics (3rd edition) by Goolsbee, Levitt, and Syverson.
We are going to closely follow this textbook.
- Resource Options for ECO200 (online homework/quiz will be required):
 - If you are interested in online homework only with the free digital e book - please purchase via the UofT bookstore: https://uoftbookstore.com/buy_textbooks.asp (ISBN: 9781319422202)
 - If you want a physical book with online homework - please purchase from the Macmillan student store: <https://store.macmillanlearning.com/ca/product/Microeconomics/p/9781319422233> (ISBN: 9781319422233)
 - This google site walks you through course registration and use of Sapling: <https://sites.google.com/macmillan.com/eco200-sapling-student-check/home?authuser=0>
- You are required to study videos, slides and other material posted on Quercus

2 Online Delivery Requirements

This course is going to be delivered in an online format. The lectures will be a combination of pre-recorded videos and live synchronous classes. We are going to have synchronous lecture sessions as needed. Dates of the online sessions will be announced on Quercus. The primary purpose of having the live lectures is to complement the posted material and, most importantly, to have in-person interactions. Some of the to-be-announced live lectures, including your participation, will be recorded on video and available to students in the course for viewing remotely and after those sessions. If I want to record a live session, I will give you notice. Tutorials are synchronous online and are mandatory.

Refer to the [Required Material](#) section to purchase the Sapling online homework. Besides Sapling, you need high-speed internet, a PC or laptop, and the ability to scan (or take pictures of) your assignments and upload them on our online platform. You will have a chance to practice scanning and uploading a few documents before the beginning of the semester to make sure your software and hardware works fine. Equally important, learn to reduce the size of your files.

- Plan to keep up with the weekly assignments and readings. Finish the readings before watching the videos each week and proceed to your weekly quiz or assignment.
- Keep a calendar with due dates. All times will be posted in EST, and confusion over time zones will not be considered an appropriate excuse for missing a deadline. Take-home assignments are due at 7:00 PM Toronto time. Timed tests vary depending on when you start your test.

3 Course Rules

3.1 Email Policy

Before you start writing an email to a member of the course staff:

- Please make sure your question is not already answered in the syllabus or announcements on Quercus
- Title of your email must contain “**ECO200**” to be seen
- Use the course email eco200.khazra@utoronto.ca for non-content course-related questions
- Use your UT email address in all your communications
- Do not reply to announcement emails
- Email is mainly for private communications. For content-focused questions, please use office hours. An alternative way to get answers, show participation, and benefit your classmates is to use our discussion platform.

I try to answer your emails within three business days. We will check our discussion board platform at least twice a week.

3.2 Technical Difficulties Policy

We will not accept missed work due to technical difficulty, deadline confusion, internet, or hardware problems. You can (but try not to) miss two quizzes during the year and one term test. Please find the details in the Tests and Assignments section. Keep these options for unforeseen technical difficulties or other incidents.

4 Course Structure

4.1 Lectures

I will post lectures recordings on Quercus each week. **Do not share any of the course material.** Course videos and materials belong to your instructor, the University, and/or other source depending on the specific facts of each situation, and are protected by copyright. In this course, you are permitted to download session videos and materials for your own academic use, but you should not copy, share, or use them for any other purpose without the explicit permission of the instructor.

I am going to have occasional synchronous lecture sessions. Dates of the online sessions will be announced on Quercus. The primary purpose of having the live lectures is to complement the posted material and, most importantly, to have in-person interactions.

4.2 Tutorials and Office Hours

Tutorials are mandatory. Active participation in tutorials is part of your participation grade. Among other ways to participate, you should answer polls and participate in Q&As during tutorial sessions. Tutorials are run by TAs online at the designated time.

Similar to the quiz policy, your two lowest tutorial marks will be dropped. You are advised to leave this option for unexpected technical difficulties, illness, etc.

	Time*	Held by	By Appointment
Non-content consultation	Thurs. 1:00PM-2:00PM	Instructor	Yes
Content office hours	Wed. 9:00AM-10:00AM	Instructor	No
Content office hours	After tutorials	TAs	No

* Make sure to check Quercus for updated details on office hours schedule and the join links. In **non-content consultation** office hours, content questions will not be answered.

4.3 Test and Assignments

Item	Weight	Due Dates	Timing
Online Quizzes*	16%	Weekly Tues.	Timed
Participation & Tutorials	10%		-
Writing Assignment 1	10%	Mon. 26 Oct.	Take home
Term Tests 1**	12%	Mon. 16 Nov.	Timed
Writing Assignment 2	10%	Mon. 7 Dec.	Take home
Term Tests 2	12%	Mon. 4 Jan.	Timed
Term Tests 3	12%	Mon. 22 Feb.	Timed
Final Assessment	18%	Final examination period, TBD	Timed

All tests and quizzes are cumulative.

Tests Special Accommodation

In case that you have to miss a quiz or a term test due to illness, technical difficulties, etc., you can use the special accommodation described below. You are strongly advised only to use them if necessary.

* Your **two lowest quiz marks** will be dropped. If you miss more than two quizzes during the academic year for any reason, they are going to be marked as zero.

** If the mark on your final assessment is higher than **your lowest term-assessment mark**, we will replace this lowest mark with your final-assessment mark when calculating your course grade.

- If you miss a term assessment, for whatever reason, you receive a 0 for that assessment.
- Your final assessment mark can replace at most one term assessment mark.

Let's work through some of the implications of this policy.

- For the first term assessment you miss, there is no need to self-report any reason or illness. No documentation needed/accepted. Your mark for this assessment will be equal to the mark you earn on your final assessment.
- If you miss a subsequent term assessment, you may want to consider dropping the course as you will receive a zero for the assessment. In the case of extraordinary circumstances, contact your college's Registrar's Office. The only possibility of

adjusting the marking policy would be the result of our consultation with your college's Registrar.

- We point out there is absolutely no benefit to missing term assessment, even if you are unable to adequately prepare for it.
- Further, missing a term assessment is risky as you do not know what the future holds. Assume that for whatever reason, you are going to be forced to miss the last term assessment.

4.3.1 Quizzes

Quizzes are cumulative and are almost weekly. They are due at 7:00 PM Toronto time of the Tuesday from the day they have been released.

4.3.2 Use of Turnitin

You are required to submit your term work to Turnitin.com. The University policy regarding Turnitin.com is "Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site".

4.3.3 Writing Assignment Late Submission Policy

Late writing assignment submissions will be **penalized by day**. There is a grace period of 15 min which is advised to be reserved for technical difficulties. After that 15 min, there is a 30% penalty (out of the original grade) for each calendar day of late submission. For instance, if the writing assignment is due at 7:00 PM of a Monday, all the submissions until 7:00 PM on Tuesday will incur a 30% late penalty. No submissions will be accepted 3 calendar days after the deadline.

4.3.4 Participation

You should consistently participate in the course. Tutorials are mandatory. Your participation in tutorials is graded. You should also post your questions and answer your friends' questions on our discussion platform. In addition to the mandatory activities, you can also show your participation in other ways by engaging in opportunities that will be announced during the year.

5 Regrade Requests

There are no regrade requests for auto-graded quizzes. You can request regrades in writing for term tests within two weeks of the test release date. We will regrade your entire test and submit the new possible adjusted grade (up or down) after the two weeks.

6 Ongoing Learning Disability or Accommodation Requirement

If you have an ongoing disability issue or you need accommodation, please register with Accessibility Services (AS) (accessibility.utoronto.ca) at the beginning of the academic year. After AS processes your request, we will coordinate to provide the required accommodations for you.

7 Academic Integrity

The University of Toronto is deeply committed to the free and open exchange of ideas, and to the values of independent inquiry. As such, academic integrity is also fundamental to the University's intellectual life. What does it mean to act with academic integrity? U of T supports the International Center for Academic Integrity's definition of academic integrity as acting in all academic matters with honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility, and courage.

Please visit academicintegrity.utoronto.ca for smart strategies and information on academic integrity processes and procedures at the University of Toronto. The website includes a link to decisions of the University Tribunal in student cases involving academic integrity. You can review the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters in its entirety [here](#).

Common forms of academic misconduct with code references include:

- Possession or use of unauthorized aids (B.I.1.b)
- Impersonation (B.I.1.c)
- Plagiarism (B.I.1.d)

Plagiarism is a serious instance of academic misconduct, and university policy explicitly stipulates that ignorance of what constitutes plagiarism is not an acceptable defense.

- Submission of work for which credit has previously been obtained (B.I.1.e)
- Submission of work containing purported statement(s) of fact or reference(s) to concocted sources (B.I.1.f)
- Assisting another student in committing an offence (B.II.1.a)

8 Schedule and Weekly Learning Goals

The schedule is tentative and subject to change. This schedule should be viewed as a road map to the fundamental concepts that students should learn and study before each test. The topics below are the chapter title of the textbook. Some chapters will be discussed longer than others.

Week 01 Adventures in Microeconomics

Week 02 Supply and Demand

Week 03 Using Supply and Demand to Analyze Markets Application

Week 04 & 05 Consumer Behavior

Week 06 Individual and Market Demand

Week 07 Producer Behavior

Week 08 & 09 Costs

Week 09 Supply in a Competitive Market

Week 10 Market Power and Monopoly

Week 11 & 12 Pricing Strategies for Firms with Market Power

Week 13 & 14 Imperfect Competition

Week 15 & 16 Game Theory

Week 17 Factor Markets

Week 18 Investment, Time, and Insurance

Week 19 & 20 General Equilibrium

Week 21 & 22 Asymmetric Information

Week 23 Externalities and Public Goods

Week 24 TBD

9 The Final Word

“A university is a place where the universality of the human experience manifests itself.”

Albert Einstein

Everyone is welcome in this class. We should all actively try to create an inclusive environment to give everyone equal chances to grow. I can't do this alone and need your help to achieve this mission. Try to connect with as many of your classmates as the online world allows and welcome new ideas, perspectives, and identities. I look forward to meeting you all!