

Microeconomics

General Information:

Course ID#: ECON0100

Prerequisites: none

Credit hours: 3

Time: M 13:50 – 16:25 (S201), T 13:50 – 16:25 (S106), F 8:15 – 11:00 (S104)

Office hours: Monday 11:30 – 13:30

Tuesday 11:30 – 13:30

Thursday 12:00 – 17:00 and by appointment (email)

Office location: N404

Email: lizyunli@scupi.cn

TAs: Ling Lin, Xuan Li

Course Website: <https://learn.scupi.cn>

Course QQ: See code picture at the end

Course Description:

This course introduces you to the fascinating subject of economics. We will talk about the market forces of supply and demand, the effects of government policies on market outcomes and overall economic welfare, the theory of consumer choice, firm production decisions in different industrial organizations such as competitive markets, monopoly, monopolistic competition, and oligopoly. We'll also talk about economics of public sector, the labor market (if time allows) and many other interesting and practical economic topics. You will have a taste of the history of economic thought and get acquainted with the ideas of Adam Smith, David Ricardo and other great economic thinkers. You will also be exposed to real world economic problems through case studies and analysis of current economic issues. As a result, you should be able to apply economic theories to solve problems, utilize your newly gained knowledge to analyze real world situations, do your own reading and research and communicate economic ideas in group presentations.

Course Objectives:

By the end of this semester, you should have a very good understanding of economic principles, be able to reason economic issues using economic theories, evaluate government policy, understand policy debates and formulate informed opinions on current economic issues. The course meets other university and institute objectives by: 1) utilizing real world examples to stimulate student interest, 2) encouraging critical thinking, 3) incorporating oral presentations and class discussions into the course.

Learning Outcomes for this Course:

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- 1) understand the law of supply and demand in the market system and the key role of prices in allocating scarce resources in market economies.
- 2) understand the concept of elasticity in different markets and how the incidence of a tax, the size of deadweight loss and tax revenue depend on the price elasticities of supply and demand.
- 3) understand the effects of government policies such as price control, taxation, free trade and trade restrictions on market outcomes and total surplus.
- 4) understand why externalities can make market outcomes inefficient and the various government policies and private solutions aimed at solving the problem of externalities.
- 5) understand how firms make profit maximization decisions in the short-run and the long-run in different types of market structures (perfect competition, monopoly, monopolistic competition and oligopoly).
- 6) understand how to apply economic principles to a range of policy questions.

Required Texts: None. You're encouraged to read any popular textbooks available for introductory level Microeconomics and feel free to discuss with me if you have questions. **For homework, studios and exams, use my lecture notes PPT for materials covered.**

Course Website:

We'll use blackboard to make announcement, distribute lecture notes, homework problems and answer keys, etc. Make sure to check the course page on blackboard frequently to stay updated.

Course QQ group:

We also have a course QQ group managed by the TAs, Ling Lin and Xuan Li. That is the other place (besides the course website on blackboard) where we may make announcements. You could also ask questions and have discussions. Instead of holding office hours at a physical location, the TAs will be available to answer course-related questions through QQ.

*****Course materials are for your personal usage only, do not post online or share with people outside of the class. *****

*****The following information on Course Requirements, Exams, Studio Work, Group Presentation, and Grading apply to regular in-class teaching/learning environment. If we need to do extended period of online teaching/learning, the course could be re-structured to include more online activities in the learning process. I may make adjustments and revise the syllabus if necessary. *****

Course Requirements:

- Preview lecture notes briefly before class, warm up to the new ideas that'll be covered in class, and check out any unfamiliar English words
- Be focused and actively participate in class discussion
- Review after class, use handouts, practice questions and application problems for practice, raise questions if any
- Be alert to current economic events, try to see real world situations through the lens of economic theory
- Work in groups, research on an economic event/history/news/topic, present your work in an in-class group presentation
- Be on time, and keep you cell phones off during class time
- **Uphold Academic Honesty:** cheating in an assignment/presentation will result in a 0 for it. Cheating in an exam will result in an F for the course.

Exams:

One Midterm and one Final, closed-book, noncumulative. 60 Multiple choice questions in 2 hours.

Studio Work:

In some of the weeks, we'll do studio work when you solve questions on the chapters covered in the weeks before. No makeup studio work will be given. If you have a legitimate reason to miss a class, make sure to email me and cc your class counselor beforehand.

Homework:

You'll be given (1) multiple choice questions and (2) problem and application questions for practice. Working on those problems should have a positive effect on your understanding of the subject and your exam scores. You're responsible for managing your time properly and work on your own using those practice problems, homework will not be collected. Answer key will be provided. If there's any question, feel free to raise them in class, talk to me during the breaks, ask the TA through QQ, or come to my office hours.

Group Presentation:

You'll have the opportunity to build a team of 3-4 students, pick out an interested topic, research about it as a team, and do a 9-minute presentation to the class. The presentations will be scheduled in week 15 and week 16. Each group should discuss with me about your topic and pick the time of your presentation on the first come first serve basis. The booking will start on Monday November 17th at 1pm and will close on Friday November 28th at 11:00am. You will not be able to schedule a presentation if you miss the booking deadline, and you will not be able to re-schedule unless you can find a team to switch with you. Not doing a presentation will have the same result as not turning in a homework or not showing up for an exam, you'll have a grade of zero for the presentation. Your group presentation will be graded by the class (25%) and me (75%). Your personal grade will depend on your team's grade and your share of workload.

Grading:

- Attendance and Participation: 3%
- Class Discussion 3%
- Studio (In-class Problem Solving): 12%
- Group Presentation: 15%
- Midterm Exam: 33%
- Final Exam: 34%
- Extra Credit: Outstanding Contribution in Class Discussion up to 2%

Grading Conversion Table

Level	Letter Grade	Reported Numerical Score	Grade Points
Superior Performance	A	90 - 100	4.0
	A-	85 - 89	3.7
Meritorious Performance	B+	80 - 84	3.3
	B	76 - 79	3.0
	B-	73 - 75	2.7
Adequate Performance	C+	70 - 72	2.3
	C	66 - 69	2.0
	C-	63 - 65	1.7
Minimal Performance	D+	61 - 62	1.3
	D	60	1.0
Insufficient Performance (Failure)	F	< 60	0.0

Approximate Course Schedule:**Introduction**

Week One (9/8 – 9/12)

Introduction to the course

Chapter 1 The Principles of Economics (short and brief)

Chapter 2 Thinking Like an Economist (short and brief)

How Markets Work

Week Two (9/15 – 9/19)

Chapter 4 The Market Forces of Supply and Demand

Week Three (9/22 – 9/26)

Chapter 5 Elasticity and Its Applications

Week Four (9/29 – 10/3) (subject to change due to holiday break)

Chapter 6 Supply, Demand, and Government Policies

Markets and Welfare

Week Five (10/6 – 10/10)

Chapter 7 Consumers, Producers, and the Efficiency of Markets

Week Six (10/13 – 10/17)

Chapter 8 Application: The Costs of Taxation

Week Seven (10/20 – 10/24)

Chapter 9 Application: International Trade

Public Sector

Week Eight (10/27 – 10/31)

Chapter 10 Externalities

Firm Behavior and Industrial Organization

Week Nine (11/3 – 11/7)

Chapter 13 The Costs of Production

Week Ten (11/10 – 11/14)

Midterm Exam

11/14 Friday 16:45 – 18:45

Week Eleven (11/17 – 11/21)

Chapter 14 Firms in Competitive Markets

Week Twelve (11/24 – 11/28)

Chapter 15 Monopoly

Week Thirteen (12/1 – 12/5)

Chapter 16 Monopolistic Competition

Week Fourteen (12/8 – 12/12)

Chapter 17 Oligopoly

Week Fifteen (12/15 – 12/19)

Group Presentations

Week Sixteen (12/22 – 12/26)

Group Presentations

Week Seventeen (12/29 – 1/2)

Review

Final Exam

SCU Academic Calendar



2025—2026 学年（秋季学期）校历

周 次		星 期							月份	备 注
		日	一	二	三	四	五	六		
				2	3	4	5	6	9 月	1. 9 月 4-5 日为在校 生报到时间。 2. 9 月 5-7 日为本科 生补缓考时间。 3. 9 月 2-3 日为本科 生新生报到时间, 9 月 9-10 日为研究生新生 报到时间。 4. 9 月 8 日举行本科 生开学典礼, 9 月 12 日举行研究生开学典礼。 5. 第一周起正式行课。 6. 中秋节 10 月 6 日。 7. 春节 2 月 17 日。 8. 红色是节假日, 停 课一般不补。 9. 政治学习、党团组 织生活统一安排在双 周星期五下午进行, 上 半段为政治学习时间, 下半段为党团组织生 活时间。 10. 校秋季田径运动 会在 10 月 31 日—11 月 1 日举行。
1	教 学 周	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	10 月	
2		14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
3		21	22	23	24	25	26	27		
4		28	29	30	1	2	3	4		
5		5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
6		12	13	14	15	16	17	18	11 月	
7		19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
8		26	27	28	29	30	31	1		
9		2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
10		9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
11		16	17	18	19	20	21	22	12 月	
12		23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
13		30	1	2	3	4	5	6		
14		7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
15		14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
16		21	22	23	24	25	26	27	1 月	
17		28	29	30	31	1	2	3		
18		4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
19		11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
20		18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
21	寒 假	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	2 月	
22		1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
23		8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
24		15	16	17	18	19	20	21	3 月	
25		22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
26		1	2	3	4	5	6	7		

Course QQ

