

Economics 1101 Fall 2025
Principles of Microeconomics

*Dalhousie University is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq.
We are all Treaty people.*

*We acknowledge the histories, contributions, and legacies of the African Nova Scotian people and communities
who have been here for over 400 years.*

Instructors:

| | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|--|----------|
| Prof. Catherine Boulatoff | Sections 01 & 02 | boulatoff@dal.ca | Econ A11 |
| Prof. Mrittika Shamsuddin | Section 03 | Mrittika.Shamsuddin@dal.ca | Econ B22 |

Sections:

| | | | |
|-------------|-----|---------------|---------------|
| Section 01: | T R | 8:35 – 9:55 | Rowe 1028 |
| Section 02: | T R | 14:35 – 15:55 | Library MacMe |
| Section 03: | T R | 13:05 – 14:25 | Rowe 1028 |

Office Hours:

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Dr Shamsuddin | Thursdays 11am-12pm and by appointment. |
| Dr Boulatoff | Mondays 2pm-3pm and by appointment. |

Tutorials:

Students can choose one of the 28 one-hour timeslots indicated on the Academic Timetable.
Tutorials will start on the second week of classes (29th September). They will be on the previous week's material.

Course Delivery:

- This course will be delivered face-to-face, supplemented by videos posted on Brightspace if needed.
- Tutorials will be in person for the entire term.

Course Description:

How do you decide whether to go to university? Why does the price of pizza change so much less than the price of oil? What will better help prevent climate change: a carbon tax, or a cap-and-trade system? Microeconomic analysis, which considers the behaviour of individuals and businesses, can answer questions like these.

Course Prerequisites:

None.

Course Learning Outcomes:

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

- consider trade-offs and opportunity cost in making choices.
- discuss how models are useful in analyzing the economy.
- analyze how demand and supply work together to determine equilibrium in a market.
- calculate the responsiveness of demand and supply to prices and income.
- measure the efficiency of a market and show how government interventions affect efficiency.
- determine how a firm's production function affects its costs.
- display a competitive firm's optimal output level given its cost structure.
- analyze the output and pricing decisions of imperfectly-competitive firms.
- demonstrate how firms choose the optimal number of workers to hire.
- depict and explain a country's level of income inequality.
- explain how market failure provides a justification for government intervention in the economy.

Course Materials:

Required book: *Milligan K., Oreopoulos P., Stevenson B., and Wolfers J. (2023) Principles of Microeconomics. Canadian Edition, MacMillan.*

You are required to purchase Achieve with digital access to the book to complete the in-class pop-up quizzes for Principles of Microeconomics Canadian edition (1-Term Access) for Dalhousie University \$97.96.

The loose-leaf Version for Principles of Microeconomics Canadian Edition & Achieve for Principles of Microeconomics Canadian Edition (1-Term Access) \$179.99.

The URL to purchase Achieve from the Dalhousie bookstore:

<https://bookstore.dal.ca/CourseSearch/?course%5b%5d=SUB,202610,ECON,ECON1101,03>

Course Assessment:

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Pop-up quizzes (best 10) | 10% of final grade | In class, every class (starting week 2) |
| Tutorial Participation | 10% of final grade | Attendance required at 6 out of 9 tutorials |
| Assignments | 10% of final grade | Best 5, on Brightspace – Achieve |
| Midterm | 30% of final grade | October 28 – 1hr, in person |
| Final Exam | 40% of final grade | Scheduled by Registrar (December 11-21) - 2hrs, in person |

Note: See the Course Schedule below for the dates of assignments, quizzes, and midterm exams.

Course Requirements:

Tutorials:

- Tutorial attendance is required and participation is worth 10% of your grade.
- You *must* attend the tutorial in which you are registered in order to obtain credit for attendance.
- There will be 9 tutorials and you are required to attend 6 of them in order to earn the full 10%.
- Tutorials start the second week of classes.

Pop-up Quizzes:

- There will be very short pop-up quizzes (1 - 4 questions) every class in class using the i-clicker.
- Each class pop-up quiz will count as 1 mark. If we have 2 questions in a class, each question will be worth 0.5 point.
- The best 10 quizzes will count toward your grade

Assignments

- Assignments will be done on Achieve (on Brightspace) every week.
- Assignments will be on the chapter covered the week before.
- They will be due on Monday by 11:59pm. Our first assignment will therefore be due on September 29.
- You will have one week to complete each assignment.
- Once you start the assignment, there will not be any time limit.
- Each additional attempt (after the first one) for each assignment will suffer a 5% penalty.
- The best 5 assignments will count toward your grade.
- Assignments will start the second week of classes.

Exams:

- There will be one midterm (in person) and one cumulative final exam (in person).
- The midterm will contain 3 short answer questions (each worth 10 points) and 10 multiple choice questions. You will have 1 hour to complete each midterm.
- If the midterm cannot be held due to a campus closure, the midterm will be rescheduled to Thursday of the same week.
- The final exam will contain 20 multiple choice questions and 4 short answer questions.

- You will have 2 hours to complete the final exam.
- The final exam will be scheduled by the Registrar's Office during the final exam period (December 11-21), in person. Do not make travel arrangements during this period.
- If you do better on the final exam than on the midterm, the weight of the midterm will be added to the final exam and the higher of the two averages will be applied.
- If you miss the midterm for any reason, the weight of the missed midterm will be added to the final (cumulative) exam.

This course has a Brightspace page for all registered students; see <https://dal.brightspace.com> for details. **Class materials, grades, and announcements will be posted to Brightspace.** It is essential that you familiarize yourself with how to use the Brightspace system.

Important Dates:

| | |
|----------------|--|
| October 7 | Last day to add fall term courses |
| | Last day to drop fall term courses with no financial implications |
| October 22 | Last day to change fall term courses from audit to credit (and vice versa) |
| | Last day to drop fall term courses without a "W" |
| November 14 | Last day to submit accommodated exams requests (for students) |
| November 20 | Last day to drop fall term courses with a "W" |
| December 10 | Last day of classes for courses beginning September 23d, Monday schedule |
| December 11-21 | Exam period |

Conversion of Numerical Grades to Final Letter Grades following the Dalhousie Common Grade Scale:

| | | | | |
|-------------|------------|------------|---|---------|
| A+ (90-100) | B+ (77-79) | C+ (65-69) | D | (50-54) |
| A (85-89) | B (73-76) | C (60-64) | F | (<50) |
| A- (80-84) | B- (70-72) | C- (55-59) | | |

Course Policies:

Missed tutorials: Considering that you are required to attend only 6 out of 9 tutorials, we will not accept any excuses for missed tutorials. We do not accept the Student Declaration of Absence form for missed tutorials.

Missed pop-up quizzes: Considering that only the best 10 quizzes will count, we will not accept any excuses for missed or late quiz submissions. We do not accept the Student Declaration of Absence form for missed quizzes.

Missed midterm exam: If you miss the midterm, then the weight of the missed midterm will be added to the final exam.

Missed Final Exam: If you miss the final exam for a valid reason, as defined in Section 16.8 of the University Calendar, you will receive an INC or ILL until they take the make-up exam. The make-up exam will be scheduled on the second week of the following term. The make-up final exam will be in person.

Videos: If class is cancelled due to a holiday, instructor illness, or a campus closure, or if a given week's course material cannot be completed during class time for any reason, the material will be presented in videos that will be uploaded to Brightspace.

Academic integrity: To maintain academic integrity, students are expected to do their own work on assignments, quizzes, and midterms, without reference to colleagues or online sources.

Email policy: We will do our best to respond to email within 24 hours on a weekday, 48 hours on a weekend, according to the following policy:

- a. We will only respond to emails posing questions that can be answered in a sentence or two. For detailed questions, please make an appointment to see us in office hours.

- b. We will not reply to emails that request information that can be found on Brightspace, the syllabus, or in lectures, so you should check those places first.

Health and safety: All students are required to comply with health and safety requirements on campus, and should be considerate of others' health concerns. Non-compliance may be reported under the Code of Student Conduct.

Course Schedule:

| Week | Date | Topics, Readings, and Deliverables |
|-------------|------------------|---|
| 1. | September 23 (T) | Introduction to ECON 1101 Chapter 1: The Four Core Principles of Economics |
| 2. | September 30 | (Tuesday 30 th is Truth and Reconciliation Day – no class) Chapter 2: Demand and Consumer Choice |
| 3. | October 7 | Chapter 3: Supply and Producer Choice Chapter 4: Equilibrium: Where Supply meets Demand |
| 4. | October 14 | Chapter 5: Elasticity |
| 5. | October 21 | Chapter 6: Taxes, Price Controls, and Quantity Regulations |
| 6. | October 28 | Midterm (Chapters 1-6), (T) October 28, 1 hour, in class. Chapter 7: Welfare Economics: Evaluating Market Efficiency and Market Failure |
| 7. | November 4 | Chapter 10: Externalities and Public Goods |
| 8. | November 11 | Fall Reading Week |
| 9. | November 18 | Chapter 13: Inequality, Poverty, and Social Insurance Chapter 14: Market Structure and Degrees of Market Power |
| 10. | November 25 | Chapter 15: Entry, Exit, and Long-Run Profitability |
| 11. | December 2 | Chapter 16 (16.1): Price Discrimination and Sophisticated Pricing Strategies Chapter 18 (18.1 & 18.2): Game Theory and Strategic Choices |
| 12. | December 9 | Tuesday, December 9 - Regular classes will be held. Wednesday, December 10 – Monday classes will be held. Thursday, December 11 – Break |
| Exam period | | Submit: Final Exam (Scheduled by Registrar's Office during December 11-21) |

University Policies and Statements

This course is governed by the academic rules and regulations set forth in the University Calendar and by Senate.

Academic Integrity

At Dalhousie University, we are guided in all of our work by the values of academic integrity: honesty, trust, fairness, responsibility and respect (The Center for Academic Integrity, Duke University, 1999). As a student, you are required to demonstrate these values in all of the work you do. The University provides policies and procedures that every member of the university community is required to follow to ensure academic integrity.

Information: https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity.html

Accessibility

The Advising and Access Services Centre is Dalhousie's centre of expertise for student accessibility and accommodation. The advising team works with students who request accommodation as a result of a disability, religious obligation, or any barrier related to any other characteristic protected under Human Rights legislation (Canada and Nova Scotia).

Information: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/accessibility.html

Student Code of Conduct

Everyone at Dalhousie is expected to treat others with dignity and respect. The Code of Student Conduct allows Dalhousie to take disciplinary action if students don't follow this community expectation. When appropriate, violations of the code can be resolved in a reasonable and informal manner—perhaps through a restorative justice process. If an informal resolution can't be reached, or would be inappropriate, procedures exist for formal dispute resolution.

Code: https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/student-life/code-of-student-conduct.html

Diversity and Inclusion – Culture of Respect

Every person at Dalhousie has a right to be respected and safe. We believe inclusiveness is fundamental to education. We stand for equality. Dalhousie is strengthened in our diversity. We are a respectful and inclusive community. We are committed to being a place where everyone feels welcome and supported, which is why our Strategic Direction prioritizes fostering a culture of diversity and inclusiveness.

Statement: <http://www.dal.ca/cultureofrespect.html>

Recognition of Mi'kmaq Territory

Dalhousie University would like to acknowledge that the University is on Traditional Mi'kmaq Territory. The Elders in Residence program provides students with access to First Nations elders for guidance, counsel and support. Visit or e-mail the Indigenous Student Centre (1321 Edward St) (elders@dal.ca).

Information: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/indigenous.html

Important Dates in the Academic Year (including add/drop dates)

https://www.dal.ca/academics/important_dates.html

University Grading Practices

https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/grading-practices-policy.html

Student Resources and Support

Advising

General Advising https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/advising.html

Science Program Advisors: <https://www.dal.ca/faculty/science/current-students/undergrade-students/degree-planning.html>

Indigenous Student Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/indigenous.html

Black Students Advising Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/black-student-advising.html

International Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/international-centre/current-students.html

Academic supports

Library: <https://libraries.dal.ca/>

Writing Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/writing-and-study-skills.html

Studying for Success: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/study-skills-and-tutoring.html

Copyright Office: <https://libraries.dal.ca/services/copyright-office.html>

Fair Dealing Guidelines <https://libraries.dal.ca/services/copyright-office/fair-dealing.html>

Other supports and services

Student Health & Wellness Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/health-and-wellness.html

Student Advocacy: <https://dsu.ca/dsas>

Ombudsperson: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/safety-respect/student-rights-and-responsibilities/where-to-get-help/ombudsperson.html

Safety

Biosafety: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/biosafety.html>

Chemical Safety: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/chemical-safety.html>

Radiation Safety: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/radiation-safety.html>

Scent-Free Program: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/occupational-safety/scent-free.html>

Dalhousie COVID-19 information and updates: <https://www.dal.ca/covid-19-information-and-updates.html>