

## Economics 1101.04 Fall 2025

### Principles of Microeconomics

*Dalhousie University acknowledges that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People and pays respect to the Indigenous knowledges held by the Mi'kmaq People, and to the wisdom of their Elders past and present. The Mi'kmaq People signed Peace and Friendship Treaties with the Crown, and section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 recognizes and affirms Aboriginal and Treaty rights. We are all Treaty people.*

*Dalhousie University also acknowledges the histories, contributions, and legacies of African Nova Scotians, who have been here for over 400 years.*

**Instructor:** Prof. Michael Rushe michael.rushe@dal.ca

*Please allow **24 hours** for a response to any email message; **48 hours on weekends**.*

**Teaching Assistant(s):** Abigail Obour ww4788852@dal.ca

**Note: There are no formal tutorials.**

#### Office Hours:

Online office hours are available on weekdays with 24 hours' notice; email to make an appointment.

**All correspondence** in this class must be through **Dalhousie email addresses only**. Any email coming from any other address will be treated as spam and is neither read nor answered. If you have not yet activated your account, please follow the instructions at <https://www.dal.ca/dept/its.html>

**Course Delivery: Fully Online** - - - Asynchronous pre-recorded lectures; quizzes, assignments and midterm **exam** are **all online**. The Final Exam will be in person.

This course has a Brightspace page for all registered students

<https://dal.brightspace.com/d2l/home/393261>

**Class materials, marks, and announcements will be posted to Brightspace.** Each time you log onto Brightspace you should check Announcements on the course homepage!

It is essential you **familiarize** yourself with how to use the Brightspace system.

**Discussion Board** - Live online help with the teaching assistants. **For all questions related to the class material, please post to the Discussion Board or meet with a TA via Teams during scheduled hours.**

The Discussion Board on Brightspace should be used for all course content-related questions. If you send me or the TA an email about a course content related question, we will ask you to post your question to the Discussion Board. The Discussion Board is particularly important in an online course, as it helps to generate "class discussions," allows all students to benefit from the questions and answers posted, and it allows each of you to join the discussion and help answer each other's questions, which is an excellent way to reinforce what you are learning. The TA will be monitoring the Discussion Board during the scheduled time to answer any questions. Please check the Discussion Boards often and try to help answer any questions your fellow classmates may have, as well as post questions of your own.

For **technical help** with **Achieve** contact **MacMillan support**:  
<https://mhe.my.site.com/macmillanlearning/s/chat-with-us>

For **technical help** with **Brightspace** please contact: [support@dal.ca](mailto:support@dal.ca) or call them at 902-494-HELP (4357), or toll free at 1-800-869-3931.

The IT Help Desks in the Killam Library, Sexton Library, and Wallace McCain Learning Commons are open for walk-in assistance - - - **check hours of operation**.

### **Course Description:**

How do you decide whether or not 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, businesses, and the role of government 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 assignments and 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\[\]=SUB,202610,ECON,ECON1101,04&](https://bookstore.dal.ca/CourseSearch/?course[]=SUB,202610,ECON,ECON1101,04&)

## Course Assessment:

Achieve Assignments (best 9/11) <b><u>Atlantic Time</u></b> )	15% of final grade	Every week (due on Sundays before 11:59 p.m.
Achieve Quizzes (best 8/10)	20% of final grade	Every week (Sunday 11:59 a.m.- Monday 11:59 p.m. <b><u>Atlantic Time</u></b> )
Midterm Exam	25% of final grade	<b><u>Monday, October 20</u></b> ; 8:30 a.m. or 2:30 p.m. <b>Atlantic Time. Alternate times will not be offered. – 1hr online.</b>
Final Exam***	40% of final grade	<b><u>Scheduled by Registrar</u></b> (December 5-16) – 2hrs, <b><u>in person.</u></b>

\*\*\*\* **Travel arrangements must not be made during this period.** \*\*\*\*

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

There will be **11** assignments and **10** quizzes, with the best **nine** assignments and **eight** quizzes counted. More importantly, the assignments, quizzes and exercises will aid in your understanding of the material and in exam preparations. **No make-up quizzes or assignments will be offered** under any circumstances.

**Carefully read** the University and Department's Statement on Academic Integrity.

To pass the course, a student must earn an overall mark of at least 50% and **must earn a mark of 50%** or more on **the Final Exam.**

Grading: **GRADES ARE NOT NEGOTIABLE.** Do not contact me after the final semester grades have been posted asking me to change your grade for any reason. [Of course, if you believe your grade was posted erroneously by all means DO contact me.]

## Course Requirements:

### Assignments:

**Every week starting the second week, there will be an assignment due in Achieve.**

- You will have one week to complete each assignment; you have three attempts at each question. For each additional attempt you are penalized by 5%.
- An assignment should take you approximately 40 minutes or less to complete.
- **Each assignment is due before 11:59 p.m. (Atlantic Time) on Sundays.**
- The best 9 out of 11 assignments will count.
- Each assignment will contain 4 - 5 questions.
- An AI tutor is available while taking the assignments!

**Quizzes: Every week starting the third week, there will be a Quiz due in Achieve.**

- There will be 10 quizzes, one every week except the week of the midterm exam, done on Achieve.
- The best 8 out of 10 quizzes will count.
- Each quiz will contain 8 multiple choice questions.
- **Students must complete each quiz on the appointed day, within the 36**
- **-hour framework of Sunday 11:59 a.m. to Monday 11:59 p.m. Atlantic time.**
- Once a student begins the quiz, the student has 14 minutes to complete the quiz.
- Although quizzes are not invigilated, students are expected to do their own work without reference to notes, the textbook, or online materials.
- **Quiz dates:** Available on Sundays from 11:59 a.m. to Monday 11:59 p.m., due on the following Mondays: September 15, 22, 29; October 6, 27; November 3, 17, 24; December 1.
- **Note, since the University is closed on Monday, October 13, the quiz will be due on Tuesday of that week (October 14).**

**Exams: The Midterm Exam is On Brightspace - - - - Click on Assessments - - - - dropdown menu**

### Quizzes

- There will be one midterm exam, online via Brightspace.
- The midterm will contain 40 multiple choice questions; you have 1 hour to complete the exam.
- The midterm will be offered at 8:30 a.m. (Atlantic Time) or 2:30 p.m. (Atlantic Time). You **must** submit a **registration form** if you want to take the 2:30 p.m. exam through the Brightspace Dropbox (Assessments > Assignments).
- The registration form to write the midterm at 2:30 p.m. **must be uploaded before 11:59 p.m. (Atlantic time) on Thursday, October 16.**
- Although the midterm is not invigilated, students are expected to do their own work without reference to notes, the textbook, or online materials.
- **Respondus Lockdown Browser will be used when taking the midterm.**
- Midterm date: **Monday, October 20. Note: If the time(s) of the midterm conflict with your schedule, you should not take this course!**
- If the midterm cannot be held due to a campus closure, that midterm will be rescheduled to Thursday of the same week.
- If you **miss** the midterm for any reason, the **weight** of the missed midterm will be added to the final (cumulative) exam.

**The Final Exam** will be **scheduled by** the Registrar's Office during the final exam period. **Travel arrangements must not be made during this period (5 – 16 December).** Note, the Final Exam is in person.

- The final exam will contain **30** multiple choice questions and 4 – 5 multi-part short answer questions.
- Students must pass **the Final Exam**. (50% or higher) to pass the class.
- The use of electronic devices is not permitted during the exam, simple calculators only!

In accordance with the Academic Calendar regulation 16.1 “**In order to complete a course satisfactorily, a student must fulfill all the requirements as set down in the course outline [Syllabus].**”

Note: See the Course Schedule below for the dates of Assignments, Quizzes, and Exams.

### Workload:

Typically, you will need to spend 6-10 hours of your time each week on this course. This includes time spent watching videos, reading the textbook, and reviewing your notes.

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:

September 16	Last day to add fall term courses
	Last day to drop fall term courses with no financial implications
October 1	December Exam Schedule posted
October 1	Last day to change fall term courses from audit to credit (and vice versa)
	Last day to drop fall term courses without a “W”
October 30	Last day to drop fall term courses with a “W”

### 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 assignments:** Considering you have one week to complete each of the assignments, and that your **lowest two** assignment marks will be dropped, I will not accept any excuses for missed or late assignment submissions. I do not accept the Student Declaration of Absence form for missed assignments. **No make- assignments or extensions will be offered.**

**Missed quizzes:** Considering you have 36 hours to access each of the quizzes, and that your **lowest two** quiz marks will be dropped, I will not accept any excuses for missed or late quiz submissions. I do not accept the Student Declaration of Absence form for missed quizzes. **No make-up quizzes or extensions will be offered.**

**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. You should notify me prior to the exam or within 3 days of the missed exam. The make-up exam will be scheduled for the second week of the following term. The make-up final exam will be in person.

**Online access:** When connecting to online resources, you are responsible for observing any applicable laws of the country from which you are connecting. You are also responsible for establishing whether you have access to all course material as soon as the term begins and before the add/drop date of September 16, 2025.

**Academic integrity:** To maintain academic integrity, students are expected to do their own work on assignments, quizzes, and exams, **without** reference to class notes, the textbook, colleagues, or online sources.

**Email policy:** I 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. I will **only** respond to emails posing questions which can be answered in a sentence or two. For detailed questions, please post your question to the Discussion Board, meet with the TA, or see me during office hours.
- b. I 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 1	Introduction to ECON 1101 Chapter 1: The Four Core Principles of Economics <i>Additional Reading:</i> “Foundations of Microeconomics” Parkin & Bade., 9 <sup>th</sup> Cdn. Edition; Pearson, pages 58-68.
2.	September 8	Chapter 2: Demand and Consumer Choice Chapter 3: Supply and Producer Choice  Submit: <u>Assignment 1 (Chapter 1)</u> , due Sunday, September 14, 11:59 p.m. Submit: Quiz 1 (Chapter 1), due Monday, September 15, 11:59 p.m.
3.	September 15	Chapter 4: Equilibrium: Where Supply Meets Demand  Submit: Assignment 2 (Chapters 2 & 3), due Sunday, September 21, 11:59 p.m. Submit: Quiz 2 (Chapters 2 & 3), due Monday, September 22, 11:59 p.m.
4.	September 22	Chapter 5: Elasticity  Submit: Assignment 3 (Chapter 4), due Sunday, September 28, 11:59 p.m. Submit: Quiz 3 (Chapter 4), due Monday, September 29, 11:59 p.m.
5.	September 29	Chapter 6: Taxes, Price Controls, and Quantity Regulations  Submit: Assignment 4 (Chapter 5), due Sunday, October 5, 11:59 p.m. Submit: Quiz 4 (Chapter 5), due Monday, October 6, 11:59 p.m.
6.	October 6	Chapter 7: Welfare Economics: Evaluating Market Efficiency and Market Failure  Submit: Assignment 5 (Chapter 6), due Sunday, October 12, 11:59 p.m. Submit: Quiz 5 (Chapter 6), due Tuesday, October 14, 11:59 p.m.
7.	October 13	<b>The University is closed on Monday, October 13</b> Chapter 10: Externalities and Public Goods  Submit: Assignment 6 (Chapter 7), due Sunday, October 19, 11:59 p.m.
8.	October 20	<b>Midterm (Chapters 1-10), Wednesday, October 20 1 hour, online.</b>  Chapter 11: The Labour Market  Submit: Assignment 7 (Chapter 11), due Sunday, October 26, 11:59 p.m. Submit: Quiz 6 (Chapter 11), due Monday, October 27, 11:59 p.m.

9.      October 27      Chapter 13: Inequality, Poverty, and Social Insurance  
                                  Chapter 14: Market Structure and Degrees of Market Power  
                                  *Additional Reading:* “Ragan. Microeconomics” 18<sup>th</sup> Cdn. Edition; Pearson 2025, pages 350-359.
- Submit: Assignment 8 (Chapter 13), due Sunday, November 2, 11:59 p.m.  
                                  Submit: Quiz 7 (Chapter 13), due Monday, November 3, 11:59 p.m.
10.      November 3      Chapter 14: Market Structure and Degrees of Market Power continued.  
                                  Chapter 15: Entry, Exit, and Long-Run Profitability  
                                  *Additional Reading:* “Exploring Microeconomics” Sexton et al., 6<sup>th</sup> Cdn. Edition; Cengage, pages 232-236.  
                                  *Additional Reading:* “Microeconomics Canada in the Global Environment” Parkin & Bade et al., 11<sup>th</sup> Cdn. Edition; Pearson, pages 280-285.
- Submit: Assignment 9 (Chapters 14 & 15), due Sunday, November 9, 11:59 p.m.  
                                  Submit: Quiz 8 (Chapters 14 & 15), due Monday, November 17, 11:59 p.m.
11.      November 10      **Fall Reading Week**
12.      November 17      Chapter 16: Price Discrimination and Sophisticated Pricing Strategies  
                                  Chapter 18: Game Theory and Strategic Choices (Exclude 18.3 & 18.4)
- Submit: Assignment 10 (Chapters 16 & 18), due Sunday, November 23, 11:59 p.m.  
                                  Submit: Quiz 9 (Chapters 16 & 18), due Monday, November 24, 11:59 p.m.
13.      November 24      Chapter 19: Decisions Involving Private Information
- Submit: Assignment 11 (Chapter 19), due Sunday, November 30, 11:59 p.m.  
                                  Submit: Quiz 10 (Chapter 19), due Monday, December 1, 11:59 p.m.
14.      December 1      Wrapping things up!  
                                  Wednesday, December 3 – classes end.
- Exam period      Submit: Final Exam (Scheduled by Registrar’s Office during December 5-16)

**December 5 – 16 - - - Travel arrangements must not be made during this period.**



## **Deliverable Due Dates & Time (Atlantic Time)**

### **Assignments**

Assignment 1	Sunday, September 14, 11:59 p.m.
Assignment 2	Sunday, September 21, 11:59 p.m.
Assignment 3	Sunday, September 28, 11:59 p.m.
Assignment 4	Sunday, October 5, 11:59 p.m.
Assignment 5	Sunday, October 12, 11:59 p.m.
Assignment 6	Sunday, October 29, 11:59 p.m.
Assignment 7	Sunday, October 26, 11:59 p.m.
Assignment 8	Sunday, November 2, 11:59 p.m.
Assignment 9	Sunday, November 9, 11:59 p.m.
Assignment 10	Sunday, November 23, 11:59 p.m.
Assignment 11	Sunday, November 30, 11:59 p.m.

### **Quizzes**

Quiz 1	Monday, September 15, 11:59 p.m.
Quiz 2	Monday, September 22, 11:59 p.m.
Quiz 3	Tuesday, September 29, 11:59 p.m.
Quiz 4	Monday, October 6, 11:59 p.m.
Quiz 5	Tuesday, October 14, 11:59 p.m.
Quiz 6	Monday, October 27, 11:59 p.m.
Quiz 7	Monday, November 3, 11:59 p.m.
Quiz 8	Monday, November 17, 11:59 p.m.
Quiz 9	Monday, November 24, 11:59 p.m.
Quiz 10	Monday, December 1, 11:59 p.m.

### **Exams**

Midterm	Monday, October 20, 8:30 a.m. <b>or</b> 2:30 p.m. <b><u>Online.</u></b>
Final Exam	Scheduled by Registrar's Office during exam period (December 5 -16); <b><u>In person.</u></b>

## 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](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](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 do not follow this community expectation. When appropriate, violations of the code can be resolved in a reasonable and informal manner—through a restorative justice process. If an informal resolution cannot 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](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](mailto:elders@dal.ca)).

**Information:** [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/communities/indigenous.html](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](https://www.dal.ca/academics/important_dates.html)

### University Grading Practices

[https://www.dal.ca/dept/university\\_secretariat/policies/academic/grading-practices-policy.html](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](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](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/indigenous.html)

**Black Students Advising Centre:** [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/communities/black-student-advising.html](https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/black-student-advising.html)

**International Centre:** [https://www.dal.ca/campus\\_life/international-centre/current-students.html](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](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](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](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](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>

<https://mhe.my.site.com/macmillanlearning/s/chat-with-us>