

Economics 1101 Winter 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. Mrityika Shamsuddin Section 01 Mrityika.Shamsuddin@dal.ca Econ B22

Sections:

Section 01: T R 17:35 – 18:55 Studley LSC C240

Office Hours:

R 10 am -12 pm B22 6214 University Ave

Tutorials:

Tutorials will be on Monday, 13:35 – 14:25, at ROWE 1020. The first tutorial will be held on Jan 13, 2024. Tutorials will start on the second week of classes. They will be on the previous week's material. They are not mandatory.

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 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 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.
- 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 in order to complete the in-class pop-up quizzes and assignments.

The URL to purchase Achieve from the Dalhousie bookstore

Course Assessment:

Pop-up quizzes (best 15)	15% of final grade	In class, every class (starting week 2)
Problem Sets (best 8)	15% of final grade	Every week (starting week 2)
Case Study (best 2)	10% of final grade	3 times in the semester
Midterm	25% of final grade	March 4 – 1hr, in person
Final Exam	35% of final grade	Scheduled by Registrar (Apr 9-26) - 2hrs, in person

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

Course Requirements:

Problem Sets:

- Every week starting the second week, there will be a problem set due in Achieve. You will have one week to do it, but you can try it as many times as you want. For each additional attempt you are penalized by 2%.
- There will be 11 problem sets and 8 of your best performances will be taken for grading.
- Assignments will be due on Monday by 4 pm.

Tutorials:

- Tutorials start the second week of classes.
- Your TA is going to go over the problem sets with you during the tutorials. It is not mandatory.

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 15 quizzes will count.

Case Study:

- There will be six case studies/videos/news articles that you will be required to read before coming to class and then discuss and write your reflection on these studies/articles in class.
- The best 4 will count towards your grade.

Exams:

- There will be one non-cumulative midterms (in person) and one cumulative final exam (in person).
- The midterm will contain 20 multiple choice questions and 5 short answers.
- You will have 1 hour to complete each midterm.
- Midterm dates: Midterm 1 will be held on Tuesday, March 4.
- If any midterm cannot be held due to a campus closure, that midterm will be rescheduled to Tuesday the following week.
- The final exam will contain 30 multiple choice questions and 10 short answers.
- 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 (Apr 9-26), in person. Do not make travel arrangements during this period.
- If you do better on the final exam than the midterm, the weight of the midterm will be added to the final exam.
- If you miss any of the midterms 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:

January 20	Fees due for winter term Last day to register Last day to drop winter term courses with no financial implications
February 3	Last day to change winter term courses from audit to credit (and vice versa) Last day to drop winter term courses without a “W”
March 13	Last day to drop multi-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 pop-up quizzes: Considering that your lowest 5 quiz marks will be dropped, 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 Assignment: Considering that your lowest 3 assignment marks will be dropped, and you are allowed to have unlimited attempts within a week, we will not accept any excuses for missed or late 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 (Spring semester). The make-up final exam will be in person.

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.	January 6	Introduction to ECON 1101 Chapter 1: The Four Core Principles of Economics
2.	January 13	Chapter 2: Demand and Consumer Choice Chapter 3: Supply and Producer Choice
3.	January 20	Chapter 4: Equilibrium: Where Supply meets Demand
4.	January 27	Chapter 5: Elasticity
5.	February 3	Chapter 6: Taxes, Price Controls, and Quantity Regulations
6.	February 10	Chapter 7: Welfare Economics: Evaluating Market Efficiency and Market Failure
7.	February 17	Winter Break
8.	February 24	Chapter 10: Externalities and Public Goods Chapter 13: Inequality, Poverty, and Social Insurance
9.	March 3	Midterm 1 (Chapters 1-1), (R) March 4, 1 hour, in class. Chapter 11: The Labour Market
10.	March 10	Chapter 11: The Labour Market Chapter 14: Market Structure and Degrees of Market Power
11.	March 17	Chapter 15: Entry, Exit, and Long-Run Profitability Chapter 16: Price Discrimination and Sophisticated Pricing Strategies
12.	March 24	Chapter 18: Game Theory and Strategic Choices
13.	March 31	Chapter 19: Decisions Involving Private Information
14.	April 7	Final Exam (Scheduled by Registrar's Office during April 9-26)

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>