

Economics 1101 Fall 2026
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	17:35 – 18:55	McCain AUD-1
Section 02:	T R	14:35 – 15:55	Rowe 1028
Section 03:	T R	10:05 – 11:25	Rowe 1028

Office Hours:

Dr Shamsuddin	Wednesday 11am-12pm and by appointment.
Dr Boulatoff	Wednesday 2pm-3pm and by appointment.

TAs' office hours:

Students can choose any or all of the **4 one-hour timeslots** indicated on the Academic Timetable.
Tutorials will start on the second week of classes. 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:

Welcome to Principles of Microeconomics! Economics is the study of how individuals, firms, and governments make choices when resources are scarce. Throughout this course, you will learn to think like an economist by applying economic reasoning to real-world issues such as housing affordability, inflation, climate change, healthcare, competition policy, taxation, inequality, and environmental sustainability.

Our goal is not simply to learn graphs and formulas, but to develop a framework for analyzing decisions and evaluating public policy. By the end of the term, you should feel more confident in understanding economic arguments in the news and using evidence to assess competing policy proposals.

This course emphasizes applying economic concepts to contemporary issues. Throughout the semester, we will use examples from Canada and around the world to illustrate how economic theory helps explain real decisions and public policy.

- Housing affordability and rental markets
- Climate change, carbon pricing, and cap-and-trade systems
- Competition policy and market power in digital markets
- Healthcare and pharmaceutical pricing
- Food and energy prices
- Income inequality and poverty

Course Prerequisites:

None.

Course Learning Outcomes:

- By the end of this course, you 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.
- Explain how production decisions influence firms' costs.
- display a competitive firm's optimal output level given its cost structure.
- Compare pricing and output decisions across different market structures.
- 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) TBD.

The URL to purchase Achieve from the Dalhousie bookstore:

<https://bookstore.dal.ca/CourseSearch/?course%5b%5d=SUB,202710,ECON,ECON1101,03>

Course Assessment:

Pop-up quizzes (best 15)	15% of final grade	In class, every class (starting week 2)
Midterm	40% of final grade	October 24 (R) – 1hr, in person
Final Exam	45% of final grade	Scheduled by Registrar (December 7-16) - 2hrs, in person

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

How to Succeed in This Course

- Attend lectures regularly. Many concepts build directly on previous material.
- Participate in the brief in-class quizzes. They provide immediate feedback and help reinforce learning.
- Complete the weekly Achieve practice assignments, even though they are not graded.
- Attend tutorials to practice solving problems and ask questions.
- Review your notes each week rather than studying only before exams.
- Use office hours and TA office hours whenever you need clarification.
- Work through economic problems yourself before checking solutions—practice is the best preparation.

Course Offerings/ Requirements:

TA Office hours:

- Starting on the second week of classes, TAs will be available on the following days and times:
 - Monday: 4-5 pm
 - Monday: 7-8 pm
 - Friday: 10 am – 11 am
 - Friday: 11 am – 12 pm.
- You may want to attend any or all of the TA office hours offered this term.

Pop-up Quizzes:

- There will be brief in class 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 toward your grade

Assignments

- Assignments will be done on Achieve (on Brightspace) every week.
- Each assignment typically includes approximately ten practice questions.
- Assignments will be on the chapter covered the week before.
- They will not be graded. They are meant for you to practice.
- 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 4 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 the following class.
- 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 11-20), in person. Do not make travel arrangements during this period.
- If you do better on the final exam than on any of 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.
- There are no possibilities of make ups for the midterm.
- If you are sick during the final exam, a make-up date and time will be provided to you on the second week of the following term

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 22	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 7	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 5	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 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 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 aim to respond to emails within one business day.

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 8 (T)	Introduction to ECON 1101 Chapter 1: The Four Core Principles of Economics
2.	September 15	Chapter 2: Demand and Consumer Choice
3.	September 22	Chapter 3: Supply and Producer Choice
4.	September 29	Chapter 4: Equilibrium: Where Supply meets Demand Chapter 5: Elasticity (part 1)
5.	October 6	Chapter 5: Elasticity (part 2) Chapter 6: Taxes, Price Controls, and Quantity Regulations (part 1)
6.	October 13	Chapter 6: Taxes, Price Controls, and Quantity Regulations (part 2) Midterm (Chapters 1-5), (R) October 15, 1 hour, in class.
7.	October 20	Chapter 7: Welfare Economics: Evaluating Market Efficiency and Market Failure
8.	October 27	Chapter 10: Externalities and Public Goods
9.	November 3	Chapter 13: Inequality, Poverty, and Social Insurance Chapter 14: Market Structure and Degrees of Market Power (part 1)
10.	November 10	Fall Reading Week
11.	November 17	Chapter 14: Market Structure and Degrees of Market Power (part 2) Chapter 15: Entry, Exit, and Long-Run Profitability
12.	November 24	Chapter 16: Price Discrimination and Sophisticated Pricing Strategies
13.	December 1	Chapter 18: Game Theory and Strategic Choices

Note: Tuesday, December 8 - Monday classes will be held.

Exam period Submit: Final Exam (Scheduled by Registrar's Office during December 7-18)

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>