

HKUST Dept of Economics
Econ2113 L2, L5, L9
Microeconomics
Fall 2024

Prerequisite(s)

Level 3 or above in HKDSE Economics

Exclusion(s)

ECON 2103, ECON 3113, ECON 3133, SOSC 1440

Course website: <https://canvas.ust.hk>

Time and Venue:

L2: Mo 01:30PM - 02:50PM, Fr 09:00AM - 10:20AM, in LSK 1010

L5: MoWe 12:00PM - 01:20PM, in LSK G012

L9: WeFr 01:30PM - 02:50PM, in LSK 1014

Tutorial

T2: We 06:00PM - 06:50PM; LSK Room 1009

T5: Th 06:00PM - 06:50PM; LSK Room 1014

T9: Th 04:30PM - 05:20PM; Room 2503, Lift 25-26

Instructor: YU, Yan (Kelly)

E-mail: yanyu@ust.hk **Phone:** 2358-7606

Office hours: Wednesday 3:00PM-3:30PM

Office: LSK6083B

Teaching Assistant: Mok, Cindy T2 & T9; Tsui, Peter T5

E-mail: cindymok@ust.hk ; ecpeter@ust.hk

Office hours: Monday 2:30PM-3:30PM (Cindy) ; Thursday 4:00PM-5:00PM (Peter)

Office: LSK6066

Course Description:

By studying how consumers and firms make decisions, you will understand how markets allocate resource into most valued uses. You will also learn when markets don't work and what some remedies are in that case. The course emphasizes on Economic way of thinking and its applications.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (Course ILOs)

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. Understand and apply theories on markets: including the market price determination, the efficiency and fairness of market system, the conditions under which markets can perform well, and how the market will change in responding to changing environment. (SILO #1,#3)
2. Understand the framework to address the role of government and able to apply it: when and in which direction the government should intervene the markets, also how to evaluate the impact of relevant government's policies on markets.(SILO #1, #3)
3. Understand consumers' optimal decision making and apply it. (SILO #1, #3)
4. Understand firms' optimal decision making under different market structure and apply it. (SILO #1, #3)

5. Understand the economic methodology and be able to apply it. (SILO #1, #3)

Business School Intended Learning Outcomes (SILO) available at <http://undergrad.bm.ust.hk/academics/academic-programs/learning-outcomes>

Teaching Approach

This course is primarily delivered through lectures and tutorials.

Teaching and learning activities	Roles in the course	Course ILOs addressed
Lectures	Learn key concepts and models and their applications	1,2,3,4,5
Tutorials	Discuss questions related to lecture material	1,2,3,4,5

Tutorial starts in the second week.

Textbook:

Required: M. Parkin, *Microeconomics*, 14th ed, Pearson.

Assessment:

Assessment Activities	Weighting	Course ILOs assessed
Best 5 of 7 homework assignments	25%	1,2,3,4,5
1 midterm exam	0% or 25%	1,2,3,4,5
1 final exam	50% or 75%	1,2,3,4,5

Your total score is based on the higher of the two weighting schemes:

Scheme 1: 25% HW + 25% Midterm +50% Final

Scheme 2: 25% HW + 75% Final

There are also a maximum of 4 bonus points could be earned for class and tutorial attendance. You earn 0.125 bonus point for each lecture you attend, but if you attend at least 20 lectures, you receive the full 3 bonus points for lectures. You earn 0.1 bonus point for each tutorial you attend, but if you attend at least 7 tutorials, you earn the full 1 bonus points for tutorials. No leave of any kind will be counted as attendance.

A total score (after adding the bonus points) of 90 points or above guarantees A range score regardless of class average score. 80 points guarantees a B range score.

Assessment is based on detailed Topic intended learning outcomes, which will be provided at the end of each topic.

Midterm is scheduled on Oct. 28th, 2024 (Monday) 7-9pm. There is no lecture on that day.

There is no make-up for the midterm exam. In the case of a missed final (with a valid excuse), a make-up exam will be given within 24 hours of the missed final. Sick leave notice must be issued before the exam time, if any.

You will be given 7 homework assignments during the semester via Canvas. Late homework will NOT be accepted. Only best 5 of the 7 homework assignments will be counted towards your grade. Homework is not graded precisely. As long as you submitted the homework and got most of the questions correctly, you will receive the full marks for that homework. Copying of others' homework is cheating and will be reported to the school and subject to formal investigation.

Please check website for your grade of homework assignments and midterm as soon as you get them back. Any discrepancy should be reported to TA within 1 week from the date of returning your assignments and midterm. Late complaints will not be entertained.

Academic Integrity

Please read the information on academic integrity carefully and follow the instruction: <https://registry.hkust.edu.hk/resource-library/academic-honor-code-and-academic-integrity> . You should be familiar with Academic Honor Code and the content on Academic Integrity website.

Course Outline

Part I. Introduction

- Chapter 1. What is Economics
- Chapter 2. The Economic Problem

Part II. How Markets Work

- Chapter 3. Demand and Supply
- Chapter 4. Elasticity
- Chapter 5. Efficiency and Equity
- Chapter 6. Government Action in Markets
- Chapter 7. Global Markets in Action

Part III. Households' Choices

- Chapter 9. Possibilities, Preferences, and Choices

Part IV. Firms and Markets

- Chapter 11. Output and Costs
- Chapter 12. Perfect Competition
- Chapter 13. Monopoly
- Chapter 14. Monopolistic Competition
- Chapter 15. Oligopoly

Part V. Additional Topics (if time allows)

1. Matching model
2. Platform Economics

Grading Rubric:

Grades	Short Description	Elaboration on subject grading description
A	Excellent Performance	Students demonstrate a strong grasp of the course material and effective application of economic methods taught. They excel in problem sets, and perform exceptionally on exams. They exhibit exceptional analytical skills and critical thinking skills. Consistently contribute to class discussion.
B	Good Performance	Students demonstrate a solid understanding of course materials, proficient use of economic methods taught. They are competent in completing problem sets. They show commendable analytical skills and effective critical thinking. Regular participation in class discussion.
C	Satisfactory Performance	Students demonstrate an adequate understanding of course material, and can apply economic methods taught to familiar problems. They are able to complete problem sets in time. They display acceptable analytical skills and critical thinking in exams and participate in class discussion.
D	Marginal Pass	Students demonstrate basic understanding of course material, inconsistent use of economic methods taught, and marginal performance in problem sets. They show basic analytical skills and critical thinking in exams. Their participation in class discussions is inconsistent.
F	Fail	Students demonstrates insufficient understanding of the course material and lacks the necessary problem-solving skills. They display limited ability to think critically or analytically and exhibits minimal effort towards achieving learning goals. Their participation in class discussion is minimal.