

ECN 301 - Intermediate Microeconomics

M.C. Quinn

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Virtual Office: [Zoom](#)

Office Hours

Tu/Th 5-6:00 PM
or by appointment

Course Description

This course covers concepts and tools for the analysis of the behavior of consumers and firms, consumption decisions, market structures, and general equilibrium. Topics include consumer choice, market demand and equilibrium, production choice, behavior of firms in competitive markets and in markets where firms have market power.

Prerequisites

- Economics Courses: ECN 101 & (ECN 102 or ECN 203)
- Calculus Course: MAT 284, MAT 285, or MAT 295 (one of these or equivalent)

Textbook

- Hal R. Varian (2014): Intermediate Microeconomics: A Modern Approach, Ninth Edition.

Course Structure and Office Hours

This course is online and asynchronous. You will be responsible for keeping up with the lectures, assignments, and readings. To facilitate learning as much as possible, I will have office hours both in-person as well as online. I will host office hours in the Undergraduate study room in the Maxwell building and over Zoom. To get to the undergraduate study room in Maxwell, just go straight down the stairs when you enter through the main doors behind the Lincoln Statue.

- **Lectures & Notes** will be posted on Blackboard (<https://blackboard.syracuse.edu>), which follow the material covered in the textbook.
- **Office Hours** are offered in-person as well as online via [Zoom](#).

Grading

The final grade will consist of three parts:

30%	Homework	<u>Due every Friday</u>
35%	Exam I	<u>June 10th at 11 AM Eastern Standard Time</u>
35%	Exam II	<u>June 28th at 11 AM Eastern Standard Time</u>

Percentages are converted to letter grades based on the following table:

		B+	84.0 – 87.9	C+	72.0 – 75.9	D	60.0 – 63.9
A	92.0 – 100.0	B	80.0 – 83.9	C	68.0 – 71.9	F	0.0 – 59.9
A-	88.0 – 91.9	B-	76.0 – 79.9	C-	64.0 – 67.9		

Under no circumstances will the above grading policy change to your disadvantage.

Homework

- Homework will be assigned **each week** and due on **Friday 11:59PM EST**.
- Grades are assigned on a scale of 0 to 5.
- Homework submitted after the deadline will be late, and one point will be subtracted for each 24-hour period after the deadline that the homework is submitted.
- You are allowed to work together in groups, but must submit your own *individual* solution. Please refrain from copying solutions as these assignments are for practicing the material.
- Assignments should be submitted online through Blackboard. Each homework assignment has a submission section when you click on the assignment. Please provide a **legible** scan, pdf, or typed document of each page of your homework submission. If you are having trouble getting this to work, please email me for assistance.

Exams

- There will be two non-cumulative take-home exams.
- Exams will be released on Blackboard on the above posted dates and times, and you will have a set window of time to complete them.
- Requests for makeup exams will be granted for only: (i) religious holiday observances; or (ii) medical emergencies, provided that absence is advised by a health-care provider at the Health Center. You will need to submit written documentation issued by a health-care provider. Makeup exams will not be provided under any other circumstances.

Academic Integrity

Complete academic honesty is expected of all students. Any incidence of academic dishonesty, as defined by the SU Academic Integrity Policy will result in both course sanctions and formal notification of the College of Arts & Sciences. The policy defines our expectations for academic honesty and holds students accountable for the integrity of all work they submit. Syracuse University students are required to read an online summary of the University's academic integrity expectations and provide an electronic signature agreeing to abide by them twice a year during pre-term check-in on MySlice. For more information about the policy see <http://class.syr.edu/academic-integrity/policy/>.

Accommodations for Disabilities

Syracuse University values diversity and inclusion; we are committed to a climate of mutual respect and full participation. There may be aspects of the instruction or design of this course that result in barriers to your full participation in this course. I invite any student to contact me to discuss strategies and/or accommodations (academic adjustments) that may be essential to your success and to collaborate with the Center for Disability Resources (CDR) in this process.

If you would like to discuss disability-accommodations or register with CDR, please visit Center for Disability Resources. Please call (315) 443-4498 or email disabilityresources@syr.edu for more detailed information.

The CDR is responsible for coordinating disability-related academic accommodations and will work with the student to develop an access plan. Since academic accommodations may require early planning and generally are not provided retroactively, please contact CDR as soon as possible to begin this process.

Faith Tradition Observance

Syracuse University's [religious observance policy](#) recognizes the diversity of faiths represented in the campus community and protects the rights of students, faculty, and staff to observe religious holy days according to their traditions. Under the policy, students are given an opportunity to make up any examination, study, or work requirements that may be missed due to a religious observance, provided they notify their instructors no later than the academic drop deadline. For observances occurring before the drop deadline, notification is required at least two academic days in advance. Students may enter their observances in MySlice under Student Services/Enrollment/My Religious Observances/Add a Notification.

Mental Health

Mental health and overall well-being are significant predictors of academic success. As such it is essential that during your college experience you develop the skills and resources effectively to navigate stress, anxiety, depression, and other mental health concerns. There are a range of resources available at the Barnes Center (<https://ese.syr.edu/bewell/>) and I encourage you to seek out support for mental health concerns as needed. Counseling services are available 24/7, 365 days, at 315-443-8000.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment
1	5/20	Budget Constraint	Ch. 2	
	5/22	Preferences	Ch. 3	
	5/24	Utility	Ch. 4	HW 1
2	5/27	Choice	Ch. 5	
	5/29	Demand	Ch. 6	
	5/31	Slutsky Equation	Ch. 8	HW 2
3	6/3	Consumer Surplus	Ch. 14	
	6/5	Market Demand	Ch. 15	
	6/7	Equilibrium	Ch. 16	HW 3
4	6/10	Exam I		<u>Exam I</u>
	6/12	Technology	Ch. 19	
	6/14	Profit Maximization	Ch. 20	HW 4
5	6/17	Cost Minimization	Ch. 21	
	6/19	Cost Curves	Ch. 22	
	6/21	Firm Supply	Ch. 23	HW 5
6	6/24	Monopoly	Ch. 25	
	6/26	Oligopoly	Ch. 28	
	6/28	Exam II		<u>Exam II</u> & HW 6