

ECON 204 – Microeconomics
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Sabancı University
Course Syllabus

Term: Summer 2021
Instructor: Sinan Ertemel
Zoom link: <https://sabanciuniv.zoom.us/j/4319311704>
Class times: Mondays and Tuesdays 8.40 - 11.30
Recitation times: Mondays 17.40 - 19.30
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Teaching Assistants: Berna Kötehne - bernakotehne@sabanciuniv.edu and Yunus Emre Uslu - yunus.uslu@sabanciuniv.edu

Course Description: Microeconomic analysis is the study of how societies control and organize the production and distribution of goods and services. In this course, we will attempt to explain how consumers, firms, and workers interact. We will start by developing the Consumer Theory (budget constraints, preferences, choice, market demand). We will then study the Theory of Firm (productivity, cost, factor demand, supply). Toward the end of the course, we will study partial equilibrium analysis along with various market structures such as Competitive Markets, Monopoly, Monopolistic Competition and Oligopoly.

Background: The mathematical requirements of this course are not high, and topics covered under the first-year mathematics sequence (MATH 101 and 102) are more than sufficient to master the content of this course.

Textbook: Serrano, R., Feldman A.M., A Short Course in Microeconomics with Calculus, 2nd edition, 2018

For additional source, I recommend the book below:

Varian, H. Intermediate Microeconomics with Calculus; A Modern Approach, 1st edition, 2019

Rules of Conduct: Due to the ongoing pandemic, the course will be fully online. You will follow the lectures and recitations over Zoom. All the materials will be recorded and posted on SUCourse and Google Drive. All the exams will be conducted online over Zoom. Throughout the exam sessions, each student has to open a webcam, otherwise, his/her exam will be void. All the exam sessions will be recorded. You must connect to the Zoom link for the course with your official Sabancı University e-mail account, and not utilize other email accounts.

Course Requirements: The classes will be held live during the assigned class hour via Zoom. You are required to attend classes and participate in class discussions actively as it is the key ingredient for successful learning experience. There are 6 homeworks in total. You can submit your homeworks as a group with the size of 1 to 4 students. Homework questions will be solved by the Teaching Assistant in the recitation. The midterm will be held on August 3, Tuesday at 9.00. And the final will be held on August 24 at 16.00.

Assessment: There will be 6 homeworks, one midterm, and one final exam. The course grade will be calculated as follows:

Homeworks	20%
Midterm	35%
Final	45%

Class Policies: If a student misses a midterm, s/he has to have a medical report from Sabanci Medline covering the exam date. Otherwise, it will be counted as “zero”. If you miss midterm, no make-up will be given and its weight will be transferred to Final. On the other hand, if you miss Final, you will be given a Make-up Exam which will be much harder than Final. If a student misses both exams, s/he will get “NA” whatsoever.

The definition for scholastic dishonesty is given in the rules and regulations of the Sabanci University. In the case of scholastic dishonesty, no credits will be given for that particular work. Cheating during written work will result in an F for the course. All incidents of scholastic dishonesty will be reported to university for disciplinary action.

(Tentative) Course Outline:

Our course will be loosely based on the textbook. However, some new material might be added if necessary.

Part I - Theory of the Consumer

1. Introduction
2. Preferences and Utility
3. The Budget Constraint and Consumer's Optimal Choice
4. Demand Functions

Part II - Theory of the Firm

8. Theory of the Firm 1: The Single-Input Model
9. Theory of the Firm 2: The Long-Run, Multiple-Input Model

Part III - Partial Equilibrium Analysis

11. Perfectly Competitive Markets
12. Monopoly and Monopolistic Competition
13. Duopoly