



ECON2003

Microeconomic Analysis and Applications

Session 2, Special circumstances 2021

Department of Economics

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Disclaimer

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Session 2 Learning and Teaching Update

The decision has been made to conduct study online for the remainder of Session 2 for all units WITHOUT mandatory on-campus learning activities. Exams for Session 2 will also be online where possible to do so.

This is due to the extension of the lockdown orders and to provide certainty around arrangements for the remainder of Session 2. We hope to return to campus beyond Session 2 as soon as it is safe and appropriate to do so.

Some classes/teaching activities cannot be moved online and must be taught on campus. You should already know if you are in one of these classes/teaching activities and your unit convenor will provide you with more information via iLearn. If you want to confirm, see the list of [units with mandatory on-campus classes/teaching activities](#).

Visit the [MQ COVID-19 information page](#) for more detail.

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Jordi McKenzie

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By appointment (Zoom or campus)

Teaching Assistant

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Contact via Email

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

50cp at 1000 level or above including ECON111 or ECON1021

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This is an intermediate-level unit in theoretical and applied microeconomics. Topics may include: consumer choice; demand theory; welfare measurement; labour supply; intertemporal consumption; choice under uncertainty; theory of the firm; production and cost theory; profit maximisation; perfect competition; monopoly; oligopoly; game theory and general equilibrium.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

ULO1: Analyse and describe how principles of microeconomics are relevant in decision-making by economic agents.

ULO2: Critically analyse microeconomic theory in the solution of real life economic

problems.

ULO3: Demonstrate competence in communicating the knowledge, solution and interpretation of models in microeconomics.

General Assessment Information

Online quizzes

There will be four online quizzes conducted throughout the session. These will be held during teaching weeks 4, 7, 10 and 13.

The first online quiz will cover lecture material from weeks 1-3, the second online quiz will cover lecture material from weeks 4-6, the third online quiz will cover lecture materials from week 7-9, and the fourth online quiz will cover lecture materials from week 10-12.

During quiz weeks, quizzes will be released on iLearn at 9am on Monday and close at 5pm the following Sunday.

Please note that no extensions will be granted. Failure to complete any quiz will result in a zero mark for that quiz.

If students undertake a quiz off-campus, it is their responsibility to ensure the compatibility of the software they use with that of the university. Technical failures that occur when a quiz is done off-campus cannot be verified by the university and will result in a mark of zero for that quiz.

What happens if I miss a quiz due to illness or other reasons?

If you have a valid reason that prevents you from attempting an online quiz you may submit an application under the Special Consideration Policy. If your application is successful, your marks from the remaining online quizzes will be adjusted accordingly.

Individual Assignments

There will be two individual assignments to be completed during the session. The first assignment is due by 3pm on Friday 3rd of September, 2021 (Week 6) and the second assignment is due by 3pm on Friday 29th of October, 2021 (Week 12).

The assignments are to be submitted via Turnitin through iLearn. The assignments will be in the form of two written essays (1250 words each) and worth 30% of your final mark in this unit. The first assignment will be available on iLearn in week 2 and the second assignment will be available in week 8.

Please note that no extensions will be granted. Late assignments will be accepted up to 96 hours after the submission deadline. There will be a deduction of 10% of the total available marks made from the total awarded mark for each 24 hour period or part thereof that the submission is late (for example, 25 hours late means a 20% penalty).

What happens if I cannot submit the assignment due to illness or other reasons?

All students who apply for Special Consideration in relation to an assignment will be given an extension if the application is approved. Please consult the Special Considerations Policy.

Final exam

A two-hour final exam will be held during the University's exam period. The exam will cover material from all topics covered in the unit. The exam will consist of multiple-choice questions and short-answer/numerical questions.

What happens if I miss the final exam due to illness or other reasons?

All students who apply for Special Consideration for the final exam will be required to sit a supplementary examination, if the application is approved. Please note that the supplementary examination may have a different format to the original exam.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<u>Online quizzes</u>	20%	No	Weeks 4, 7, 10, 13
<u>Assignments</u>	30%	No	Weeks 6, 12
<u>Final examination online</u>	50%	No	Exam period

Online quizzes

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test

Indicative Time on Task ²: 15 hours

Due: **Weeks 4, 7, 10, 13**

Weighting: **20%**

There will be four online quizzes conducted throughout the session. 20% marks will be allocated equally to these quizzes (5% each quiz).

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse and describe how principles of microeconomics are relevant in decision-making by economic agents.
- Critically analyse microeconomic theory in the solution of real life economic problems.
- Demonstrate competence in communicating the knowledge, solution and interpretation of models in microeconomics.

Assignments

Assessment Type ¹: Essay

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **Weeks 6, 12**

Weighting: **30%**

There will be two individual assignments to be completed during the session. Each assignment will be in the form of a 1,250 word written essay and is worth 15% of your final mark in the unit.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse and describe how principles of microeconomics are relevant in decision-making by economic agents.
- Critically analyse microeconomic theory in the solution of real life economic problems.
- Demonstrate competence in communicating the knowledge, solution and interpretation of models in microeconomics.

Final examination online

Assessment Type ¹: Examination

Indicative Time on Task ²: 35 hours

Due: **Exam period**

Weighting: **50%**

A two hour open book examination, consisting of multiple choice and short answer questions, will be held during the University Examination Period.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse and describe how principles of microeconomics are relevant in decision-making by economic agents.
- Critically analyse microeconomic theory in the solution of real life economic problems.
- Demonstrate competence in communicating the knowledge, solution and interpretation of models in microeconomics.

¹ If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the [Learning Skills Unit](#) for academic skills support.

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

Prescribed textbook

Students are recommended to purchase the following textbook:

- Goolsbee, A, Levitt, S.. & Syverson, C, (2020) Microeconomics (3rd Ed.), Macmillan.

The text is available for purchase <https://www.booktopia.com.au/coop> or may be purchased as an e-book (<https://www.vitalsource.com/en-au/products/microeconomics-austan-goosbee-steve-n-v9781319136628?term=goosbee>).

The publisher also provides additional resources through 'Launchpad', an online site that includes the e-book and various other resources (practice tests, etc). If you have purchased an access code for Launchpad, you should go to the website <http://www.macmillanhighered.com/launchpad/gls2e/10291617> and enroll in the online course. Please note, this is an extra resource and it is NOT required for the unit. It is entirely optional whether or not you wish to purchase these extra resources. More information about Launchpad is provided in the introduction to the text.

Additional references (in alphabetical order)

Apart from the prescribed textbook, students may find the following resources useful.

- Frank, R.H. (2010), Microeconomics and Behavior (8th Ed), Boston: McGraw-Hill.
- Nechyba, T.J. (2011), Microeconomics: An Intuitive Approach with Calculus (1st Ed), South-Western.
- Perloff, J.M. (2016) Microeconomics (7th Ed), Pearson
- Pindyck R.S. and Rubinfeld D.L. (2017), Microeconomics (9th Ed), Pearson International Edition.
- Varian, H.R. (2014), Intermediate Microeconomics: A Modern Approach (9th Ed), New York: Norton.

For equity concerns, the library has assisted ECON2003 with placing scanned resources from a variety of resources on the library's e-Reserve website. If you are facing financial difficulties in obtaining a textbook, this could be an option for you.

Technology used and required

The unit uses the learning management system (iLearn) that can be accessed via iLearn.mq.edu.au. The lecture slides for each week's lecture will be posted on iLearn by 5pm Friday each week before the following week's lecture. The iLearn site is also used to post important notices. You should check this regularly. The iLearn web page has the facility to allow peer to peer discussion and also allows students to put questions to an Online-Tutor. The Online-Tutor will attempt to answer your questions in a timely manner.

Learning and teaching activities

This unit is taught as a mix of tutorials and lectures. The lectures are designed to provide the tools which can then be applied in tutorials.

Lectures – weekly online ECHO recordings (1.5 hours for each topic) and four live online revision lectures (1.5 hours in weeks 4, 7, 10, 13)

Lectures are intended to provide an overview of the key concepts explored in the unit. Students are expected to read the relevant chapter(s) before each lecture. ECON2003 relies heavily on independent learning where students read the relevant chapter(s), revise lecture notes and prepare answers to the tutorial questions.

Live online revision lectures will cover material from the preceding three weeks of lectures. For example, the first revision lecture in week 4 will cover material from weeks 1-3, the second revision lecture in week 7 will cover material from weeks 4-6, and so on. The revision lectures will be an interactive experience, including live quizzes and discussion of example questions relevant to the respective topics covered.

Tutorials – weekly face-to-face or online Zoom meetings (1 hour for each topic)*

Tutorials constitute a critical learning experience of this unit. In ECON2003 we emphasise peer-to-peer learning by working as a group through the exercises and learning from others. Your tutor's role is to help you understand the material. Ask your tutor for guidance on how to approach questions and problems. Brief tutorial solutions and accompanying ECHO recordings of these solutions will be posted on iLearn after completion of all classes each week.

* Subject to changes due to covid-19 (which will be highlighted on iLearn, if relevant), delivery of face-to-face tutorials will revert to online formats if necessary.

PAL, Peer Assisted Learning (1 hour for each topic)

Revision of the material from both lectures and tutorials. Details will be provided on iLearn.

Unit Schedule

Week	Lecture Topic	Reading	Assessment
1	Introduction; supply and demand revision	Ch 2, 3	
2	Consumer behaviour	Ch 4	
3	Individual and market demand	Ch 5	
4	Producer behaviour; costs	Ch 6, 7	Online quiz 1
5	Perfect competition; monopoly	Ch 8, 9	
6	Pricing strategies for firms with market power	Ch 10	Assignment 1
7	Imperfect competition	Ch 11	Online quiz 2
	Mid-session break		
8	Game theory	Ch 12	

9	Factor markets	Ch 13	
10	General equilibrium	Ch 15	Online quiz 3
11	General equilibrium (cont.); asymmetric information	Ch 15,16	
12	Public economics and externalities	Ch 17	Assignment 2
13	Revision		Online quiz 4

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies\)](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://stu>

dents.mq.edu.au/support/

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Getting help with your assignment](#)
- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

Student Enquiry Service

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Equity Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.