

## Economics 400: Advanced Microeconomics University of Washington, Autumn 2021

**Instructor:** Victoria Ziqi Hang

**Lectures:** MW 8:30-10:20 am, DEN 212 / Zoom (Join from Canvas)

**Office Hours:**

MW after class,

Th 12:30 – 1:30 pm, Join URL: <https://washington.zoom.us/j/95473689817>

**Email:** [ziqih@uw.edu](mailto:ziqih@uw.edu)

### **Course Description**

This advanced microeconomic theory course explores rigorous development of theoretical models and methods used in economics to analyze the behavior of consumers, firms, and markets. We will discuss topics including comparative statics for consumer theory, duality in production, decision-making under uncertainty, and market competition.

### **Prerequisites**

You need to have successfully completed Econ 300 and Math 126. You should be comfortable using multivariate calculus. Please reconsider this class if you are not.

### **Course Page**

<https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1477916> You are responsible for regularly checking it and staying on top of the announcements, including the readings and homework schedules.

### **Course Organization and Teaching Model:**

This is primarily a traditional lecture course, with problem sets and exams. This quarter, lectures will be offered in a “**mixed-mode model**” (a mix of in-person lectures and Zoom lectures). It might involve doing some lectures in-person, and some other lectures on Zoom. The in-person lectures will not be recorded, but the lecture notes will be made available on Canvas, while the lectures on Zoom will be recorded and made available for remote viewing. Office hours will be offered online. Assignments must be submitted via Canvas. Exams will be given in person. Students will **NOT** be able to complete the class remotely.

### **Course Textbook**

Walter Nicholson and Christopher Snyder, *Microeconomic Theory, Basic Principle and Extension (Edition 12)*, South-Western 2016.

### **Problem Sets and Tests**

These will be graded on clarity and accuracy. Please box your final answers and clearly show the steps.

5 Problem Sets			25%
Test 1	Oct. 25	in class, 8:30 – 10:00 am	20%
Test 2	Nov. 17	in class, 8:30 – 10:00 am	25%
Test 3 (Final Exam)	Dec. 8	in class, 8:30 – 10:00 am	30%

All dates except for the final exam (Test 3) are subject to revision. Please make sure to follow my updates closely.

*Problem Sets:*

They do not need to be typed but do need to be easy to read. You can choose to scan your handwritten answers and upload pdf files on Canvas.

*Tests:*

No questions during the tests. If you find any test questions unclear/confusing, make your own assumptions, and state them upfront clearly. A simple calculator would be useful. The tests are not cumulative but require understanding of the material from the previous parts of the course.

**Cell phone must be placed in your closed bag and cannot be used during a test.** If your cell phone is observed at any point during an exam, your exam will be taken away and assigned a grade of zero.

There will be no early exams or make-up exams. If you miss **one** test with a valid excuse, then the grades from your other two tests will be used to account for the missed test. If you miss **two** tests, your class grade will be 0; an incomplete grade can be given with a proper excuse provided to me *before* the tests. If you know that you are going to be away due to a university-related activity, such as participation in an away sport or debate, let me know well in advance so some arrangements can be made.

A student who receives a median grade on every assignment (problem set, test) can expect a course grade in the range of **2.8-3.1**. I reserve the right to reward students who actively participate in class, and/or show a pattern of improvement throughout the quarter.

***Course Outline:***

Chapter 3 to Chapter 11, Chapters 14 and 15.

Washington state law requires that UW develop a policy for accommodation of student absences or significant hardship due to reasons of faith or conscience, or for organized religious activities. The UW's policy, including more information about how to request an accommodation, is available at Religious Accommodations Policy

(<https://registrar.washington.edu/staffandfaculty/religious-accommodations-policy/> ).

Accommodations must be requested within the first two weeks of this course using the Religious Accommodations Request form

(<https://registrar.washington.edu/students/religious-accommodations-request/> ).

### ***Academic integrity***

Academic integrity is the cornerstone of the Department's rules for student conduct and evaluation of student learning. Students accused of academic misconduct will be referred directly to the Office of Community Standards and Student Conduct for disciplinary action pursuant to the Student Conduct Code and, if found guilty, will be subject to sanctions. Sanctions range from a disciplinary warning, to academic probation, to immediate dismissal for the Department and the University, depending on the seriousness of the misconduct. Dismissal can be, and has been, applied even for first offenses. Moreover, a grade of zero can be assigned by the instructor for the course.

Behavior that constitutes academic misconduct includes but is not limited to cheating on exams or quizzes (copying answers from others, using unauthorized materials, a student not taking their own quiz/exam, etc.), copying homework answers, plagiarism.

You may read more at <http://www.washington.edu/cssc/facultystaff/academic-misconduct/>.