

# ECON 300 E: INTERMEDIATE MICROECONOMICS

Winter 2025

---

<b>Instructor:</b>	Ram Utkarsh Das	<b>Time:</b>	T/Th 11:30 – 1:20 pm
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:ram1999@uw.edu">ram1999@uw.edu</a>	<b>Place:</b>	SMI 307

---

## Course Pages:

- <https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1786225>

As a registered student, you should be able to view the Canvas page for this course. This is the site where I will post syllabus, lecture notes, homework and answer key, practice exam, and grades. It is your responsibility to check the site regularly.

**Office Hours:** Mon/Wed 10–11 am, SAV 319F. I am also available by email, and if you want to schedule office hours at a different time or schedule a Zoom meeting, please let me know.

**Textbooks:** The textbook for this course is Bernheim and Whinston, *Microeconomics* Second Edition. Older versions are also fine. You do not need to purchase any online package.

**Objectives:** Economics 300 is the second course in the undergraduate microeconomic theory sequence. It aims to help you gain a deeper understanding of the economic behaviors of individuals and firms through the use of analytical and mathematical tools. We will learn the conceptual frameworks and foundations of the theory of microeconomics. We will also apply economic theory to analyze real-world issues, which should help you see the world through the lens of economics. The combination of both theory and application will highlight what makes economics a science. Just like college education in general, this course will not necessarily tell you what to think but how to think in order to find solutions to the problems you will encounter in the world.

**Prerequisites:** ECON 200; and either MATH 112, 124, or 134.

You must have completed an introductory microeconomics course (ECON 200). It goes without saying that you must not be surprised when you hear me use terms like demand, supply, profit, cost, monopoly, externality, public goods, without necessarily defining them. If it has been a while since you took ECON 200, keeping an introductory textbook on hand to look up terms is advised. You must have calculus proficiency at the MATH 112 level or similar. You must be comfortable with the total differential, partial derivative, product rule, chain rule, maximization, minimization, and first-order condition. It would be very helpful for you to have a calculus textbook as a reference.

**Grading Policy:** Problem Sets (20%), Midterm (35%), Final (40%), Class Participation (5%).

*Problem Sets.* There will be 7 problem sets assigned approximately every week, out of which the lowest score will be dropped when calculating final grades. You are encouraged to discuss with your peers, but each student should turn in their own submissions. Blatant plagiarism can be treated as academic misconduct. Late submissions will not be accepted.

*Exams.* There will be two in-person exams. There will be no make-up if you miss an exam without a valid reason, so please mark the dates on your own calendar.

*Class Participation.* Active participation in class is encouraged. We may randomly have some simple in-class quizzes (MCQs, fill-in-the-blanks). These will be graded on completion and not correctness.

This course will be graded on a curve, which is determined by the Department of Economics guideline. The median grade for this course will be in the 2.9-3.1 range. The curve will only help you.

**Important (tentative) Dates:**

Problem Sets due ..... every Monday night  
Midterm ..... February 6  
Final Exam ..... March 11

**Policy on Academic Conduct:**

The University takes academic integrity very seriously. Behaving with integrity is part of our responsibility to our shared learning community. If you're uncertain about if something is academic misconduct, ask me. I am willing to discuss questions you might have. Acts of academic misconduct may include but are not limited to:

- Cheating (working collaboratively on quizzes/exams and discussion submissions, sharing answers, and previewing quizzes/exams, abusive use of ChatGPT)
- Plagiarism (representing the work of others as your own without giving appropriate credit to the original author(s))
- Unauthorized collaboration (working with each other on assignments)

Concerns about these or other behaviors prohibited by the Student Conduct Code will be referred for investigation and adjudication by (include information for specific campus office). Students found to have engaged in academic misconduct will receive a **zero** on the assignment, the exam, or the course entirely, and may face additional consequences.

Cheating of any kind may result in expulsion from the University. The Department will follow University policy in case of academic misconduct. I strongly recommend that you review the Dept. of Economics policy at <https://econ.washington.edu/policy-academic-conduct>.

**Religious Accommodation Policy:**

Washington state law requires that UW develop a policy for the 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 requesting 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/>).

**Disability Accommodations Statement:**

Your experience in this class is important to me. It is the policy and practice of the University of Washington to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law. If you have already established accommodations with Disability Resources for Students (DRS), please activate your accommodations via myDRS so we can discuss how they will be implemented in this course.

If you have not yet established services through DRS but have a temporary health condition or permanent disability that requires accommodations (conditions include but are not limited to; mental health, attention-related, learning, vision, hearing, physical or health impacts), contact DRS directly to set up an Access Plan. DRS facilitates the interactive process that establishes reasonable accommodations. Contact DRS at [disability.uw.edu](http://disability.uw.edu).