

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

**Instructor:** Victoria Ziqi Hang  
**Lectures:** T/Th 1:30-3:20 pm, Zoom  
**Office Hours:** M 3:00 – 5:00 pm, Zoom  
**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/1449077>

You are responsible for regularly checking it and staying on top of announcements, including the reading and homework schedules.

### **Course Organization:**

This is primarily a traditional lecture course, with problem sets and exams.

### **Course Textbook**

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

### **Problem Sets and Tests**

5 Problem Sets			25%
Test 1	April 20	in class, 1:30 – 3:00 pm	20%
Test 2	May 11	in class, 1:30 – 3:00 pm	25%
Test 3 (Final Exam)	June 3	in class, 1:30 – 3:00 pm	30%

These will be graded on clarity and accuracy. Please box your final answers and clearly show the steps. No questions during the exam. If you find any exam questions unclear/confusing, make your own assumptions, and state them upfront clearly. A scientific calculator would be useful. The tests are not cumulative but require understanding of the material from the previous parts of the course. You will scan your answers and upload pdf files to Canvas.

Your video camera should be kept on during the tests, so please make sure that you have a stable internet connection, and your video camera is working. You must **finish uploading** your tests before 3:00 pm, late submission will be penalized by 1 point per minute. No exam will be accepted after 3:20 pm.

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 doctor's note or a proper excuse provided to me *before* the tests.

The Department of Economics at UW requires that the median grade for all undergraduate economics courses fall within the range of **2.8-3.1**. A student who receives a median grade on every exam can expect a course grade in that range. 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.

This schedule is subject to change. Please make sure to follow my updates closely.

***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/>.