



ECON 313 A01

Intermediate Microeconomics II

Winter Session: 2024 09 – CRN 11104; Unit Value 1.5; Contact hours: 3-0-0

Class schedule: TWF 10:30 – 11:30 am, Cornett A221

UVic Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge and respect the Lək̓ʷəŋən (Songhees and Esquimalt) Peoples on whose territory the university stands, and the Lək̓ʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ Peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

Instructor Name: Dr Linda Welling

Office: BEC 346

E-Mail: lwelling@uvic.ca

Office Hours: Wednesdays, 9:00 – 10:00 am in person; other times on Zoom by appointment

TA Name: Ms Janet Burlacu

Office: tba

Email: jbulacu@uvic.ca

Office Hours: tba

Course Content

Calendar entry: "Selected topics may include intertemporal choice, the organization of the firm, imperfect competition in product markets, discrimination in labour markets, basic game theory, "lemons" models, and additional topics in distribution and welfare economics not included in 203."

The calendar entry is outdated. The topics highlighted will be covered in 313 this term.

Learning Outcomes

ECON 313 is, to some extent, the second half of ECON 203. It is meant as an introduction to more modern microeconomic theory which is necessary background for many 400 level ECON courses as well as for working as an economist after graduation. There will be applications to "real world" situations throughout the course, but there is no particular field focus as there is in, for example, labour economics, international trade, economics of the family, etc.

The first part of the course assumes competitive markets and introduces general equilibrium; this is the foundation of the virtues of competitive markets. The remainder of the course looks at some reasons why an economy might not satisfy the assumptions of this theory – asymmetric information, public goods and externalities. These issues, in addition to the market structure issues covered in 203, help us understand why formulating economic policy is not a simple exercise.

Like ECON 203, ECON 313 is best learned by regular practice of problems; you will be given sample problems to work through throughout the course. Some of the concepts may be difficult to grasp; working through problems with classmates will help with this.

Course prerequisites

Minimum grade of C in [ECON203](#) - Intermediate Microeconomics I (1.5) *This is an important prerequisite: you are expected to recall much of the material in 203.*

- 1 of ECON 225 or ENGR 240
- 1 of MATH 100, MATH 102, Math 109

Repeating Courses

Be aware of the policy regarding the repeating of courses; see [University Calendar](#).

In order to request permission to attempt this course for the third time, you must follow the instructions provided under the [Repeating Courses](#) policy on the Economics website.

Failure to obtain permission will result in deregistration from the course.

Textbook

There is no required textbook for this course. The text you used for 203 (or, if you transferred from another university, the equivalent course there) will be a useful reference. Since the current 203 text at UVic is Varian's undergrad text, I will be using that as my primary reference.

Brightspace <https://bright.uvic.ca/d2l/home/356622>

Brightspace is used extensively for the course. All students are expected to be fully functional with the system. The lecture notes will be posted in *Brightspace*. Please note that the lecture notes online are only outlines of the actual lectures.

All announcements will be posted in *Brightspace*. Students are advised to check it frequently. The page will be available by September 3.

Minimum Grade Requirements

Students pursuing an Honours degree should consult the academic calendar.

A minimum grade of B- on ECON 313 is required for both ECON435 and ECON454, and for the FME in general. There is no grade requirement on ECON313 for students pursuing the BA or BSc in Economics without the finance option.

Grading Scheme

Your final grade will be based on the following 4 components:

i) Participation (10%): in-class and on-line discussions

ii) End of class reflections/problems (15%):

There will be 8-9 of them throughout the term. You will be asked in the last 10 minutes of a class to reflect on what you have learned this day by writing a written response to the question I will pose in class. If you can demonstrate a sincere effort to answer this question, you will get full marks. You need to complete 5 of these reflections to count as 15% of your course grade. If you submit fewer than 5, each submitted reflection carries a weight of 2% of the course grade.

iii) Midterm exams: there will be two midterms, held in class on October 9th and November 15th. These two midterms together will count for 30%.

The midterm with the higher mark will count for 30% of your total mark and the other will count for 0%. There will be no make up midterms, not can a missed midterm be deferred. If you miss one of the midterms, you'll be assigned a score of zero to it and hence the score of the midterm you took will carry a weight of 30%. If you miss both midterms, you should check whether you qualify for a withdrawal from the course under extenuating circumstances.

iv) Final exam: the 3-hour final will be cumulative and worth 45 % of your final mark. It will be scheduled by the registrar's office.

The final exam is the only mandatory course component, but given its weight, you cannot pass the course with a 100% score on the final alone. If you miss the final, you should check whether you qualify for a deferred exam.

Mandatory/Essential Course Components Students must take the final exam to complete the course. Failure to complete the final exam will result in a grade of "N" regardless of the cumulative percentage on the course. N is a failing grade and factors into GPA as a value of 0.

Grading Scale

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	D	F or N
90-100	85-89	80-84	77-79	73-76	70-72	65-69	60-64	50-59	0-49

Students should review the University's more detailed [summary of grading](#).

Missing Assessments

Should students encounter a situation where they miss an exam or cannot submit an assignment at its due date, they may qualify for an academic concession. Students are required to indicate the specific grounds on which they are requesting an academic concession and to provide a justification outlining the impact of the circumstances on their ability to complete course requirements. For in-course extensions, please [fill in the form and follow the instructions on the form](#) [or specify alternative means of communicating a request such as filling in a request on Brightspace]. I will not respond to informal requests of academic concessions. [Note any automatic academic concessions such as putting the

weight of a missed midterm for a legitimate reason on the final, dropping the two worst grades of quizzes etc.] In case you miss the final exam, fill in a [request for a deferral](#).

Students are advised not to make work or travel plans until after the examination timetable has been finalized. Students who wish to finalize their travel plans at an earlier date should book flights that depart after the end of the examination period. Students do not qualify for an academic concession if travel plans conflict with the examination.

Course Policies

This course adheres to the [Undergraduate Course Policies](#) of the Department of Economics that deal with the following issues:

- Academic concessions
- Academic integrity (plagiarism and cheating)
- Attendance
- Grading
- Inclusivity and diversity
- Late adds
- Late assignments
- Repeating courses
- Review of an assigned grade
- Sexualized violence prevention and response
- Students with a disability
- Term assignments and debarment from examinations
- Travel plans
- Waitlists

The following policies are explicitly included because of their importance:

Waitlist Policies

- Instructors have no discretion to admit waitlisted students or raise the cap on the course.
- Students on the waitlist should discuss with the instructor how to ensure they are not behind with coursework in the event they are admitted.
- Registered students who do not participate as specified in this outline during the first 7 calendar days from the start of the course may be dropped from the course.
- Registered students who decide not to take the course are responsible for dropping the course and are urged to do so promptly out of courtesy toward waitlisted students.
- Waitlist offers cease after the last date for adding courses irrespective of published waitlists.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity requires commitment to the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Students are expected to observe the same standards of scholarly integrity as their academic and professional counterparts. A student who is found to have engaged in unethical academic behaviour, including the practices described in the [Policy on Academic Integrity](#) in the University Calendar, is subject to penalty by the University.

Review [What is Plagiarism](#) for the definition of plagiarism. Note: Submitted work may be checked using plagiarism detection software.

Student Code of Conduct

The Humanities, Science, and Social Sciences Faculties have adopted this [Student code of conduct](#). Please, review.

University Policies

- [University Calendar - Section "Information for all students"](#)
- [Creating a respectful, inclusive and productive learning environment](#)
- [Accommodation of Religious Observance](#)
- [Student Conduct](#)
- [Non-academic Student Misconduct](#)
- [Accessibility](#)
- [Diversity / EDI](#)
- [Equity statement](#)
- [Discrimination and Harassment Policy](#)
- [Policy on Human Rights, Equity and Fairness](#) - The University is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive, supportive and safe learning and working environment for all its members.

Sexualized Violence Prevention & Response

UVic takes sexualized violence seriously, and has raised the bar for what is considered acceptable behaviour. Students are encouraged to learn more about how the university defines sexualized violence and its overall approach by visiting www.uvic.ca/svp. If you or someone you know has been impacted by sexualized violence and needs information, advice, and/or support please contact the sexualized violence resource office in Equity and Human Rights (EQHR). Contact svpcoordinator@uvic.ca.

Resources for Students

[UVic Learn Anywhere](#) - UVic Learn Anywhere is the primary learning resource for students that offers many learning workshops and resources to help students with academics and learning strategies.

[Centre for Accessible Learning](#) - Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, you are free to approach me; however, you must register with the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) (CAL) for formal arrangements to be made. The CAL staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

[Centre for Academic Communication](#) - Offers coaching on [academic integrity](#), including preventing accidental plagiarism. Provides support to students with time management, reading, writing, speaking, understanding academic expectations, and other aspects of academic communication as well as creating academic posters, blogposts, PowerPoint slides, and e-portfolios.

[Health Services](#) - University Health Services (UHS) provides a full service primary health clinic for students, and coordinates healthy student and campus initiatives.

[Support Connect](#) - a 24/7 mental health support service for students

- Toll-free (calls from North America): 1-844-773-1427
- International collect calls: 1-250-999-7621

[Counselling Services](#) - Counselling Services can help you make the most of your university experience. They offer free professional, confidential, inclusive support to currently registered UVic students.

[Indigenous Student Services](#) - Indigenous UVic students have access to many sources of support on campus. Before, during and after your time at UVic, you are encouraged to explore programs and services available to you, such as [Indigenous counselling services](#) and the [Elders in Residence](#), as well as non-academic programs that may be of interest to you.

[International Student Support](#) - The University of Victoria offers a number of resources to support international students as they pursue their studies. UVic's [International Centre for Students](#) is the primary office supporting international students on campus at the university-wide level and provides various supportive program through the [UVic Global Community Initiative](#), including a Mentorship Program and Conversation Partner Program.

For academic advising-related questions, students in the Economics Department are also encouraged to meet with the Economics Undergraduate Advisor (Brooklynn Comish-Trimble, ecadvice@uvic.ca) as well as an academic advisor in the [Academic Advising Centre](#) early in their studies to help map out a plan to declare a major and complete university program requirements. Other resources include the [Centre for Academic Communication](#) and the [Math and Stats Assistance Centre](#).

The International Student Liaison in the Economics Department is Dr. Paul Schure who can help you connect with other international and domestic students in the Department. His email address is schure@uvic.ca. Please, reach out if you are interested.

Course Experience Survey (CES)

I value your feedback on this course. Towards the end of term you will have the opportunity to complete a confidential course experience survey (CES) regarding your learning experience. The survey is vital to providing feedback to me regarding the course and my teaching, as well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future.

When it is time for you to complete the survey, you will receive an email inviting you to do so. If you do not receive an email invitation, you can go directly to the [CES log-in](#). You will use your UVic NetLink ID to access the survey, which can be completed on your laptop, tablet or mobile device. I will remind you nearer the time, but please be thinking about this important activity, especially the following three questions, during the course.

What strengths did your **instructor** demonstrate that helped you learn in this course?

Please provide specific suggestions as to how the **instructor** could have helped you learn more effectively.

Please provide specific suggestions as to how this **course** could be improved.

Course Structure

Topic	Chapter	Week(s) (Dates are approximate)	Important dates
Introduction and review of 203 basics		1-2	
General equilibrium I (GE I): consumption		3-4	
GE II: production		4-5	Midterm 1: October 9
GE III: competitive equilibrium		5-6	
Choice under uncertainty		6-7	
Asymmetric information I (AI I): moral hazard		7-8	
AI II: adverse selection		8-9	Reading break: November 12-13
Public goods		10-11	Midterm 2: November 15
Externalities		11-12	
Summary and review			Last class: Dec 4

E-mail Correspondence

Emails should be limited to critical matters, such as inability to attend class, an exam, or prolonged illness, and should include the course name and number in the subject line. Questions on course material should be asked during office hours or in class. The standard format for writing a letter must be used. This means it should begin with a salutation (e.g. Dear....), include full sentences and it must conclude with a signature that includes your **full name and V#**. Text message lingo should not be used.

Electronic Devices

In order to minimize distractions for me and the other students, please turn off or silence your phone during class. If this is a serious inconvenience for you— family or business needs, for example – please let me know.

Use of AI

I might use AI generated output as a source for discussion and evaluation. AI output may not be used by students on assignments.