



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

NEF1018 Microeconomics I, 10 credits

Mikroekonomi I, 10 högskolepoäng

Third-cycle level / Forskarnivå

Confirmation

This syllabus was confirmed by the Department of Economics on 2019-08-27, and is valid from Autumn semester 2018.

Responsible Department

Department of Economics, School of Business, Economics and Law

Entry requirements

To be eligible for the course the participant must be admitted to third cycle studies at the Department of Economics, Gothenburg University or other departments, faculties or universities.

The entry requirements also include knowledge of basic calculus and real analysis and an undergraduate-level course on advanced microeconomics.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course, the third-cycle student is expected to be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- be able to demonstrate advanced knowledge of fundamental methods and theories of microeconomics.
- understand how mathematical methods and rigorous analysis are used to formalize economic concepts and ideas.

Competence and skills

- be able to demonstrate ability to present, explain and discuss scientific topics and research issues in microeconomic theory.
- have the ability to set up and solve mathematical models describing specific economic and

social problems.

- be able to explain in non-technical terms the fundamental economic intuition associated with the standard models in microeconomic theory.

Judgement and approach

- critically be able to evaluate and judge the role played by economic assumptions of the standard models used in microeconomic analysis and how the model's predictions change when the standard assumptions are relaxed.

Course content

This is an advanced course in Microeconomics Theory that is required for the licentiate degree and doctoral degree in Economics.

This course explores fundamental topics in microeconomic theory. It focuses on consumer and producer theory, markets and general equilibrium, uncertainty, rational expectations, public economics, social choice and welfare. Central theoretical concepts and proof techniques of modern microeconomics will be discussed and applied. Students will acquire a working-knowledge of these concepts and techniques such that main branches of the contemporary literature on microeconomic theory will become accessible.

Types of instruction

The course consists of lectures and problem sets.

Language of instruction

The course is given in English.

Grades

The grade Pass (G) or Fail (U) is given in this course.

Types of assessment

The course will be examined through five homework assignments and an individual oral exam.

The homework assignments correspond to problem sets. While part of the assessment, these problem sets are primarily to improve understanding and learning. Students are strongly encouraged to work in groups. However, each student should submit their own answers to problem sets. Answers should be handed in at the start of each problem set class. The problem set teacher will go through answers and answer questions during the problem set classes.

Each student will take an individual oral exam. Note that if in the oral exam it is clear that a student does not understand a topic in which they got good results, they will be assumed to have copied the problem set answers and receive a fail for that problem set.

To attain a pass in the problem sets/exam, students must have at least 60% of the points. To

attain a high pass in the problem sets/exam, students must have at least 80% of the points.

Regarding the course final grade, to attain high pass students must receive a high pass in at least 3 out of 5 of the problem sets and a high pass in the oral exam. To achieve a pass, students must receive a pass in at least 4 out of 5 of the problem sets and at least a pass in the oral exam.

Finally, regular class attendance is a necessary condition in order to achieve a passing grade. Active participation during lectures is strongly encouraged and will be used to break ties between different grades.

A student who has failed the examination twice has the right to change examiner, if practically possible. Such request must be submitted in writing to the Deputy Head of the Department of Economics.

Course evaluation

A written anonymized course evaluation will be carried out at the end of the course. The results of the evaluation will be communicated to the students and will function as a guide for the development of the course.

Other information

Students registered for Third Cycle studies at another faculty or university must apply for admission to the course to the Deputy Head of the Department of Economics.