

Graduate Micro (1st half of 2nd semester): Syllabus

Instructor (1st half): Gerald Willmann

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Course description:

This class is the sequel to the fall semester graduate microeconomics course. The main focus during the first half of this semester will be the theory of general equilibrium. Combining the theory of the consumer and the theory of the firm, which we studied in the fall, leads us to market equilibrium in all markets. We study the relationship of such equilibria to Pareto Optimality, their existence and uniqueness, before embarking on some extensions. This class is meant to provide you with a thorough understanding of the general equilibrium approach, and to enable you to apply it in different areas of economics.

Prerequisites:

The first graduate micro class (in particular the 1st half) is a prerequisite.

Literature:

The required textbook for this class is *Microeconomic Theory* by Andreu Mas-Collel, Michael D. Whinston, and Jerry R. Green, published by Oxford University Press.

Coursework and grading:

- 2 problem sets: 10% of overall grade (5% each)
- Final exam: 40% of overall grade
- Note: this adds up to 50% for the 1st half of the semester

Logistics:

- The class meets on T 9–11 and Th 9–11 in HOGC 02.28
- There will be a weekly exercise session (time tba), starting in the 2nd week.
- You find the class website online at <http://willmann.com/~gerald/micro> where I will post all class material.

Outline:

1. General equilibrium: some examples
2. Welfare properties: fundamental theorems
3. Positive theory: existence and uniqueness
4. Extensions (as time permits)