

ECO-HC-2026: MATHEMATICAL METHODS IN ECONOMICS - II

Course Description

This course is the second part of a compulsory two-course sequence. This part is to be taught in Semester II following the first part in Semester I. The objective of this sequence is to transmit the body of basic mathematics that enables the study of economic theory at the undergraduate level, specifically the courses on microeconomic theory, macroeconomic theory, statistics and econometrics set out in this Syllabus. In this course, particular economic models are not the ends, but the means for illustrating the method of applying mathematical techniques to economic theory in general. The level of sophistication at which the material is to be taught is indicated by the contents of the prescribed textbook.

Course Outline

1. Linear algebra

Matrix: various types of matrices, vector and vector space-concept, matrix operations: addition, subtraction and multiplication; rank, norm and trace of a matrix, introduction to the concept of determinants and their properties, non-singularity of matrix, matrix inversion, solutions of simultaneous equations by using matrix inversion and Cramer's rule, simple market model and national income model

2. Functions of several real variables

Homogeneous and homothetic functions: concepts, Differentiable functions: concepts, Implicit Function Theorem and applications

3. Multi-variable optimization

Unconstrained optimization: geometric characterization, characterization using calculus and applications: price discrimination and multi-plant firm; constrained optimization with equality constraints, Lagrange multiplier, applications: consumer's equilibrium and producer's equilibrium

4. Differential equation

Meaning, first order differential equation, application to market model

5. Difference equation

First order difference equation, Cob-Web market model

Readings:

1. K. Sydsaeter and P. Hammond, *Mathematics for Economic Analysis*, Pearson Educational Asia: Delhi, 2002
2. Chiang A.C. and K. Wainwright, *Fundamental Methods of Mathematical*

Economics, McGrawHill International Edition

3. Baruah S.N., *Basic Mathematics and its Economic Applications*, MacMillan