

THIRD SEMESTER CORE

ECO-HC-3016: INTERMEDIATE MICROECONOMICS - I

Course Description

The course is designed to provide a sound training in microeconomic theory to formally analyze the behaviour of individual agents. Since students are already familiar with the quantitative techniques in the previous semesters, mathematical tools are used to facilitate understanding of the basic concepts. This course looks at the behaviour of the consumer and the producer and also covers the behaviour of a competitive firm.

Course Outline

1. Consumer Theory

Preference; utility; budget constraint; choice; demand; Slutsky equation; buying and selling; choice under risk and inter-temporal choice; revealed preference.

2. Production, Costs and Perfect Competition

Technology; isoquants; production with one and more variable inputs; returns to scale; short run and long run costs; cost curves in the short run and long run; review of perfect competition.

Readings:

1. Hal R. Varian, *Intermediate Microeconomics, a Modern Approach*, W.W. Norton and Company/Affiliated East-West Press (India), 8th edition, 2010. The workbook by Varian and Bergstrom may be used for problems.
2. C. Snyder and W. Nicholson, *Fundamentals of Microeconomics*, Cengage Learning (India), 2010.
3. B. Douglas Bernheim and Michael D. Whinston, *Microeconomics*, Tata McGraw-Hill (India), 2009.

