## Course Code: ECON 501 Course Title: Advanced Microeconomics

Course Type (GED/Core/Elective): Core Year/Level/Semester/Term: One Year Academic Sessions: 2023-24 & 2024-25

Course Teacher/Instructor: Pre-requisite (if any): None

Credit Hours: 04 Contact Hours: 60

Course Objective: This course aims at a rigorous mathematical treatment of selected advanced topics in microeconomics in order to strengthen students' knowledge about the marginal conditions that apply to individual economic agents' decision making. The undergraduate level courses in Microeconomics, although cover a great deal of the microeconomics topics, are mostly taught by way of graphical expositions. This course builds on students' knowledge of mathematical tools to explain advanced level topics in microeconomics and prepare students for reading advanced literature of economics and study at the MPhil and PhD levels as well.

**Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)**: After successful completion of the course, students will be able to understand and analyse:

- 1. consumer behavior under varying assumptions and conditions including consumer decisions in uncertain situations;
- 2. production and cost theories including pricing policy and revenue maximization;
- 3. game-theoretic approach to decision-making by firms in a competitive environment;
- 4. achieving equilibrium by decision makers in multi-market situations; and
- 5. the conditions under which economic agents' decisions lead to maximum social welfare.

#### **CLOs Mapped to PLOs**

| CLO/PLO | PLO1 | PLO2 | PLO3 | PLO4 | PLO5 | PLO6 |
|---------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| CLO1    | 3    | 3    | 3    | 3    | 3    | 3    |
| CLO2    | 3    | 3    | 3    | 3    | 3    | 3    |
| CLO3    | 3    | 3    | 3    | 3    | 3    | 3    |
| CLO4    | 3    | 3    | 3    | 3    | 3    | 3    |
| CLO5    | 3    | 3    | 3    | 3    | 3    | 3    |

#### **Course Contents**

| Topic | Content Summary                             | Teaching          | In-Class       | Contact | CLOs |
|-------|---|-------------------|----------------|---------|------|
|       |   | Strategies/Tools  | Assessment     | Hours   |      |
|       | Consumer Theory: (a) Preference based       | Strategies:       | Q&As           |         |      |
|       | theory; Axioms of preferences; Utility      | Verbal, graphical | Quizzes;       |         |      |
|       | maximization, Walrasian demand, and         | and mathematical  | Homework;      |         |      |
| 1     | indirect utility function; Expenditure      | expositions       | Assignments;   | 4       | 1, 2 |
|       | minimization, Hicksian demand, and          | Tools: Books;     | Presentations; |         |      |
|       | expenditure function; Integrability problem | Handouts;         | Tutorials      |         |      |
|       | (b) Choice based theory; Weak axiom of      | Multimedia;       |                |         |      |
|       | revealed preference; Strong axiom and the   | Online resources  |                |         |      |

|   | correspondence between choice based theory and preference based theory (c) Lancaster's model of demand.   |   |          |    |      |
|---|---|---|----------|----|------|
| 2 | Consumer Behaviour Under Uncertainty: Independence axiom and expected utility; Risk aversion; Arrow-Pratt's measurement of absolute and relative risk aversion; Applications.   | Verbal, graphical and mathematical exposition; Problems solving Tools: As above | As above | 8  | 1, 5 |
| 3 | Producer Theory: Properties of production set; Profit maximization, input demand, output supply and profit functions; Cost minimization, conditional factor demand and cost function; Duality between production and cost; Firm's behaviour under revenue maximization objective.   | As above  | As above | 8  | 2    |
| 4 | Game Theory: (a) Elements of a game;<br>Normal and extensive form of a game;<br>simultaneous and sequential games; (b) Pure<br>and mixed strategy; (c) Solution concept:<br>dominant strategy equilibrium, pure strategy<br>Nash equilibrium, mixed strategy Nash<br>equilibrium, and sub-game perfect Nash<br>equilibrium. | As above  | As above | 10 | 2, 3 |
| 5 | General Equilibrium Analysis:  (a) Partial vs general equilibrium (b) General equilibrium in pure exchange economy (c) General equilibrium in one-producer, one-consumer economy (d) General equilibrium with production (e) Existence, Uniqueness and Stability of general equilibrium.                                    | As above  | As above | 10 | 4    |
| 6 | Mathematical Programming: Review of<br>Linear Programming and Duality Analysis;<br>Non-Linear Programming: Kuhn-Tucker<br>Conditions  | As above  | As above | 8  | 4    |
| 7 | Welfare Economics: Utility possibility set and Pareto frontier; Social welfare function; Arrow's Impossibility Theorem; Theory of Second Best.  | As above  | As above | 8  | 5    |

# **Class Schedule:**

## **Lesson Plan**

| Week(s) | Topic(s) | #Classes | CLO(s) | Remarks  |
|---------|----------|----------|--------|--|
| 1 – 2   | 1        | 1 - 4    | 1, 2   |  |
| 3 – 6   | 2        | 5 – 12   | 1, 5   |  |
| 7 – 10  | 3        | 13 - 20  | 2      | <i>Class Test 1</i> : ( <b>Topics 1 - 2</b> ) 13 <sup>th</sup> Class |
| 11 – 15 | 4        | 21 - 30  | 2, 3   |  |
| 16 – 20 | 5        | 31 - 40  | 4      | Class Test 2: (Topics 3 - 4) 31st Class                              |
| 21 – 24 | 6        | 41 - 48  | 4      |  |
| 25 – 28 | 7        | 49 – 56  | 5      | Class Test 3: (Topics 5 - 6) 49th Class                              |
| 29 – 30 | 1 - 7    | 57 – 60  |        | Review   |

## **Overall Evaluation Policy:**

- a. Continuous Internal Evaluation (CIE): Marks 00
- b. Year-End Examination (YEE): Marks 100

| Bloom's Category | Marks (100) |
|------------------|-------------|
| Remember         | 20          |
| Understand       | 30          |
| Apply            | 10          |
| Analyze          | 20          |
| Evaluate         | 10          |
| Create           | 10          |

c. Grading Scheme: As in Section 19

## **Policy for Make-Up Classes:**

- Utilize the open slots in consultation with students
- Swap classes with colleagues

## Recommended References

- 1. Gravelle, H., & Rees, R. (2004). *Microeconomics* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). Pearson Education Ltd.
- 2. Henderson, J. M., & Quandt, R. E. (1980). *Microeconomic Theory: A Mathematical Approach*. McGraw Hill.
- 3. Layard, P.R.G., & Walters, A. A. (1978). Microeconomic Theory. McGraw Hill.
- 4. Mas-Colell, A., Whinston, M. D., & Green, J. R. (1995). *Microeconomic Theory*. Oxford University Press
- 5. Varian, H. R. (1992). Microeconomic Analysis (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). W. W. Norton & Company.