

COURSE SYLLABUS

Advanced Microeconomics, 10 credits

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Course Code: J2AMUL	Education Cycle: Second-cycle level
Confirmed: Mar 30, 2026	Disciplinary domain: Social sciences (75%) and Natural sciences (25%)
Valid From: Aug 31, 2026	Subject group: Economics
	Specialised in: A1N Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
	Main field of study: Economics

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

On completion of the course you will be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding

1.1 Demonstrate current, advanced, and specialised knowledge (concepts, theories, frameworks) in the course content, applying and integrating this expertise to solve complex problems.

Skills and Abilities

2.1 Formulate relevant and feasible research questions and design appropriate research frameworks in the course content.

3.2 Deliver compelling oral presentations relating to complex problems and critically discuss and defend their findings in academic and professional settings.

Judgement and Approach

4.1 Integrate ethical and sustainability considerations into the critical evaluation of organisational, market, and/or policy issues.

5.2 Appraise relevant emerging trends and technologies to formulate strategies and decisions for applying innovations in practice or in advanced problem solving.

Content

This course provides you with a rigorous and analytical understanding of modern microeconomic theory and its applications. It helps you further develop the mathematical and analytical tools needed to analyse complex economic problems and to understand how individuals, firms, and institutions make decisions. The course strengthens your ability to think formally about economic relationships and equips you with techniques required for advanced economic modelling, preparing you for applied research and data-driven analysis in policy or business contexts.

The course begins with a review of the standard models of consumer and producer theory, basic optimisation and comparative statics. You will apply these tools to model and interpret market structures, welfare outcomes, and efficiency implications. The course also explores externalities, public goods, and state intervention, showing how theory informs real-world policy design and resource allocation. Strategic interaction is examined through game theory, focusing on Nash equilibrium, market power, markets with asymmetric information and social choice. Numerical and computational methods are introduced to complement theoretical analysis and strengthen your ability to implement and interpret models in practice.

By the end of the course, you will be able to formulate and solve advanced microeconomic models, critically evaluate theoretical and empirical research, and apply analytical tools to interpret complex market

outcomes. You will also be prepared to use mathematical and computational techniques to connect theory with applied econometric and data analysis work in the wider programme.

Connection to Research

The course is closely connected to research in economics through its emphasis on formal modeling, equilibrium reasoning, and the disciplined use of simplified theoretical frameworks. The analytical approach developed in the course mirrors the way economic research - both theoretical and applied - builds insight by isolating key mechanisms, making assumptions explicit, and deriving implications in a transparent and logically consistent manner.

Familiarity with the material covered in the course is essential for applied work in economics. The models and equilibrium concepts studied form the conceptual backbone of applied fields such as applied microeconometrics, public economics, political economy, development economics and industrial organisation. In these areas, empirical analysis and policy evaluation rely critically on theoretical models to guide identification strategies, interpret empirical results, and assess counterfactual outcomes.

Connection to Practice

The course provides you with a strong foundation for practical applications of economics by training you to analyse realworld problems using clear, structured, and internally consistent economic models. Although the course is theoretical in nature, the concepts and methods you learn are essential for applied work in areas such as policy analysis, regulation, competition and market design, business strategy, and institutional evaluation.

In practice, economists do not apply theory mechanically; instead, you learn to use simplified models to clarify incentives, constraints, strategic interactions, and equilibrium effects in complex environments. By formalising economic situations, identifying relevant assumptions, and reasoning through equilibrium outcomes, you acquire tools that are directly transferable to applied settings, including the evaluation of market outcomes, policy interventions, and organisational or strategic decisions.

Connection to Ethics, Responsibility, Sustainability (ERS)

The course integrates ethics, responsibility, and sustainability directly into its core content and assessment by providing you with analytical tools to understand how individual decisions, incentives, and institutional arrangements generate outcomes with ethical and societal consequences. These perspectives are embedded in the economic models and problems you work with, through concepts such as incentives, external effects, strategic interaction, information asymmetries, and collective decision making.

Through lectures, problem sets, and written assessments, you analyse how markets and institutions perform under different assumptions and rules, and learn when decentralised decision making leads to socially desirable outcomes and when it does not. This approach allows you to assess responsibility and sustainability in settings where private incentives diverge from social objectives, where actions affect third parties or future generations, and where institutional design shapes outcomes. By engaging with these issues as part of the core analytical work of the course, you develop the ability to reason systematically about efficiency, fairness, accountability, and the trade-offs involved in policy and organisational decisions.

Type of Instruction

The course is taught on campus through a combination of lectures, workshops, and seminars. In the literature discussion seminars, you work actively with other students as part of a team, engaging in structured discussion and collaborative analysis of assigned readings.

Attendance is compulsory for the literature discussion seminars and strongly recommended for all other teaching activities, as active participation is an important part of the learning process.

Attendance is expected for scheduled on-campus sessions and may be compulsory for some sessions.

Language of instruction is English.

Entry Requirements

The applicant must hold the minimum of a Bachelor's degree (i.e, the equivalent of 180 ECTS credits at an accredited university). At least 60 ECTS must be in Economics. Also, a minimum of 15 ECTS in mathematics, statistics and/or econometrics is required. Proof of English proficiency is required.

Examination and Grades

The course is graded A, B, C, D, E, FX or F.

The ILOs are assessed through the following examination form:

Individual written exam (ILOs 1.1, 4.1.), representing 6 credits. An individual on-campus digital written examination, consisting of problem-based questions that assess your understanding and application of core microeconomic concepts and models, as well as your ability to integrate ethical and sustainability considerations into the evaluation of markets, organisations, and policies.

Literature seminars (ILOs 2.1, 3.2.), representing 2.5 credits, individually assessed. You present and discuss selected academic papers in small teams. These seminars assess your ability to discuss and defend your conclusions in an academic setting, engaging critically with both the literature and peer feedback.

Computational group assignment (ILO 5.2.), representing 1.5 credits, a written report that assesses your ability to apply numerical methods to models in situations where closed-form solutions are not available, reflecting the types of problems commonly encountered in applied economic analysis. It also evaluates your use of core concepts and theories to solve complex problems, as well as your ability to apply up-to-date computational tools and techniques in support of advanced problem-solving and decision-making.

All parts of the compulsory examination in the course must receive a passing grade before a final grade can be set. Grades are set in accordance with JIBS grading policy.

Registration of examination:

Name of the Test	Value	Grading
Individual written exam ¹	6 credits	A/B/C/D/E/FX/F
Literature seminars	2.5 credits	G/U
Computational group assignment	1.5 credits	G/U

¹Determines the final grade of the course, which is issued only when all course units have been passed.

Course Evaluation

The course evaluation is important for the continuous improvement of JIBS' courses and degree programmes. The examiner is responsible for ensuring that each course is evaluated, but as a student you are essential in this process. We rely on your input to understand how we can improve. At the outset of a course the student representatives are identified. In the middle of the course there should be an opportunity for the student representatives (or a larger group of students) to share reflections on how the course is progressing. At the end of the course, you will get a course evaluation survey to fill in. The examiner will then host a debrief meeting with the student representatives to discuss improvement opportunities, based on the course evaluation data and comments.

Other Information

As a JIBS student, you are expected to maintain strong academic integrity. You must act within the boundaries of academic rules and expectations relating to all types of teaching and examination.

Copying someone else's work is a particularly serious offence and can lead to disciplinary action. When you use someone else's work without proper citation or transparency about where it came from, you are committing plagiarism. Cutting and pasting without clearly acknowledging the original source is a textbook example of plagiarism.

You must also act responsibly when using Generative AI tools. Acting responsibly includes staying informed about the school's AI-policy, understanding what rules apply in each course, and properly declaring or disclaiming any use of generative AI. You are accountable for all content you submit, including AI-assisted material. Using AI without disclosure or beyond what is allowed in a course is a violation of academic integrity and will be subject to the same academic consequences as other forms of misconduct, which may include failing the assignment, failing the course, or further disciplinary action according to school policy.

The Jönköping University library offers online and in-person support for assisting you in identifying relevant sources, using and referencing literature, and creating texts that meet academic standards and integrity.

Other forms of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to) adding your name to a project you did not contribute to (or allowing someone to add their name), cheating during an examination, helping other students to cheat or submitting other students' work as your own, and using non-allowed electronic equipment during an examination. All such actions may result in disciplinary measures.

Course Literature

Please note that the course literature may be revised up to eight weeks before the start of the course.

Martin J. Osborne and Ariel Rubinstein, *Models in Microeconomic Theory*, Cambridge, UK: Open Book Publishers, latest edition. Available online.