

Teaching plan for B.Com (Hons) 1st year GE paper

Introductory Microeconomics

21st July to 2nd August: Exploring the subject matter of economics

Why study economics? Scope and method of economics, the economic problem, scarcity and choice, the question of what to produce, how to produce and how to distribute output, science of economics, the basic competitive model, prices, property rights and profits, incentives and information, rationing, opportunity sets, economic systems, reading and working with graphs.

3rd August to 20th August: Supply and Demand: How Markets work, Markets and Welfare
Markets and competition, determinants of individual demand/supply, demand/supply schedule and demand/supply curve, market versus individual demand/supply, shifts in demand/supply curve, demand and supply together, how prices allocate resources, elasticity and its application, controls on prices, taxes and the cost of taxation, consumer surplus, producer surplus and the efficiency of the markets.

21st August to 12th September : The Households

The consumption decision- budget constraint, consumption and income/price changes, demand for all other goods and price changes, description of preferences (representing preferences with indifference curves), properties of indifference curves, consumer's optimum choice, income and substitution effects, labour supply and saving decision - choice between leisure and consumption

13th September to 29th September: The Firm and Perfect Market Structure

Behaviour of profit maximising firms and the production process, short run costs and output decisions, costs and output in long run.

Mid Semester Break: 30th September 2017 to 6th October 2017

Classes begin: 7th October, Saturday : off day

9th October to 22nd October : Imperfect Market Structure

Monopoly and anti-trust policy, government policies towards competition, imperfect competition.

23rd October to 12th November: Input Markets

Labour and land markets- basic concepts (derived demand, productivity of an input, marginal productivity of labour, marginal revenue product), demand for labour, input demand curves, shifts in input demand curves, competitive labour markets, and labour markets and public policy.