Microeconomics I PhD

Winter 2025/26

Instructor:	Andreas Kleiner	**Time:**	Monday and Wednesday, 8:30 – 10:00
Email:	andykleiner@gmail.com	**Place:**	SR 0.017

Course Pages: https://ecampus.uni-bonn.de/

TA: Jan Napp (s29jnapp@uni-bonn.de)

Overview: This is the first semester of the two-semester microeconomics sequence for first-year doctoral students. The aim of the class is to develop a common language and develop skills in constructing and analyzing microeconomic models, and to improve our technical skills. The first part of the course will be a brief introduction to decision theory, particularly choice behavior and decision under uncertainty. The second part will cover the fundamentals of general equilibrium theory. In the final part, we will discuss topics in game theory, including strategic form games, extensive form games, repeated games, and games with incomplete information.

Office Hours: Please feel free to ask questions during the lectures or after class. I will also generally be available Mondays, 12:00 to 13:00 in my office (Niebuhrstr. 5, room 1.020). Please email in advance if you plan to stop by. You can also email Jan or me to set up an appointment with him or me outside of this time.

Readings:

- The main textbook for the course is: A. Mas-Colell, M.D. Whinston and J.R. Green, *Microeconomoic Theory*, Oxford University Press 1995 [MWG]
- For the first part, we will use: A. Rubinstein, *Lecture Notes in Microeconomic Theory*, 2024, freely accessible at Rubinstein's homepage [R]
- For the choice and general-equilibrium parts, you can also look at: D.M. Kreps, *Microeconomic Foundations I: Choice and Competitive Markets*, Princeton University Press 2013
- The treatment of games will go considerably beyond the material covered in [MWG]. It will be based mainly on Parts I-III of: M.J. Osborne and A. Rubinstein, *A Course in Game Theory*, MIT Press 1994, freely accessible at https://books.osborne.economics.utoronto.ca/ [OR]

Problem Sets: I will distribute 5 to 6 problem sets. These are an integral part of the learning experience and you should try them seriously. By turning in solutions to the problem sets, you can earn up to 5 bonus points for the final. You can work in small groups but each student must turn in their own solutions.

Midterm Exam: There will be a midterm exam on December 8 during the regular lecture time. The midterm can earn you up to three bonus points.

Final Exam: The final exam will be two hours. The bonus points will be added to the final exam scores to determine overall grades. Using your bonus points, you can improve your grade by at most 0.7.