



**NYU**

**ROBERT F. WAGNER GRADUATE  
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC SERVICE**

**Course Waiver Policy:  
CORE-GP 1018 Microeconomics**

The introductory microeconomics course is intended for students without a background in microeconomics. If you have prior microeconomics experience, you may benefit from waiving this course and taking an upper level course.

**Waiver Based on Prior Coursework**

If you have received a B+ or higher in a microeconomics course within the past 5 years, you may be eligible to waive CORE-GP 1018 through prior coursework. Please note that if you are waived, it is presumed that you are as familiar with the course concepts as someone who has satisfactorily completed this course while at Wagner. Accordingly, you may need to review basic microeconomics material before taking other Wagner courses.

To request a course waiver, submit the specific materials outlined below. Please note that all waiver requests must include the following:

- Memo describing how the course(s) you took cover all the main topics in CORE-GP 1018. Please include the following in your memo:
  - ✓ Your full name
  - ✓ Your University ID# (N#)
  - ✓ Your email address
  - ✓ Name of university
  - ✓ Name of course as listed on your transcript
  - ✓ Course number & section
  - ✓ Semester and year course was taken (If your prior coursework is over five years old, you cannot qualify for waiver consideration through coursework.)
  - ✓ Grade received in the course. (If your grade is less than a B+, you cannot qualify for waiver consideration through coursework.)
- Copies of supporting documentation
  - ✓ Complete syllabus. If syllabus from the semester and year you took the course is not available, you may attach a more recent syllabus with a note from the school/instructor explaining that the course content has not changed.

**Please note: If your coursework is over five years old and/or the grade was NOT a B+ or better, you do not qualify for a prior coursework waiver.**

To submit your course waiver request, gather the specific materials outlined in the policies above. Once you have gathered all required information, complete the CORE-GP 1018 [Course Waiver Request form](#) and attach the documentation in a single pdf document. (the form will only allow one attachment) Make sure to only submit complete waiver requests - incomplete requests cannot be processed.

If you did not submit an official transcript with the relevant course(s) to NYU Wagner Admissions, please contact Wagner Student Services for instructions.

If you have questions, you can contact Wagner Student Services at [wagner.studentservices@nyu.edu](mailto:wagner.studentservices@nyu.edu).

### **Waiver Exam**

Students who are not eligible for the prior coursework waiver described above, but wish to waive the course, must take and pass the assessment exam in order to waive CORE-GP 1018. The exam is given prior to the start of each semester and graded on a pass/fail basis.

The exam is 120 minutes long, covers standard material from an introductory microeconomics course. You should be prepared to solve quantitative problems, graph concepts, and answer essay questions. The exam does not require calculus but does require algebra.

#### **The rules of the exam are as follows:**

- Exam time: 120 minutes
- Closed book, NO notes
- Must have calculator and ruler; no other electronic devices allowed (e.g. electronic dictionary)
- Students may not use or look at a phone during the exam; phone and all personal items must be stowed during the exam
- No scrap paper allowed
- May only take exam once

Preparation for the exam: CORE-GP 1018 relies primarily on Dean Karlan and Jonathan Morduch's Microeconomics text (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, available at the NYU Professional Bookstore), although you may use any introductory text to prepare for the exam. Use the available assignment questions as a guide for the level of the exam. There is also a practice exam available on the [Course Waiver Page](#).

To RSVP for a waiver exam, complete the Waiver Exam RSVP Form on the [Course Waiver Page](#).

See the most recent [course syllabus](#) to get a sense of the content and difficulty level of CORE-GP 1018.

### **Waiving Microeconomics CORE-GP 1018:**

## Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I took a microeconomics course 4 years ago; can I just waive the course without sitting for this exam?

A: Yes, you can. But you are then responsible for being as familiar with microeconomics as if you had taken this course more recently. To be sure you are, we highly recommend that you review your microeconomics textbook and sit the exam.

Q: I did fine in a microeconomics course 3 or 4 years ago, but could use a refresher. Shouldn't I just take the course, rather than waive out?

A: No, you may be quite frustrated with the course, given your background. You probably need to review material before moving on but don't need to spend an entire semester "re-learning" concepts you already understand. You are an ideal candidate for the exam to see if some review is adequate so that you can then free up one course for electives in the future.

Q: If I am eligible for the prior coursework waiver, but I sit the exam and fail, can I still waive the course?

A: Technically, yes, but you would need to do some additional review before taking any course for which microeconomics is a prerequisite.

Q: I was an economics major as an undergraduate, more than 5 years ago. Can I waive the course?

A: Not without passing the assessment exam. Any consideration for an exception to the standing waiver policy requires passing the exam.