



Essential Mathematics for Economic Analysis

Knut Sydsæter, Peter Hammond

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Nomin Margad-Erdene says

Found it very helpful, especially when it comes to concepts, which are not always covered in lectures due to time limitations.

Paola says

This is an excellent undergraduate calculus textbook for non maths students, which manages to be rigorous while maintaining an engaging style. It assumes very little in terms of pre-requisites, and indeed the first five chapters allow students to catch up on pre-calculus material (including factoring of polynomials, equations and inequalities and functions).

It is packed with exercises, with solutions available either at the end of the book or in the student's manual, and there is also a companion website to keep you entertained with multiple choice questions divided by chapter (you will get immediate feedback for them - however these should be meant as a quick check of your comprehension, as nothing substitutes sweating through the exercises in the textbook).

If you are an instructor, there are plenty more thoughtful exercises in the instructor's manual. In terms of coverage, it is almost perfect for students in economics, as it covers static optimisation (unconstrained, constrained with both equality and inequality constraints), a bit of linear algebra and linear programming. No dynamic optimization here, as for that you will need Further Mathematics for Economic Analysis.

Be warned however: this is not a mathematical economics textbook, but a text of the maths needed for economics and the social sciences. So there are a number of economic applications (e.g. cost functions and profit functions are used in exercises, and you are shown the connection between logarithmic derivatives and elasticity), but this is not a "baby" version of e.g. Foundations of Mathematical Economics.
