

# BOSTON COLLEGE

## Department of Economics

### EC131.08: PRINCIPLES OF ECONOMICS - MICRO FALL 2000

Instructor: Tiziana Brancaccio  
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Class: MWF 1:00 - 1:50

#### 1. Course Objectives

The main objective of the course is to introduce you to the topics and tools of Microeconomic Theory. In particular we will analyze the consumer behavior and the operation of business firms.

#### 2. Requirements

The required textbook is: N. G. Mankiw  
Principles of Economics, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition  
Harcourt College Publishers

Not required but useful: N. G. Mankiw  
Study Guide to accompany Principles of Economics  
Harcourt College Publishers

Class attendance: As noted under "course requirements" in the *Boston College Catalog*, students are expected to attend class. For this course, class attendance is strongly advised as exposition will closely follow the required textbook; students who attend class will find significantly easier to understand the subject and approach the textbook. You can find class notes at <http://www2.bc.edu/~brancacc>.

Problem sets: During class, I will suggest problems and exercises for you to solve at home. They will NOT be collected or graded. You are strongly encouraged to try to solve them on your own or in group. Most of the problems will be solved and discussed in class and all students will be involved. In addition, you can practice on-line quizzes visiting the web site <http://www.harcourtcollege.com/econ/mankiw>

Exams: There will be a midterm exam on October 15 and a final exam on December 14. The midterm is 40% of the final grade, the final exam 60%. **No make up exam will be offered.** If you miss any exam (midterm or final) I require documentation from the Dean of your school to avoid a failing grade and the weight on the other exam will be increased.

Academic Integrity: Be advised that cheating on any exam will not be tolerated and will result in an automatic failing grade on the exam in question. Please refer to the page on Academic Integrity in the *BC Student Handbook*.

### **3. Course Outline**

1. Introduction (approx. 2 weeks)
2. Supply and demand I: How markets work (approx. 3 weeks)
3. Supply and demand II: Markets and welfare (approx. 2 weeks)
4. Firm behavior and the organization of industry (approx. 3 weeks)
5. The economics of labor markets (approx. 2 weeks)