

**Boston College**  
**Department of Economics**

**Principles of Microeconomics**  
**Session EC131.09**

**General Information**

**Instructor:** Pavel Nazartsev

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**Office:** Carney 33C (the desk plan is on the entrance door)

**Office hours:** Monday 10.00AM – 12.00PM or by appointment

**Session:** Monday, Wednesday, Friday 1PM

**Room:** Fulton 423

**Texts:**

**Required:** N. Gregory Mankiw, “Principles of Economics”, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. ISBN 0-03-025951-7

**Recommended:** David R. Hakes, “Study Guide for Students to Accompany Principles of Economics”.

Both books are available from Boston College Bookstore. You can also purchase it over the Internet. A very good search engine for books is [www.bookarea.com](http://www.bookarea.com) .

Harcourt College Publishers also provide a good web site for students:

[www.harcourtcollege/econ/mankiw](http://www.harcourtcollege/econ/mankiw)

**Course requirements**

**Midterm I:** October 10, 2001, class time, 50 min – 20%

**Midterm II:** November 9, 2001, class time, 50 min – 30%

**Final Exam:** Exam week, 2 hours – 50%

**NO makeup exams will be given.** Every missed exam requires proper documentation from the Dean’s office of your school.

**NO GRAPHICS CALCULATORS ARE ALLOWED ON THE EXAMS.**

Boston College sets zero tolerance policy towards cheating on exams. Any case of cheating **WILL BE REPORTED IMMEDIATELY** to the Disciplinary Committee, Office of the Dean and the Department Chair.

Three homework assignments will be handed out on September 19, October 24, November 28. You don **NOT** have to hand those in. Exactly one week from the date they were handed out there will be an in-class review session and the answers will be handed out. Though the assignments are not

compulsory, it is **strongly recommended** to solve them. Most of my exam questions will be based on the homework-type problems.

### **Course description**

- Chapter 1** Ten Principles of Economics
- Chapter 2** Thinking Like an economist
- Chapter 3** Interdependence and Gains from Trade
- Chapter 4** The Market Forces of Supply and Demand
- Chapter 5** Elasticity and Its Application
- Chapter 6** Supply, Demand and Government Policies

Midterm I covers Ch. 1-6

- Chapter 7** Consumers, Producers, and the Efficiency of the Markets
- Chapter 8** Application: The Costs of Taxation
- Chapter 9** Application: International Trade
- Chapter 13** The Costs of Production
- Chapter 14** Firms in Competitive Markets
- Chapter 15** Monopoly
- Chapter 16** Oligopoly
- Chapter 17** Monopolistic Competition

Midterm II covers Ch. 4-9, 13-17

- Chapter 18** The Markets for the Factors of Production
- Chapter 19** Earnings and Discrimination
- Chapter 20** Income Inequality and Poverty

If time permits chapters 10 –12 will be covered at the end of semester.

Well, all said above sound rather formidable, but I will try to make the course as interesting and enjoyable as possible.