

Boston College
Department of Economics

Principles of Microeconomics
Session EC131.10

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 2PM

Room: Fulton 423

Texts:

Required: N. Gregory Mankiw, “Principles of Economics”, 2nd 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 .

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

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.