

Boston College
Department of Economics

EC 131.08
Principles of Economics—Micro
Fall, 1999
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Office Hours M 2-3 W 10-11
or by appointment

Text: Samuelson, Paul A. and Nordhaus, William D. Economics 16th ed., 1998.
Some outside readings will be assigned.

Course Requirements: 2 midterm exams (25% each)
A final exam (50%) on Dec 16 at 12:30 PM
Numerous problem sets (optional but very strongly recommended)
which will be used as additional evidence for up to one notch on
your final grade (C- to C+, B- to B, etc.)

Course Organization and Expectations:

The course meets for three lectures per week, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 1:00 to 1:50. Please be on time. Problem sets will be handed out approximately every other week and you will have about a week to do each one. Problem sets will be returned to you in class at which time I will go over the answers with the class and answer any questions you have.

I expect you to read the text carefully, attend all classes, and do your own work on the problem sets. You may work together on problem sets, but everyone must turn in their own answers. You are not to simply copy the answers from someone else.

The work on your exams is to be entirely your own. Make certain that you read and understand the section on “Academic Honesty” in the undergraduate catalog and on the attached handout. I take this most seriously and will punish anyone caught “cheating” to the fullest extent.

There will be no make-up mid-term exams. If you miss an exam for good reason, you must let me know before the exam begins, talk to me or leave a voicemail message at my office phone number. You will be graded on the other midterm and the final.

<u>Topics</u>	<u>Text Assignment</u>
Introduction: Scarcity & Choice	Ch. 1 (A and B)
Central Economic Problems:	
Production Possibility Frontier	Ch. 1 (C)
Law of Diminishing Returns	Ch. 6 (pp. 104-106)
Price System	Ch. 2
Supply & Demand	Ch. 3
Elasticity of Demand	Ch. 4 (A)
Demand, Utility, and Consumer Behavior	Ch. 5
Applications of Supply & Demand	Ch. 4 (B)
Exam	
Production and Business Organization	Ch. 6
Cost and Supply	Ch. 7
Competitive Markets	Ch. 8
Monopoly and Imperfect Competition	Ch. 9
Oligopoly and Monopolistic Competition	Ch. 10
Regulation and Antitrust	Ch. 17
Marginal Productivity, Wages and Rent	Ch. 12
Wage Differentials and Discrimination	Ch. 13
Capital, Interest and Profits	Ch. 14
Exam	
Markets and the Role of Gov't	Chs. 15 and 16 (A)
Gov't Programs and Taxation	Ch. 16 (B and C)
Economics of the Environment	Ch. 18
Income Distribution, Poverty, and Welfare	Ch. 19
Free Trade, Tariffs, and Quotas	Ch. 35
Process of Economic Growth	Ch. 27
Strategies for Economic Development	Ch. 28
Other Topics...	
Final Exam	Thur. Dec 16, 12:30 PM

Academic Honesty

8.1 The College expects all students to adhere to the accepted norms of intellectual honesty in their academic work. Any form of cheating, plagiarism, or dishonesty, or collusion in another's dishonesty is a fundamental violation of these norms. It is the student's responsibility to understand and abide by these standards of academic honesty.

Cheating is the use or attempted use of unauthorized aids in any exam or other academic exercise submitted for evaluation. This includes data falsification; the fabrication of data; deceitful alteration of collected data included in a report; copying from another student's work; unauthorized cooperation in doing assignments or during an examination; the use of purchased essays or term papers, or preparatory research for such papers; submission of the same written work in more than one course without prior written approval from the instructor(s) involved; and dishonesty in requests for either extensions on papers or make-up examination. Plagiarism is the deliberate act of taking the words, ideas, data, illustrative material, or statements of someone else, without full and proper acknowledgment, and presenting them as one's own. Collusion is assisting or attempting to assist another student in an act of academic dishonesty.

As part of their scholarly development, students must learn how to work cooperatively in a community of scholars and how to make fruitful use of the work of others without violating the norms of intellectual honesty. They have a responsibility to learn the parameters of collaboration and the proper forms for quoting, summarizing, and paraphrasing. Faculty advisors and other faculty members can give additional information and instruction in this area.

When a faculty member determines that a student's work is in violation of the standards of academic integrity, it is that faculty member's responsibility to discuss the violation with the student and to impose a penalty deemed appropriate to the offense. If the faculty member determines that the offense was not the result of a misunderstanding and elects to impose a penalty greater than resubmission of the work, a letter of notification describing the incident and the penalty is to be sent to the A&S Committee on Academic Integrity (see below). Penalties may include: a grade of 0 (as opposed to F) for the work submitted, failure in the specific course component, or failure in the course.

Students who are aware of breaches in academic integrity may notify the Dean's Office or the Committee on Academic Integrity.

The Committee on Academic Integrity will review such notifications, ascertain whether the student has a previous record of such violations, solicit a written explanation from the student, determine whether additional penalties should be imposed, and notify the student of the appeals process. Students may appeal whether a breach of academic integrity has taken place and whether the penalty imposed by the faculty was appropriate; subsequently, the Committee on Academic Integrity may recommend an appropriate action to the faculty and Dean. Cases not resulting in penalties of academic probation or greater severity are not to be entered into the student's file and are not reportable to outside agencies.