

BOSTON COLLEGE
Department of Economics
Principles of Microeconomics
Course Syllabus Spring 1997

EC 131.01 & 02 MWF 2:00

Instructor: Minh T. Huynh
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Office hours: M 3 :00-5 :00

I Course Objectives

This course will examine the fundamentals of microeconomics--the study of decision making by the consumers and the firms. We will cover consumer theory, the theory of the firm, market structures, and if time permits, strategic interactions between economic agents in a simple economy. Topics to be included are the economic problem, the key players in the economy, efficiency, equity, positive and normative analyses, the circular flow of economic activities, the laws of demand and supply, market equilibrium, applications of demand and supply, consumer choice theory, firm production and various types of markets, and if time permits, game theory and general equilibrium concepts.

II. Texts

Required text: Richard W. Tresch Principles of Economics West Publishing Co., St. Paul, 1994.

StudyGuide: LyndaRush StudyguidetoaccompanyPrinciplesofEconomics West Publishing Co., St. Paul, 1994

III. Course Requirements and Policies

o In addition to the assigned reading list, there will be homework assignments (optional), a quiz (50% of your course grade) and a final exam (50% of your course grade). There will also be occasional extra-credit work as needed. The scheduled dates for the assignments, quiz, extra-credit work and final exam will be announced in class.

o There will be no make-up exams given in this course except under extraordinary circumstances. If classes are canceled on a scheduled exam date (e.g., snow emergency, etc..) the exam will be given on the next class meeting.

o Completing the homework assignments is a very good way to master the course material. Since the assignments themselves are designed to gradually increase in difficulty, it is strongly recommended that the assignments are completed within the time frame assigned for them--rather than waiting toward the end of the term or before the tests to do so. Answers to the assignments will be posted outside my office (Carney 033C) when appropriate.

o Class attendance is important for this course, as I will tend to use the lectures as supplements to--not substitute for to the text