
Required Course Packet: A bound partially complete set of course notes is available for purchase at the BC bookstore (~$11). Students are expected to bring these to class and to complete them based on the lecture slides.

Recommended Text: R. Glenn Hubbard and Anthony Patrick O’Brien, 2012, Microeconomics, 4th edition, Pearson/Prentice Hall. Notes: 1) previous editions of the book are also acceptable to use but do not necessarily coordinate with MyEconLab; 2) an e-version of the text is available for 6-months of access and can be used on-line and/or with an iPad; and 3) a “Student Value Edition” (i.e. 3-hole punched, softcover) of the text is also available. Please note: a copy of the textbook is on reserve at the library.

Purchasing Options for Software and/or Text: 1) BC bookstore (~$140): MyEconLab, e-text, and “Student Value Edition” of the text; 2) on-line: MyEconLab ($55); and 3) on-line: MyEconLab with e-text ($100). Note: for options #2 and #3, you can upgrade to the “Student Value Edition” of the text ($55).

MyDashBoard: Free smartphone app for access to announcements, upcoming assignments, etc.

Course Description: This course is designed as an introduction to the study of Economics, specifically the basic principles of microeconomics. Students will be familiarized with the tools of economic analysis and will apply such tools to current economic issues.

Course Objectives: The course objective is for students to demonstrate competence and understanding of basic business and government concepts, theories, and strategies. Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to use appropriate analytical models, techniques, and frameworks to identify problem issues and solutions.
Blackboard Vista: Blackboard will be used to post class announcements, gain access to grades, and to download/print course documents. Blackboard can be accessed at https://cms.bc.edu/ or through the Agora Portal (https://portal.bc.edu). It is your responsibility to check this system periodically and to arrive to class prepared and informed.

Class Attendance: Class attendance is strongly encouraged as it is essential to learning the material of this course. Students will choose their seat, which they will occupy for the remainder of the semester, during the second day of class. The material is analytical, theoretical, and cumulative in nature and thus it is necessary to keep up with the subject matter. Some of the material that is covered in class is not readily available in the text. Do not allow yourself to get behind. If a student misses a lecture, it is his/her responsibility to get the lecture notes from a classmate; neither the professor nor a T.A. will make the lecture notes available.

Classroom Conduct: Students are expected and required to maintain a professional and pleasant environment that facilitates learning. Any disrespectful, disruptive, or otherwise unbecoming behavior will result in a verbal warning. If such behaviors continue the student will be issued a written notice. Upon the third violation the student will be administratively dropped from the course. Students are encouraged and expected to:
1. Arrive on time and sit in chosen/assigned seat.
2. Do not leave class early (except for a legitimate/valid reason).
3. Be courteous to the professor and to their fellow peers.
4. Not talk while professor or other student is talking or during exams.
5. Silence/turn off and put away all cell phones, etc.
6. Only use laptops/tablets for taking class notes.
7. No recording/imaging devices (e.g., cameras) are ever allowed.
8. Maintain maturity and professionalism.
9. Participate in class activities and discussions.

Grading Policy: Each student’s course grade for EC131 will be determined on the basis of the student’s overall performance on the on-line homework assignments, the on-line quizzes, the in-class experiments, the midterms, and the comprehensive final exam. The on-line homework assignments count for 10 percent of the course grade. The on-line quizzes also account for 10 percent of the course grade. Five percent of the course grade will be determined by the student’s participation during the in-class experiments that will occur randomly throughout the semester. There are 3 midterm exams and 1 comprehensive final exam, each weighted equally. Subject to professor’s approval, students have two options available in calculating the remaining 75 percent of their grade.

Option #1
The student is required to take all 3 midterm exams. Each exam is worth 25 percent of the course grade. If the student is satisfied with his/her grade, the
comprehensive final exam is optional. Student will notify professor on the last
day of class as to his/her decision whether or not to take the final exam. Should
the student choose to take the comprehensive final exam, the lowest midterm
exam score will be dropped and replaced by the score received on the final exam.

**Option #2**

Should the student miss one midterm exam, he/she is required to take the
comprehensive final exam that will count 25 percent in determining the course
grade. Any missed midterms will result in a grade of zero but the lowest midterm
will be dropped in calculating the course grade.

**On-Line Homework (HW) Assignments:** Homework assignments are to be completed
weekly and on-line through MyEconLab. The homework assignments count for
10 percent of the course grade. There will be a total of 11 homework
assignments; the top 10 scores will go into the determination of the course grade.

Any unfinished/unattempted exercises will receive a grade of zero. You will
receive a total 3 attempts at answering each question correctly; you have two
opportunities to check each answer (“check answer”) before it is submitted
(“submit”). Your highest score will be recorded in the gradebook. Additionally,
there are learning aids available for the homework assignments. The homework
assignments will be made available the week of and after Tuesday’s lecture ends
(i.e. 5:00pm). The links to the weekly homework assignments will expire, and
no longer be available to view and/or complete, on Mondays at 11:59pm.

Note: the exceptions to this are for: 1) the first 3 homework assignments (i.e.
HW0, HW1, HW2) that will all be due on Mon. Sept. 23, 2013 at 11:59pm to
allow students to register for class and MyEconLab; and 2) HW10 and Quiz10
that will be due on Wed. Dec. 4, 2013 to accommodate the Thanksgiving holiday.
That being said, you are strongly encouraged to complete these assignments on a
weekly basis so that you adjust to the schedule that will be in place for the rest of
the semester. The homework assignments are designed to provide additional aid
in understanding the subject matter covered in class and as a review for the
midterm and final. The format of the homework assignments is varied—you will
see multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, graphing, numerical calculations, and short-
answer questions.

**On-Line Quizzes:** Quizzes are to be completed weekly and on-line through MyEconLab.
The quizzes count for 10 percent of the course grade. There will be a total of 10
quizzes; the top 9 scores will go into the determination of the course grade. Any
unfinished/unattempted questions will receive a grade of zero. There are no
learning aids available for the quizzes. You will have 2 opportunities to begin
each quiz but you are strongly encouraged to complete the quiz in one sitting.

Note: once a question has been answered (and “saved for later”) it cannot be
changed. You should only “submit” your quiz when you have completed it in its
entirety and have no intention of returning back to it at a later date. Only and
immediately upon completion will it be possible to review the quiz questions.
The quizzes will be made available after the prior Thursday’s lecture ends (i.e.
5:00pm). The links to the weekly quizzes will expire, and no longer be
available to view and/or complete, on Mondays at 11:59pm. Note: the exception to this is for the first 2 (i.e. Quiz1, Quiz2) quizzes that will all be due on Mon. Sept. 23, 2013 at 11:59pm to allow students to register for class and MyEconLab. That being said, you are strongly encouraged to complete these quizzes on a weekly basis so that you adjust to the schedule that will be in place for the rest of the semester. The quizzes are designed to provide additional aid in understanding the subject matter covered in class and as a review for the midterm and final. The format of the quizzes is largely multiple choice questions.

In-Class Experiments: Five percent of the course grade will be determined by the student’s participation during the in-class experiments that will occur randomly throughout the semester; students are allowed to miss one experiment without incurring a penalty. Any subsequent and unexcused absence will result in a 1.0 percentage point reduction in the course grade.

Extra Credit: Extra credit points will be awarded during the class lectures for students who correctly, appropriately, and adequately respond to questions posed by the professor. Questions posed by the professor will be awarded 0.5 percentage points of extra credit; a student can earn a maximum of 2.0 percentage points per unit.

Midterms and Final: There will be 3 midterms and a comprehensive final exam. You are expected to be present for each examination, as there will be no make-up exams. Missing an exam will result in a grade of zero. However, students will be allowed to drop the lowest of their midterm exams. Should the student miss a second exam, he/she is required to contact the professor before the scheduled day/time or immediately thereafter, subject to feasibility. The student will provide the appropriate documentation to the professor, as requested, to support the excused absence (e.g., illness) and the student will take the comprehensive final exam which will count double in the calculation of the student’s EC131 course grade.

You may not use a graphing/programmable calculator, smart phone, etc. during the exam. All mathematical problems will be simple enough to be completed by hand but you are allowed to use a basic calculator.

You are required to bring your student ID (or picture identification) to each exam. Upon completion, you will show your student ID to the professor/teaching assistant (T.A.) and sign out.

Grade Appeals: If you believe that a mistake has been made in the grading of one of the exams, you are only allowed to submit your assignment/exam to the professor at the end of the class in which the exam is returned in class. No appeals will be considered after this time. No appeals will be considered if the student was not in class on the day the exams were returned. Appeals must be submitted in written form, listing the question number and a clear explanation for the
appeal. The professor will not discuss the appeal but will consider what was written in the appeal. Appeals can result in your grade being raised or lowered.

Students’ grades will be posted on Blackboard. Students are encouraged to check Blackboard to ensure that assignments, exams, extra credit, and participation during in-class experiments are properly recorded.

Students will have one week after Midterm #1 is returned to email their designated T.A. with any updates/corrections to Unit 1 grades. The student’s designated T.A. may request to see course documents and those should be brought to class no later than one week after Midterm #1 is returned. No changes will be made to the Unit 1 grades thereafter.

Students will have one week after Midterm #2 is returned to email their designated T.A. with any updates/corrections to Unit 2 grades. The student’s designated T.A. may request to see course documents and those should be brought to class no later than one week after Midterm #2 is returned. No changes will be made to the Unit 2 grades thereafter.

Students will have one week after Midterm #3 is returned to email their designated T.A. with any updates/corrections to Unit 3 grades. The student’s designated T.A. may request to see course documents and those should be brought to class no later than one week after Midterm #3 is returned. No changes will be made to the Unit 3 grades thereafter.

Academic Integrity: Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in any form. Please see the university’s policies and procedures regarding academic integrity. http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/offices/stserv/academic/integrity.html.

Dropping the Course: Classes can be dropped/added online (UIS) until Sept. 11, 2013. The last day to drop/add or pass/fail a course in the Associate Dean’s office is Oct. 1, 2013. Official withdrawals from courses must be completed before Dec. 2, 2013.

T.A.s’ Emails:
EC131TA1@gmail.com
T.A. #1 will answer emails for students whose last names begin with letters A-F.

EC131TA2@gmail.com
T.A. #2 will answer emails for students whose last names begin with letters G-L.

EC131TA3@gmail.com
T.A. #3 will answer emails for students whose last names begin with letters M-S.

EC131TA4@gmail.com
T.A. #4 will answer emails for students whose last names begin with letters T-Z.

T.A.s’ Discussion Sections: During the first three weeks of class, students will sign up for their 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices of days/times and we will allocate students into sections accordingly. This information will be posted as soon as it is finalized. These discussion sections will begin meeting the week of Sept. 23, 2013. The 50-minute discussions sessions meet weekly and are conducted by the T.A.s. While attendance is not mandatory, it is strongly encouraged. These sessions are designed to complement the lectures and to provide additional and more personalized assistance to students.

T.A.s’ Office Hours:
Alex: Mon. 11am-1pm, Maloney 480I (cubicle)
Filippo: Mon. 2-4pm, Maloney 480H (cubicle)
Sylvia: Thurs. 3-5pm, Maloney 462I (cubicle)
Jinyoung: Fri. 10am-noon, Maloney 462A (cubicle)

Prof. Regan:
Office: Maloney 418
Phone: 617-552-2239 or 3679
Fax: 617-552-2308
email: tracy.regan@bc.edu
Office Hours: Tues. 1:45-2:30pm & Thurs. 12:30-2:30pm and by email appointment

Questions from the Syllabus: Should any of the questions posed in emails be answered by reviewing the syllabus, you will either receive a reply stating, “Please see syllabus.”

Steps to Success: Should you have any questions, concerns, etc. throughout the semester please take these steps in answering/addressing/remedying them:
1. Consult the syllabus.
2. Check your email and Blackboard for announcements, deadlines, dates, etc.
3. Complete (weekly) on-line homework assignments and quizzes.
4. Consult your class notes.
5. Ask a classmate.
6. Email your designated T.A. with content-related questions.
   a. Should your designated T.A. not be able to answer your question directly, he/she will forward your email and Prof. Regan will reply to you.
b. Prof. Regan will reply only to emails forwarded by the T.A. and individual student emails concerning a missed exam, the opportunity to schedule an appointment, etc. and not emails related to the content of the class. Such emails should be directed to the designated T.A. after consulting the syllabus, class notes, and Blackboard.

7. Attend the discussion sections. Please come equipped with questions to discuss with the class and your T.A.
8. Visit T.A.’s and professor’s office hours.
   a. Please note: you are welcome to attend any of the T.A.’s office hours, along with those of Prof. Regan.

Suggestions for Success: While the material presented will be analytical, theoretical, and cumulative in nature it is my hope that each student succeeds in class. Students who put forth the effort and work hard should succeed in class. Here are my suggestions for success:
1. Read the assigned chapter before arriving to class.
2. Attend class.
3. Take notes and be attentive during class.
4. Review notes and corresponding chapters nightly/regularly.
5. Form study groups.
6. Complete (weekly) on-line homework assignments and quizzes.
7. Ask questions.
8. Visit office hours.
9. Do not get behind.
10. Stay positive.

Special Needs and Disabilities: If you anticipate barriers related to the format or requirements of this course, please contact me as soon as possible so that we can discuss ways to ensure your full participation in the course. If you determine that disability-related accommodations are necessary, please contact Paulette Durrett, Assistant Dean for Students with Disabilities (617.552.3470, paulette.durrett@bc.edu, disabilityservices@bc.edu, http://www.bc.edu/offices/dos/disabilityservices.html) and notify me of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. We can then plan how best to coordinate your accommodations.

Student Athletes: If you are a student athlete, please provide me as soon possible with the appropriate documentation and contact information for your coaches and your travel/game schedule. I will work with the Athletic Department and your coaches to help accommodate your travel and practices.

Laptops, Cell/Smart Phones, Tablets, and other Recording/Imaging Devices: Students may use laptops and tablets only to take notes in class. Phones must be silenced or turned off. Absolutely no recording/imaging devices are allowed during the lectures, exams, office hours, etc. Refrain from surfing the web, texting, emailing, social networking, etc. Students using such (prohibited)
devices for non-class purposes will be asked to discontinue use and to speak with
the professor after class where a verbal/written warning will be issued, as per the
Classroom Conduct section above, and the images will be permanently deleted.
Your cooperation is appreciated.

**Note:** Pareto Superior changes in course policies, etc. may be made at the professor’s
discretion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Dates &amp; Times</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HW0</td>
<td>Sept. 23, 2013 (11:59pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>HW1 &amp; Quiz1</td>
<td>Sept. 23, 2013 (11:59pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HW2 &amp; Quiz2</td>
<td>Sept. 23, 2013 (11:59pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HW3 &amp; Quiz3</td>
<td>Sept. 30, 2013 (11:59pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm1</td>
<td>Oct. 3, 2013 10:30-11:45am</td>
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<tr>
<td>HW4 &amp; Quiz4</td>
<td>Oct. 14, 2013 (11:59pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>HW5 &amp; Quiz5</td>
<td>Oct. 21, 2013 (11:59pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>HW6 &amp; Quiz6</td>
<td>Oct. 28, 2013 (11:59pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>HW7 &amp; Quiz7</td>
<td>Nov. 4, 2013 (11:59pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm2</td>
<td>Nov. 5, 2013 10:30-11:45am</td>
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<tr>
<td>HW8 &amp; Quiz8</td>
<td>Nov. 18, 2013 (11:59pm)</td>
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<td>HW9 &amp; Quiz9</td>
<td>Nov. 25, 2013 (11:59pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>HW10 &amp; Quiz10</td>
<td>Dec. 4, 2013 (11:59pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm3</td>
<td>Dec. 5, 2013 10:30-11:45am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Dec. 18, 2013 9am-noon</td>
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**Note:** All exams occur where we meet for lecture. The midterms occur at the regularly
scheduled class meeting time but the day/time of the final exam is determined by the
Office of Student Services and is determined at the University-level so that there are no
conflicting final exams. Please consult:
http://www.bc.edu/offices/stserv/academic/current/exams.html#finalfall.
Tentative Course Outline* and Readings:

Unit 1
1. Introduction to Economics
   Chapters 1 and 2
2. Demand and Elasticity of Demand
   Chapters 3 and 6
3. Supply and Elasticity of Supply
   Chapters 3 and 6
4. Market Equilibrium
   Chapter 3
5. Government Policies
   Chapter 4
6. Economic Welfare
   Chapter 4

Unit 2
7. Taxes
   Chapters 4 and 18
8. Theory of the Firm
   Chapters 11 and 12
9. Perfectly Competitive Market
   Chapter 12
10. Monopoly Market
    Chapter 15

Unit 3
11. Competitive Monopoly/Monopolist Competition
    Chapter 13
12. Oligopoly and Game Theory
    Chapter 14
13. Pricing Strategies
    Chapter 16
14. Public Goods
    Chapter 5
15. Externalities
    Chapter 5

*Adjustments in the outline may be made, as necessary, depending on the actual pace of the course.