Course Syllabus

Course Information:

Principles of Microeconomics, ECON 202, Sections 4001 and 4002

Contact Information:

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Office Hours: 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon Monday, Wednesday and Thursday or by Appointment

Required Text:

Krugman in Modules 3e micro with LaunchPad: ISBN: 978-1-319-05043-6

This is the url and access code for LaunchPad for Econ 202-4001: http://www.macmillanhighered.com/launchpad/krugmanwellsmodulesmicro3/2827360

This is the url and access code for LaunchPad for Econ 202-4002: http://www.macmillanhighered.com/launchpad/krugmanwellsmodulesmicro3/2827365

Please bookmark the page to make it easy to return to. LaunchPad allows you to do the following in order to access the site and also have direct access to the etext if you do not want to purchase the hard copy.

You have three options to enroll in the course: you can purchase direct access, you can buy an access code, or you can get free 21 day access while deciding. Your registration options are explained here.

To navigate and start using LaunchPad please consult the Get Started guide and/or view this video.

If you have problems registering, purchasing, or logging in, please contact Customer Support. You can reach a representative 24 hours a day, 7 days a week:

- through the online form
- by chat

Or by phone at (800) 936-6899:
- Monday through Thursday 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m.
- Friday 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.
- Saturday 11:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Sunday 11:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.
Other readings or sources will be provided in Course Information on Blackboard

Technical Equipment and Skills:

- A computer running any of these certified or compatible operating systems.
- Access to the Internet through a high speed network connection or a broadband Internet Service Provider.
- One of the Web browsers listed in this matrix of certified or compatible browsers.
- NOTE: If you don’t have the items described above at home, you can use a computer in an on-campus lab.
- An e-mail account and the ability to send and receive e-mail and e-mail file attachments. The default e-mail account used by Blackboard is your Boise State e-mail account. You cannot change to another account in Blackboard; however, you can have mail sent to your Boise State account forwarded to another account, such as a Hotmail.com or Yahoo.com account.
- The ability to use a browser to navigate the Web, the ability to navigate among multiple open windows, and the ability to open, close, and save files and attachments.
- A Blackboard User Account. If you register for a course that uses Blackboard, a Boise State Blackboard Administrator will automatically create your account. Your username will be your BroncoWeb login ID. Your password will be your BroncoWeb password.
- Any additional requirements as requested and specified by the course instructor, such as access to Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Acrobat Reader, Real Player, or other specialized hardware or software.

Course Description:

Principles of Microeconomics (ECON 202) is one of the two-course sequence of introductory economics courses. In ECON 202 we will define economics, explore the underlying fundamentals common to all economic systems, and develop and examine a basic framework for analysis of the overall economic interactions that take place in our economy. In the first weeks of the course we will examine the problems caused by scarcity, how prices in our economy act effectively to allocate scarce resources between all participants in our economy. Building on these fundamentals, we will then explore economic decision making by the smallest of economic units, the individual, household, or firm. We will discover how these small economic units make “good” or rational economic decisions. Study will then focus on the differing market structures that operate in our economy.

Objectives:
The objective of this course is to give the student the basis to understand how firms and households respond to changes in price of goods and services, differing economic conditions, or other factors that influence behavior using the principles of supply and demand. The student, using the concepts learned, will be able to describe the cause and effect of a change in one or more economic conditions on markets, households and firms.

Upon completion of the course the student will be able to define, describe and apply the following concepts:

Opportunity Cost
Marginal Analysis
Benefit and Cost Analysis
Scarcity
Self Interest
Benefits from Voluntary Exchange
Markets and Prices
Supply and Demand
Elasticity
Competition
Comparative Advantage and Specialization

**COBE Core Curriculum Student Learning Goals and Objectives**

Students in this class will learn or practice the following COBE Core Curriculum concepts, methods, and skills:

1. Understand and apply analytical and disciplinary concepts and methods related to business and economics:
   1.3. Economics
   2.1. Communicate effectively: Write messages and documents that are clear, concise, and compelling
   2.2. Communicate effectively: Give oral presentations that use effective content, organization, and delivery

3. Solve problems, including unstructured problems, related to business and economics

4. Use effective teamwork and collaboration skills

5. Demonstrate appropriate principles of responsible business practices
Teaching Philosophy:

This is an online course. You will read selections from the textbook and other material provided to you online, participate in online discussions, take online quizzes and tests.

For the most part, you can participate in these activities on your own schedule, right up to the deadline for each activity. You may complete the online activities from wherever you choose -- from home, from work, or from a campus computer lab. However, this course will be conducted on a fixed schedule, meaning that you will be unable to work ahead and complete the course before the semester ends. Instead, I will make available portions of the course on a modular basis, right up to the end of the semester. Modules are designed to cover a span of a few days while Sections may require a week or more to complete.

The reading assignments and materials within LaunchPad will assist in your learning experience and will help you focus on the material we are discussing each week. If you have questions about what you've read, please ask them; chances are, other students will have the same questions. I've created a discussion forum specifically for your use to ask questions about assignments and readings. On most occasions, I will respond to your email questions within 24 hours. Questions over the weekend will be responded to by Monday if not an emergency.

Student Responsibilities:

You are expected to visit the course site each day; making Blackboard your home page in your Web browser which will help you to remember to visit the site. It is also expected that you will participate in all activities, including any ungraded discussions; failure to do so will place you in academic jeopardy. Failing to participate in a substantial number of activities may mean that you do not pass the course. Failure to complete Assignments (in the "Modules" area of the course site) will result in a loss of points for that assignment.

You must stay current with the class. At the very least this means that you are responsible for any assignments arising from the activity. More broadly, it means that you must somehow become knowledgeable about the content of the activity. With a few exceptions, quizzes and exams cannot be made up. You must provide me with advance notice or send me an email stating the emergency that will prevent you from taking a quiz or exam. Group Discussions will not be made up.

Grading Method and Scale:

There will be four (4) midterm exams, weekly group assignments and a final comprehensive exam in this course that will be on blackboard. The midterm exams and the final exam are proctored exams to be taken at the BSU testing center or an approved proctoring location. You will also have weekly assignments in LaunchPad to complete that have grade implications (Learning Curve, Business Cases, Student Tutorials, and Graded Homework). Your semester grade will be based upon the sum of the scores received on the exams, group assignments and assignments in LaunchPad which will total 1,075 points.
Blackboard Requirements: (750 points)
4 Midterms 100 points each = 400
15 Group Assignments 10 points each = 150
Final Exam = 200

LaunchPad Requirements: (325 points)
45 Learning Curve 2 points each = 90
13 Business Cases 5 points each = 65
14 Student Tutorials 2 points each (plus 2 assignments worth 1 point each) = 30
14 Graded Homework 10 points each = 140

Grade Total based on 1,075 points

In addition; practice homework and self-tests in LaunchPad, as well as the evaluations in blackboard will not be part of the final score but will influence your final grade based on participation in these assignments. These assignments have points assigned but only for purposes of acknowledging them as assignments and for tracking your participation level.

One important caveat: What you will see in your gradebook may not be the grade total that you have based on the above information. Blackboard counts all points and does not count assignments that are missed in determining percentages. I suggest you keep a separate count based on the above information given you concerning your grades. I will be happy to assist you if you have questions at any time during the semester about your standing in the class. Also, there are hidden points that I consider extra credit that will also add to your total points earned but not to the graded total.

Letter grades will be based upon the “Traditional” 89.1+% of the total points equals an “A”; 79.1 – 89% equals a “B”; 69.1 – 79% equals a “C”; 59.1 – 69% equals a “D”; <59% equals an “F”. All quizzes and exams, including a comprehensive final, will be on blackboard. There will be no exceptions for the times of exams and quizzes.

Group Assignment Grading Rubric:

Group assignments will be graded using the following rubric:

1. Actively participate in the group assignment and help to make sure it was submitted by the due date each week. Non participation will result in a zero for each individual who does not participate.
2. Write a high-quality response that followed all of the assignment guidelines including word count requirements and careful analysis of the subject.
3. Fully answer the questions asked.
4. Follow the conventions of professional writing in group response. Used correct syntax, grammar, and punctuation, include appropriate tone and level of formality for academic writing.

Resources for Students:
See the main Boise State web site (www.boisestate.edu) for contents regarding academic resources, library resources, administrative resources, opportunities for students, and other useful information.

Statement of Shared Values:

Boise State University upholds the following values as the foundation for a civil and nurturing environment. Campus community members and all who are part of COBE are expected to adhere to the following values.

- **Academic Excellence** – engage in our own learning and participate fully in the academic community’s pursuit of knowledge.
- **Caring** – show concern for the welfare of others.
- **Citizenship** – uphold civic virtues and duties that prescribe how we ought to behave in a self-governing community by obeying laws and policies, volunteering in the community, and staying informed on issues.
- **Fairness** – expect equality, impartiality, openness and due process by demonstrating a balanced standard of justice without reference to individual bias.
- **Respect** – treat people with dignity regardless of who they are and what they believe. A respectful person is attentive, listens well, treats others with consideration and doesn’t resort to intimidation, coercion or violence to persuade.
- **Responsibility** – take charge of our choices and actions by showing accountability and not shifting blame or taking improper credit. We will pursue excellence with diligence, perseverance, and continued improvement.
- **Trustworthiness** – demonstrate honesty in our communication and conduct while managing ourselves with integrity and reliability.

Essential Policy Information:

Revisions to the Syllabus and Schedule:

I reserve the right to modify the syllabus and schedule at any time. Revisions will be documented in an announcement on the Blackboard course site.

Disability Services:

Any student who feels that he or she may need accommodations based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss your specific needs. You will also need to contact the Disability Resource Center (208-426-1583, Administration Building, Room 114) to meet with a specialist and coordinate reasonable accommodations for any documented disability.

Accessibility of Technologies for Persons with Disabilities
The following accessibility statements are provided for the technologies required in this course, including the Blackboard learning management system.

Blackboard Accessibility Statement

[link to Blackboard Accessibility Statement]

Academic Dishonesty:

Plagiarism occurs when a person passes in another person's work as his or her own or borrows directly from another's work without documentation. It doesn't matter if the work is that of a published author, an unpublished co-worker, or another student. Plagiarism also occurs when a person passes off another person's ideas as his or her own; merely casting another writer's ideas in different words doesn't free one from the obligation to document one's source. Finally, plagiarism occurs when graphic images are borrowed without attribution.

A student who plagiarizes will be excluded from the course, will receive a final grade of F, and may be referred to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities for disciplinary action. Other penalties may include academic probation, suspension, or expulsion from school. With this in mind, keep all preliminary work you do for each assignment. For instance, you should print hard copies of each draft or make separate electronic files. Should you turn in an assignment that appears to me to have been plagiarized, you will want to be able to show evidence of your work: notes, outlines, drafts, and other such material. If you are unable to do so, then we have a serious problem.

If you have any questions about plagiarism, talk to me. You can also find further clarification in A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations; the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers; the Boise State Student Code of Conduct; the Student Conduct Program; and the Student Online Privacy Notice.

Privacy Notice:

Please take a few minutes to read the Student Online Privacy Notice, which describes in general terms your rights and responsibilities while participating in an Internet-enhanced course, and discusses such topics as e-mail, personal disclosures, data retained about students, acceptable use, online behavior, academic dishonesty, and publication and distribution of student work. [link to Privacy Notice]