

Principles of Microeconomics, Econ 202

Spring 2012

Lecture Section 006: Tu - Th 4:40 - 5:55 pm, Business Bldg Room B-105

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Office hours: By appointment

Course Philosophy: This course is designed to give the student an understanding of the principles of microeconomics. The concepts covered include, but are not limited to, opportunity costs and marginal analysis, supply and demand models, elasticity, market efficiency, basic market structures, the operation of the price system, and the role of government in cases of externalities, quotas, and price ceilings. Some applications of international trade will also be introduced.

Required Materials: The **text** for this course is Microeconomics, Second Edition by Paul Krugman and Robin Wells. **Aplia registration** is required for submitting homework assignments.

There are three different ways to purchase the textbook and **Aplia** (a *hard copy* of the text is optional):

1. You can purchase a hardcopy of the text **and** an access code to the Aplia web site at the BSU Bookstore, (*this is the most expensive option to obtain a hard copy of the text*), OR
2. You can purchase a hardcopy of the text through the **Aplia** web site (plus access code). *This is the second most expensive option.* OR
3. A digital copy of the text through the **Aplia** web site is included with the purchase of the access code. *This is the least expensive option.* Detailed instructions are at the end of this syllabus.

Also **required** is a booklet containing all power point presentations that will be offered in lecture throughout the semester. This **booklet** can be obtained *only* at the BSU Bookstore.

The online program 'Blackboard' will be used to post take home questions, homework assignments, and grades. **Please make sure that your current, preferred email address is provided on Blackboard**, as that address is the one that will be used if it becomes necessary to contact you. Blackboard can be accessed at: <http://blackboard.boisestate.edu>. Your login and password are the same as used for BroncoWeb.

You are expected to monitor Blackboard several times a week to check for new announcements.

Learning Objectives: At the successful completion of this course, each student should:

1. Understand the basic terms and principles that form the foundation of economics.
2. Be able to draw and interpret economic graphs and diagrams.
3. Understand supply and demand, how market conditions adjust to influences, and the operation of the price system.
4. Be able to view a situation from both the consumer and the producer sides.
5. Understand the differences between perfect competition, a monopoly, oligopoly, and monopolistic competition.
6. Understand many issues that are affected by public policy, such as taxes and public goods.

Attendance: Attendance in lecture is highly recommended, however roll will not be taken and 'pop' quizzes will not be given. Realize though, that since the vast majority of the information *stated* in lecture will not be *written* on the required materials, it will be to your benefit to attend class regularly.

Problem sets: **Aplia** presents chapter-specific problem sets for both practice and as graded assignments. These problem sets are interactive and reinforce the course concepts and tools that are presented in each chapter and in class. All of these problem sets will utilize the web interface of "**Aplia**". The practice sets may be done anytime, however it is recommended that they be attempted while the material is covered in class. The graded sets are assigned and due each Sunday of the semester beginning on August 28, 2011.

You can do the graded assignments and submit them any time *before* the cutoff date (see lecture sequence on next page) and from the comfort of your own home (or anywhere you have internet access). All assignments must be completed prior to the cut off time noted on **Aplia** (see lecture sequence on next page). Because **Aplia** is web driven, and the assignment times are **hard deadlines** no points will be received if you submit an assignment after the established cut off time.

The graded problem sets together total 150 points if all problems are answered correctly the first time. It is important to put in a good effort on these problem sets throughout the semester as they are a significant part of your grade. A good grade on these problem sets can make all the difference between doing well or not doing well in this course.

Exams: There will be three regular exams, each worth 100 points, plus the final, worth 140 points. Each regular exam will cover only the material presented since the last exam, but realize that many topics carry throughout the entire course. Retakes of the regular exams will be offered. You must take the exams as they are scheduled and presented on the following page. It is the student's option to take the re-take. No make-up exam (of original or retake) will be given without proof of extenuating circumstances, such as hospitalization. The highest grade of the two will be used

The final exam will be cumulative. *You must take the final exam* to obtain at least a D in the course. Students exceeding 414 total points (92%) at the time of the final exam may elect to not take the final exam with no penalty.

For those students taking the final exam: if a student's percentage score on the final exam is higher than the calculated percentage from all point sources up to that date, then only the score from the final exam will be used to calculate the final grade. In order to take advantage of this option, you must have accumulated at least 293 points (65%) going into the final exam. However, if the score on the final exam is less than the calculated percentage from all point sources up to that date, it is simply added into the total points earned for the semester to determine the grade. The final exam will not be dropped.

Additionally, take home sets of questions will be discussed and answered during the designated class periods throughout the semester (see next page) and will be worth a total of 24 extra credit points, if all 16 are returned timely throughout the semester as each chapter is covered.

Grading: The approximate grade scale for this course is: A (A+, A, A-): 100 – 90; B (B+, B, B-): 89 – 80; C (C+, C, C-): 79 – 70; D (D+, D, D-): 69 – 60; F: < 59.

Academic Honesty:

Students in this course are expected to demonstrate academic honesty in all work. This requires that you know and adhere to the Boise State University Student Code of Conduct, which can be found at http://www.boisestate.edu/osrr/scp/student_code.html

Responsibilities:

To do well in the course I suggest the following practices:

1. Read the text and do the practice problem sets before the material is covered in lecture.
2. Submit the graded problem sets regularly on **Aplia** before the deadline (see next page).
3. Attend class and submit take home problem sets as they are due throughout the semester.

Your success in this class is the most important thing to me, so let's work at it together.

Lecture Sequence – Spring 2012 (section 006) Aplia Graded Problem Set

4:40pm:

Due Date & Time Deadline – Every Sunday

January 17	Tuesday	Overview + Chapter 1
January 19	Thursday	Chapter 1 + Chapter 2 + Appendix + Aplia.....Chp 1 – Jan 22 @ 11:45pm
January 24	Tuesday	Chapter 2 + T/H questions + math + Chapter 3
January 26	Thursday	Chapter 3Chp 2 – Jan 29 @ 11:45pm
January 31	Tuesday	Chapter 3
February 2	Thursday	Chapter 3 T/H questions + Chapter 4.....Chp 3 – Feb 5 @ 11:45pm
February 7	Tuesday	Chapter 4 + T/H questions + Chapter 5
February 9	Thursday	Chapter 5 + T/H questions.....Chp 4 – Feb 12 @ 11:45pm
February 14	Tuesday	Composite review chapters 1-5

February 16 Thursday
February 19 Sunday

Test 1 covering chapters 1 – 5 (classroom, bring Laptop)
Retake of Test 1 (3:00pm, B-105, bring Laptop)..Chp 5 – Feb 19 @ 11:45pm

February 21	Tuesday	Chapter 6
February 23	Thursday	Chapter 6 + T/H questions + Chapter 7.....Chp 6 – Feb 26 @ 11:45pm
February 28	Tuesday	Chapter 7 + T/H questions
March 1	Thursday	Chapter 8Chp 7 – Mar 4 @ 11:45pm
March 6	Tuesday	Chapter 8 + T/H questions + Chapter 9
March 8	Thursday	Chapter 9 T/H quest + Chapter 10.....Chp 8 – Mar 11 @ 11:45pm
March 13	Tuesday	Chapter 10 + T/H questions + Composite review chapters 6 – 10

March 15 Thursday
March 18 Sunday

Test 2 covering chapters 6-10 (classroom, bring Laptop)
Retake of Test 2 (3:00pm, B-105, bring Laptop)....Chp 9–Mar 18@ 11:45pm

March 20	Tuesday	Chapter 12
March 22	Thursday	Chapter 12 + T/H questionsChp 10 – Mar 25 @ 11:45pm
March 26 – April 1		Spring BreakChp 12 – April 1 @ 11:45pm
April 3	Tuesday	Chapter 13
April 5	Thursday	Chapter 13 + T/H questionsChp 13 – Apr 8 @ 11:45pm
April 10	Tuesday	Chapter 14
April 12	Thursday	Chapter 14 (PC vs Mon) + T/H questions.....Chp 14 – Apr 15 @ 11:45pm
April 17	Tuesday	Chapter 15 + T/H questions
April 19	Thursday	Chapter 16 + T/H questions.....Chp 15 – Apr 22 @ 11:45pm
April 24	Tuesday	Composite review chapters 12-16

April 26 Thursday
April 29 Sunday

Test 3 covering chapters 12 – 16 (classroom, bring Laptop)
Retake of Test 3 (3:00pm, B-105, bring Laptop)..Chp 16–Apr 29@ 11:45pm

May 1	Tuesday	Chapter 17 + Chapter 18
May 3	Thursday	Chapter 17/18 + T/H questions Chapters 17 & 18 Due May 3 @ 11:45pm

May 10 Thursday Final exam (3:30am – 5:30pm, classroom, bring Laptop)

How to access your Aplia course

Principles of Microeconomics, Spring 2012

Instructor: DuWayne Hammond

Start Date: 01/15/2012

Course Key: VNSB-DJ26-4E7V

Registration

1. Connect to <http://www.aplia.com/>
2. **If you already have an account, sign in.** Go to your My Courses page, and click the *Enroll in a New Course* button.
If you don't have an account, click the *Create a New Account* button, and choose *Student Account*.
3. Enter your Course Key when prompted: **VNSB-DJ26-4E7V**. Continue to follow the on-screen instructions to access your course.

Payment

Online: Purchase access to your course (including the digital textbook) from the Aplia website.

Bookstore: Purchase access to Aplia from your bookstore. Check with the bookstore to find out what they offer for your course.

After paying, you will have the option to purchase a physical book at a discounted price. If you choose to pay later, you can use Aplia without paying until 11:59 PM on 02/04/2012.

NOTE: Make sure that you enter the correct Section Number when you are signing up with Aplia. If you are in my MWF class that begins at 9:40am, you are in Section 004. If you are in my Tu/Th class that begins at 4:40pm, you are in Section 006. If you are in my MWF class that begins at 11:40am, you are in Section 002.

Aplia Help Line Number is 1-888-858-2820

My email address is: duwaynehammond@boisestate.edu