Syllabus and Schedule: Econ 303 Intermediate Microeconomics
Boise State University College of Business and Economics
Fall 2017

**PART I. Course Information & Requirements**

**Course Description**
This will be an applied course in which the tools we learn are applied to understand the decisions that people make in their everyday lives as well as those in business, politics, and global affairs. In this course, we extend and deepen the understanding of microeconomics that you acquired in the principles courses. Many of the topics that we cover were introduced in the principles course - demand and supply, decision-making at the level of individual consumers and firms, the interactions of consumers and firms in markets, different types of market structures, and public policy. We will look more closely at each of these topics and add a few more. Throughout the course, we will aim at developing an understanding of some of the basic models that economists use and how to use those models to analyze real world decisions and policy issues.

**Instructor Information**
Professor: Geoffrey Black, PhD
Office: MBEB 3252
Phone: (208) 426-1359
E-Mail: gblack@boisestate.edu

**Prerequisites**
Admission to COBE or B.A. Economics major or Economics minor, ECON 202, and MATH 160 or equivalent. The material in this course assumes a good grasp of the skills and economic concepts from ECON 202 and will quickly deepen and broaden this knowledge. MATH 160 is a prerequisite for this class and **good knowledge of calculus as well as basic literacy in mathematics** (e.g. solving equations, interpreting data, calculating slopes, and understanding the meaning of slope, etc.) is essential for success.

**Course Objectives**
The objective of this course is to provide an understanding of how separate and varied economic entities such as consumers and producers influence and fit together into the overall economic system. After finishing the course, the successful student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate understanding of how consumers make optimal choices under income and price constraints.
2. Understand the price mechanism and its role in resource allocation, output composition, and income distribution.
3. Apply price theory in the analysis of social problems, policy-making and managerial decisions.
(4) Explain the production and costs dimensions of firms.
(5) Describe the pricing and output decisions of firms in competitive, monopolistic, and oligopolistic market structures.
(6) Understand and evaluate the role that market structure plays in allocating scare resources between market participants and in determining market price.
(7) Evaluate the economic performance of various market structures.
(8) Understand and apply game theory and strategic decision-making under uncertainty.

Boise State University Learning Outcomes
The Foundational Studies Program is organized around eleven University Learning Outcomes (ULO’s), which every Boise State University graduate is expected to have met, regardless of major or baccalaureate degree. These outcomes guide the development of the courses that students take throughout the undergraduate degree. Please review the Boise State University Learning Outcomes by clicking on the following link: http://academics.boisestate.edu/fsp/university-learning-outcomes/ The University Learning Outcomes (ULO) developed in this course include:
U3. Engage in effective critical inquiry by defining problems, gathering and evaluating evidence, and determining the adequacy of argumentative discourse
U7. Apply knowledge and the methods of reasoning characteristic of mathematics, statistics, and other formal systems to solve complex problems
U11. Apply knowledge and the methods of inquiry characteristic of the social sciences to explain and evaluate human behavior and institutions.

Required Materials:
- Course Textbook
  Intermediate Microeconomics by Robert Pindyk and Daniel Rubinfeld, 9th edition, 2018 (Pearson Education, Inc.) with access to MyEconLab. There are several options available for purchasing the required text and MyEconLab. The campus bookstore has the text with MyEconLab access. You can also get it online at a variety of places – including MyPearsonStore (at the following link: http://www.mypearsonstore.com/bookstore/microeconomics-plus-myeconlab-with-pearson-etext-access-0134674553). If you buy it from a source other than the campus bookstore, make sure that you get the access code for MyEconLab. I encourage you to purchase your own copy (new or used) so that you can have access to the book whenever you need it. If you do not have your textbook yet, MyEconLab offers a limited time trial registration (with an e-text) and I recommend that you sign up for that ASAP.

- MyEconLab
  The Blackboard site for the course will provide links to other readings and resources. An important element for the course will be the assignments found in the online resource that accompanies the text: MyEconLab. For each module, there will be assignments in MyEconLab. To sign up for MyEconLab, please follow these steps:
  1. Sign into the Blackboard Course site.
  2. Select MyEconLab in the blue navigation area on the left side of the screen. Then, select MyEconLab Course Home.
  3. Go to Get Access to Your Pearson Course Content
  4. Accept the End-User License Agreement and Privacy Policy
     If you previously linked your Blackboard and Pearson accounts, you go directly to the Pearson payment page. Skip to step 6
  5. To link your Blackboard and Pearson accounts, do one of the following:
     • If you already have a Pearson account, enter your username and password
• If you do not have a Pearson account, select Create and follow the prompts to create a new account.

6. To get access to your Pearson course, do one of the following:
   • Select Access Code, enter your access code, and select Finish.
   • Under Use a Credit Card or PayPal, select the button with the applicable price and enter your payment information.
   • Get temporary access without payment for 14 days. (You can pay for full access sometime prior to the expiration of your temporary access)

7. When the registration is complete, the You’re Done page appears and you get a confirmation email. You can close the You’re Done page and return to your Blackboard course. From now on, when you select any of the MyEconLab links in your Blackboard course, your MyLab & Mastering course immediately opens in a new tab.

Testing Requirements
The exams for this class must be proctored. For students taking at least one other class on the BSU Boise campus, the exams must be taken at the BSU Online Testing Center (OTC). Other approved proctored testing centers in the area are at the testing centers administered by the College of Southern Idaho (note: we will not be using the testing centers administered by the College of Western Idaho). There are other options if you live out of the southern Idaho area. Please see the folder named ‘Options for Taking Exams’ under ‘Course Information’ in the Blackboard course site for important information about taking exams for this course.

Technology Resources/Requirements
You must have the requisite computer resources and skills to take this course. Below is a list of the most important:

1. You must have access to a reliable computer with a working audio system (sound card, speakers, headphones). You must also have reliable internet access. Note: You should have at least one reliable backup plan (access to another computer and internet access. Such a backup plan might be a computer lab, library, or similar resource. Preparing and submitting assignments well before their specified deadline is strongly recommended in case you need to access your backup plan. You should be aware that some internet service providers may disconnect your internet access due to a period of inactivity. If this is the case, make sure that you have some data transfer periodically (using a different browser window) while you are taking an online quiz or completing other online assignments. Important: computer or internet access failure is not an excuse for missed deadlines and assignments.

2. You must be able to send and receive emails and email file attachments using your BSU email account. This account must be the email account specified for the Blackboard course site. Email will only be sent to your BSU email account and will only be received from this account.

3. Browser – your browser must be up-to-date and be compatible with the requirements for Blackboard and MyEconLab. (Note: there are issues with Firefox that often impede Blackboard functionality). You must also have or be able to install the free Adobe Acrobat Reader at www.adobe.com

4. You must be comfortable with internet navigation and conducting online searches using the Albertson Library resources, Google, and other search tools.

5. You must be comfortable completing online forms in order to submit assignments and quizzes.

6. You must be comfortable with downloading and installing plug-ins as needed.

Blackboard
For students new to Blackboard, please follow this link:
https://oit.boisestate.edu/learning/learning-technologies/blackboard-learn/student-help/

Faculty Initiated Withdrawal for Non-Participation During the First Week of the Course
Boise State University values course participation enough that non-participation during the first week can lead to a faculty-initiated drop. To demonstrate that you are actively participating in the course during the
first week, you **must complete the Syllabus Quiz no later than 11:59 p.m. Mountain time on the 7th day of the course (August 27)**. The consequence for failing to complete the quiz during the first week is that you will be administratively dropped from the class. The Syllabus Quiz is found in Module 00: Getting Started.

**Course Modules**
The course is organized into 16 modules. Each module consists of an overview, reading assignments, online lectures, MyEconLab Homework (optional) and Quizzes. Most Modules will also have a Discussion Assignment. The assessments that are due are listed in the folder description for each Module.

**Course Activities and Assessments**
The assessments that you will complete include the following:

- **Syllabus Quiz.** This is a short quiz (within Blackboard) to test whether you have read and understood this syllabus. It must be completed by the 7th day of the course (due 11:59 pm August 27).

- **Chapter 01 Preview Quiz.** This is a short quiz (within Blackboard) that you should take after following the suggestions in the Reading Preview guidelines in Module 01.

- **Econ 303 Prerequisite Test.** This is a multiple choice test that all 303 students in all Econ 303 classes are required to pass. The test covers prerequisite materials including concepts such as demand, supply, equilibrium conditions, and elasticity from Principles of Microeconomics as well as some calculus.

- **MyEconLab Quizzes.** Each module has several quizzes that you will take at the MyEconLab (MEL) course site, as described above. The quizzes range from 5 – 15 multiple-choice questions each and each worth one point in the MEL gradebook. At the end of the course, the quiz points in the MEL gradebook will be weighted so that they total 50 points, their value as given below, and posted in the Blackboard gradebook.

- **Three online midterm exams.** Exams will be posted on Blackboard and available to take at one of BSU’s online testing centers (at the BSU Boise campus as well as the CSI testing center and the testing centers in Gooding, Hailey, and Burley). The exams will be available on the dates specified in the Course Schedule (below). Each of these exams will

- **Cumulative final exam.** This exam will be given during finals week and will cover a comprehensive look at the major concepts from throughout the course. This exam will contain a mix of short answer questions and multiple-choice questions. The short answer questions will be graded on the basis of course concepts as well as the effectiveness of your writing (ULO1), your ability to apply knowledge of cultural differences to matters of international economic importance (ULO6), and your ability to evaluate human behavior and institutions (ULO11).

As described above, all of the exams for this class must be proctored. **For students taking at least one other class on the BSU Boise campus, the exams must be taken at the BSU Online Testing Center (OTC).** Other approved proctored testing centers in the area are at the testing centers administered by the College of Southern Idaho. Students may also take online exams through ProctorU. Please see the folder named ‘Options for Taking Exams’ under ‘Course Information’ in the Blackboard course site. This has vital information about all options for taking exams!
- **Discussion Board Participation Assessment.** For most weeks, you will be asked to respond to a discussion question based on the readings, lecture, or an article or video provided. For each discussion assignment, you should make an initial post in your group’s discussion board before **Wednesday, 11:59 pm.** You should then check your group’s discussion board and reply to at least **two** other postings by members of your Discussion Board group by **Saturday at 11:59 pm.** You have already been randomly assigned to a discussion board group.

**Please note:** The discussion board assignments constitute a major part of your overall grade, so please take them seriously. These are not just opportunities for you to express your opinion, but rather opportunities for you to demonstrate that you have **read and thought about the materials and content** that relate to the discussion topic. You will be able to earn up to ten points for each Discussion Board assignment based on the following rubric:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Postings:</th>
<th>0 – 4 points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial post by Wednesday deadline</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Two or more reply posts by Friday deadline</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content:</th>
<th>0 – 3 points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fully answered all questions with good content and supporting material</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Analysis:</th>
<th>0 – 3 points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provided thoughtful postings that showed careful consideration and analysis.</td>
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</table>

**Course Grades**

Your course grade will be based on the points indicated for the following assessments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MyEconLab Quizzes</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation (Bb Discussion Groups)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syllabus Quiz</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 01 Preview Quiz</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Econ 303 Prerequisite Test</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>420</strong></td>
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**Grading Policies**

All assessments (exams, quizzes, discussion board postings, and short analyses) must be submitted by the assigned due dates and times. **Late assignments and assessments will not be accepted.** Please note this at the beginning of the semester and refrain from asking for extensions, exceptions, etc.
### Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>97-100%</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>78-79</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93-96</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>75-77</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>70-74</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88-89</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>68-69</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83-87</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>63-67</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-82</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>60-62</td>
<td>D-</td>
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<tr>
<td>&lt;60</td>
<td>F</td>
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### Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| 01   | Module 00: Getting Started | - Read the Syllabus, MyEconLab (MEL) registration document, and related course materials.  
- Complete the Syllabus Quiz  
- Complete MEL HW 00-1  
- Complete MEL Quiz 00-1  
- Pass the Econ 303 Prerequisite Test by Sept 8 | Week One Aug 21 | Week One Aug 27 |
| 01   | Module 01: Preliminary Concepts  
- Themes of Microeconomics  
- What is a Market?  
- Real vs Nominal Prices  
- Why Study Economics?  
- Read all of Chapter One in text.  
- Complete the Chapter 1 Preview Quiz  
- Complete MEL HW 01-1  
- Complete MEL Quiz 01-1  
- Participate in Discussion Board Assignment 01 Initial post by Wednesday 11:59 pm Reply posts by Saturday 11:59 pm | Week One Aug 21 | Week One Aug 27 |
| 02   | Module 02: Basics of supply and demand  
- Supply and demand  
- Market mechanism  
- Changes in market equilibrium  
- Elasticities of supply and demand  
- Short run vs long run  
- Changing market conditions  
- Effects of gov’t intervention  
- Read all of Chapter Two in text.  
- Watch online lecture for Chapter 2  
- Complete MEL HW 02-1  
- Complete MEL Quiz 02-1  
- Participate in Discussion Board Assignment 02 Initial post by Wednesday 11:59 pm Reply posts by Saturday 11:59 pm | Week Two: Aug 28 | Week Two: Sept 3 |
| 03   | Module 03: Consumer behavior  
- Consumer preferences  
- Budget constraints  
- Consumer choice  
- Marginal utility and consumer choice  
- Cost of living indexes  
- Read all of Chapter Three in text.  
- Watch online lectures for Chapter 3  
- Complete MEL HW 03-1  
- Complete MEL Quiz 03-1  
- Participate in Discussion Board Assignment 03 Initial post by Wednesday 11:59 pm Reply posts by Saturday 11:59 pm | Week Three: Sept 4 | Week Three: Sept 10 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Module 4: Exam 1 preparation and Exam 1</strong>&lt;br&gt;- Reading and lectures corresponding to the material in Chapters 1–3 of the text&lt;br&gt;- Review Study Guide for Exam 1 from Sept 11 - 13&lt;br&gt;- Take Exam 1 from Sept 13 – 15</td>
<td>Week Four: Sept 11&lt;br&gt;Week Four: Sept 17</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Module 05: Individual to market demand</strong>&lt;br&gt;- Individual demand&lt;br&gt;- Income and substitution effects&lt;br&gt;- Market demand&lt;br&gt;- Consumer surplus&lt;br&gt;- Network externalities</td>
<td>Week Five: Sept 18&lt;br&gt;Week Five: Sept 24</td>
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<td><strong>Module 06: Production</strong>&lt;br&gt;- Production decisions&lt;br&gt;- One variable input&lt;br&gt;- Two variable inputs&lt;br&gt;- Returns to scale</td>
<td>Week Six: Sept 25&lt;br&gt;Week Six: Oct 1</td>
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<td><strong>Module 07: The Costs of production</strong>&lt;br&gt;- Measuring costs&lt;br&gt;- Short run costs&lt;br&gt;- Long run and short run cost curves&lt;br&gt;- Economies of scope&lt;br&gt;- Learning curves</td>
<td>Week Seven: Oct 2&lt;br&gt;Week Seven: Oct 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Module 08: Exam 2 Preparation and Exam 2</strong>&lt;br&gt;- Reading and lectures corresponding to the material in Chapters 4, 6, and 7 of the text&lt;br&gt;- Review Study Guide for Exam 2 from Oct 9 - 11&lt;br&gt;- Take Exam 2 from Oct 11-13</td>
<td>Week Eight: Oct 9&lt;br&gt;Week Eight: Oct 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Module 09: Profit Maximization and Competitive Supply</strong>&lt;br&gt;- Perfectly competitive markets&lt;br&gt;- Profit maximization&lt;br&gt;- Marginal revenue, marginal cost, and profit max&lt;br&gt;- Output in the short run&lt;br&gt;- Competitive firm’s short run supply curve&lt;br&gt;- Short run market supply curve&lt;br&gt;- Output in the long run&lt;br&gt;- Competitive industry’s long run supply curve</td>
<td>Week Ten: Oct 16&lt;br&gt;Week Ten: Oct 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module</td>
<td>Description</td>
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| 10     | Module 10: Competitive Markets  
- Consumer and producer surplus  
- Efficiency  
- Minimum prices  
- Price supports and quotas  
- Import quotas and tariffs  
- Impacts of taxes or subsidies | Week Eleven  
Oct 23 | Week Eleven  
Oct 29 |
| 11     | Module 11: Monopoly and Monopsony  
- Monopoly  
- Monopoly power  
- Sources of monopoly power  
- Social costs of monopoly  
- Monopsony  
- Monopsony power  
- Antitrust laws | Watch online lectures for Chapter 10  
- Complete MEL Quiz 10-1  
- Participate in Discussion Board Assignment 08  
Initial post by Wednesday 11:59 pm  
Reply posts by Saturday 11:59 pm | Week Twelve  
Oct 30 | Week Twelve  
Nov 5 |
| 12     | Module 12: Exam 3 Preparation and Exam 3  
- Reading and lectures corresponding to the material in Chapters 8 - 10 | Review Study Guide for Exam 3 from Nov 6 - 8  
- Take Exam 3 from Nov 8 - 10 | Week Twelve  
Nov 6 | Week Twelve  
Nov 12 |
| 13     | Module 13: Pricing with Market Power  
- Capturing consumer surplus  
- Price discrimination  
- Intertemporal price discrimination  
- Two-part tariff | Watch online lectures for Chapter 11  
- Complete MEL Quiz 11-1  
- Participate in Discussion Board Assignment 9  
Initial post by Wednesday 11:59 pm  
Reply posts by Saturday 11:59 pm | Week Thirteen  
Nov 13 | Week Thirteen  
Nov 19 |
| 14     | Thanksgiving Break | | Week Fourteen  
Nov 20 | Week Fourteen  
Nov 26 |
| 15     | Module 13: Monopolistic Competition and Oligopoly  
- Monopolistic competition  
- Oligopoly  
- Price competition  
- Prisoner’s dilemma  
- Implications for oligopolistic pricing | Watch online lectures for Chapter 12  
- Complete MEL Quiz 12-1  
- Participate in Discussion Board Assignment 10  
Initial post by Wednesday 11:59 pm  
Reply posts by Saturday 11:59 pm | Week Thirteen  
Nov 27 | Week Thirteen  
Dec 3 |
| 16     | Module 15: Game Theory and Pricing  
- Gaming and strategy  
- Dominant strategies  
- Nash equilibrium  
- Repeated games  
- Sequential games  
- Threats and credibility | Watch online lectures for Chapter 13  
- Complete MEL Quiz 12-1  
- Participate in Discussion Board Assignment 11  
Initial post by Wednesday 11:59 pm  
Reply posts by Saturday 11:59 pm | Week Fifteen  
Dec 4 | Week Fifteen  
Dec 10 |
Student Expectations/Responsibilities
Your responsibilities, like mine, include being well prepared for participating in the course. This includes carefully reading the assigned readings, carefully considering the material in the online lectures, providing thoughtful postings in the discussion board, and providing insightful answers to the short-analyses questions. It is your responsibility to communicate to me any individual learning needs and to notify me at least a week in advance of any schedule conflicts. Discussion via Blackboard is open to all students and faculty enrolled in this course.

All communication between students and faculty should remain professional and courteous. This is true of both Blackboard and email communications. Language and grammar matters so be careful how you phrase your communication. Simplicity and directness are helpful in getting your message across (directness does not mean rudeness or angry responses to either students or faculty). It is possible to receive a failing grade ('F') for the Class Participation portion of the course if rude and unseemly communications via Blackboard and email become an issue and are not corrected. The following is a link on Net Etiquette: http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html

Instructor Expectations/Responsibilities
Announcements relevant to the course will be posted in a timely manner. There will be a 24 hour response time to emails, except on weekends. Note that the assessments for each week will be due by Friday evening and that no assessments will be due over the weekend. Therefore, we can plan on having the weekends free. If you would like to work ahead during a weekend, note that each module will be available by Friday of the previous week. Grades on MEL assignments and quizzes will be available in the MEL gradebook within 24 hours of the due date. Exams and other assessments will be graded within one week of the due date and the grades posted in the Blackboard gradebook.

PART II. Institutional Academic Policies

Academic Integrity
Students are expected to perform according to the standards of academic honesty and integrity as outlined in the Boise State University policies. As stated in the Student Handbook, “Plagiarism in written works whether in hard copy, print or in electronic communications, will not be tolerated and may be cause for failure in the course and/or University dismissal. Academic dishonesty in any form may result in failure in the course or dismissal from the Program and/or the University.”

Students must abide by the Boise State University Student Code of Conduct regarding Academic Dishonesty (refer to the Boise State University Student Handbook). Students may not give or receive help on any test from any other student. Students may not discuss the content of any tests with other students until all students have taken the test. This includes students who may have missed the scheduled test time due to illness or emergency.
The BSU Student Code of Conduct and policies on Academic Dishonesty are located at the following websites. We encourage you to read these carefully. Students will be held to these standards in all areas of academic performance: http://www.boisestate.edu/osrr/ and http://www.boisestate.edu/policy/policy_docs/2020_studentcodeofconduct.pdf

**Disabilities Statement**
Any student needing information on American Disabilities Act (ADA) services at the University should contact the Boise State University Disability Resource Center at (208) 426-1583. You can also access information on the Boise State University web page: http://drc.boisestate.edu/

**Copyright Statement**
Some of the materials in this course may be copyrighted. They are intended for use only by students registered and enrolled in this course and only for instructional activities associated with and for the duration of the course. They may not be retained in another medium or disseminated further. They are provided in compliance with the provisions of the Teach Act.

**Downloading Course Content**
Course materials may be saved or printed for use in this course only. For use beyond this class, permission must be obtained from the instructor.

**Statement of Shared Values**
In addition to the policies governing academic integrity, Boise State University has adopted a Statement of Shared Values. In a culture of intellectual inquiry and debate, where the search for knowledge and discovery flourish, campus community members are expected to demonstrate civility, abide by norms of decorum, and adhere to the principles of civil discourse. Civility is expressed in the Statement of Shared Values which includes Academic Excellence, Caring, Citizenship, Fairness, Respect, Responsibility, and Trustworthiness. We encourage you to read these statements carefully, and consider them when interacting with faculty, fellow students, and members of the community: http://www.boisestate.edu/osrr

**Nature of Privacy in Online Learning**
Despite any university’s best attempts, it is important that students and faculty understand that an online course should never be considered a completely closed environment. Absolute confidentiality cannot be guaranteed in an online course, especially when the university’s assessment processes require course review by responsible individuals at some point during a course or after its completion.

The university’s course management platform is protected by passwords and other internal levels of security to prevent outside access to course materials. By the same token, the university relies on everyone (e.g., instructors, students, staff, and technical support personnel) to avoid copying and/or sharing course materials with others and expects everyone having access to course materials to maintain a high level of integrity and restraint. The electronic nature of online learning also provides a much more permanent record of the thoughts and ideas of all parties involved in a course, so students and faculty should be mindful of the assignments they submit and the posts they enter in their online courses. As a result of these and other factors, a possibility for misuse can never be completely avoided.

Assessment is a multifaceted process requiring review components for every program, course, and professor. As a result, the university must also assess whether objectives are being met for continuous improvement and accreditation requirements. Instructors, curriculum, course requirements, and student work need to be reviewed and assessed regularly. In order to provide for this level of ongoing assessment of our online courses, responsible individuals need access to review course materials, instructor facilitation, and student submissions from time to time.
The university is committed to protecting the integrity of the learning experience for everyone involved in our online courses. Despite our best intentions, the nature of the online environment also requires the university to remind students and faculty that course materials should never be considered completely private.