

MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Winter 2014, Principles of Microeconomics: ECN*F102

Course Number: CRN# 4005

Distance Learning/Online

From: Monday, December 29, 2014 at 12:00 AM

To: Thursday, January 15, 2015 at 11:59 PM

Instructor: *Dr. Ibrahim Abou-Saad*

e-mail: **via mail feature in Blackboard Learn**

Telephone: **(860) 481-0727**

College webpage:

http://www.online.comnet.edu/pls/x/bwckschd.p_disp_listcrse?term_in=114406&subj_in=ECN*&crse_in=F102&crn_in=4005

Course Syllabus

Prerequisites: Eligible for MAT*137 or MAT*137E, and Eligible for ENG*101 or ENG*101E

Recommended (before this course): ENG 101; MAT 137

Teaching Methods: Text book with its ancillaries; chapter overviews; email and/or telephone contact with the instructor.

Required:

- **Calculator:** a non-graphing, non-programmable calculator for exams
- **Textbook:** Principles of Microeconomics (7th edition)
 - Author (s): N. Gregory Mankiw
 - Publisher: South-Western Cengage Learning TM (7th edition, January 2014).
 - ISBN-10: 128516590X
 - ISBN-13: 978-1285165905
 - Publisher's Description: *The most widely used principles text is now updated and thoroughly revised. Maintaining the clear, concise exposition, precise presentation, emphasis on interesting and relevant concepts, and teaching package that is the most extensive in the industry, it can be the perfect complement to your teaching.*
With its clear and engaging writing style, PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS, Seventh Edition, continues to be one of the most popular books on economics available today. Mankiw emphasizes material that you are likely to find interesting about the economy (particularly if you are studying economics for the first time), including real-life scenarios, useful facts, and the many ways economic concepts play a role in the decisions you make every day.

Suggested (not required):

- **Study Guide** for Mankiw's Principles of Economics, David R. Hakes, South-Western Cengage Learning, 2012

Book Store Info for the Textbook(s):

http://www.bkstr.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/booklookServlet?bookstore_id-1=842&term_id-1=114406&crn-1=4005

References, and Possible Readings from . . .

1. The New York Times
2. The Wall Street Journal
3. The Economist Magazine
4. Other business books, journals, and magazines including MSNBC online, CNN online, US News & World Report, Time, and Newsweek.

Evaluation Tools & Technology Tools

- ❖ **3 Discussion / Writing assignments: 24% of final grade (8% each)** - Research sources could include the Wall Street Journal, NY Times, PBS news programs, CT Mirror website, NPR broadcasts and government & commercial web sites. A detailed format for these written assignments will be supplied by the professor. *See course schedule for due dates.*
- ❖ **10 Quizzes 30% of final grade (3% each)** - From the test bank supplied by the publisher. *See course schedule for due dates.*
- ❖ **10 Homework assignments: 10% of final grade (1% each)** - From options provided by publisher. *See course schedule for due dates.*
- ❖ **2 “short-answer” tests: 36% of final grade (18% each)** *See course schedule for due dates.*

Evaluation of writing assignments will be based on content, timely delivery of assignment and quality of writing. Attention will be given to proper use of grammar and sentence structure, spelling, punctuation and citing of references. This will be in addition to displaying an understanding of our Economics course concepts that apply to any assignment. A numerical grade (based on 100 points) will be awarded for each written assignment. Specific instructions will be provided by the professor for the design of written reports.

Assignments / Tests: The cutoff time to submit writing / discussion assignments, quizzes, homework and tests is 11:59 PM on their due date. Quizzes and tests have a set time limit.

IMPORTANT: Once you begin a test or quiz, you must finish it within the time limit shown. After that time expires, you will not be able to continue and finish.

On essay/short-answer exams, your answers must be in your own words. Essay answers are to be the work of the student enrolled in the class and whose name is digitally on the exam. And you cannot copy, or cut/paste text from anywhere into the answer fields on the exam. Also, your answers should be consistent with the terminology, acronyms, and concepts as they are described/defined in the textbook for this course. That is, occasionally there is variation in the field of economics in the way some economic concepts or terms are defined. Your professor expects you to use the terminology and concepts in a way that is consistent with our textbook, and not as they might be used elsewhere. Further, if there is ever a discrepancy between an answer that is consistent with our textbook, and some other answer, the answer consistent with our textbook would be considered the “right” answer. Having said all of the above, if your answers happen to be very similar to those in our textbook, this is not unexpected, since you are studying and learning about economics from your textbook, and you might remember/recall answers that are very similar to the way they are presented in your textbook; what your professor will notice is when answers are almost the same as other sources, like other textbooks, online sources of economic information, or other students.

Grading Policy:

Grade	%
A	93% – 100%
A-	90% – less than 93%
B+	87% – less than 90%
B	83% – less than 87%
B-	80% – less than 83%
C+	77% – less than 80%
C	73% – less than 77%
C-	70% – less than 73%
D	60% – less than 70%
F	0% – less than 60%

Important Rules

- Students must complete each unit within the period indicated
- There will be no re-opening of assignments for students who miss deadlines

Course Structure

The structure of an online course can be much more rigid than that of a classroom course. There are due dates and time limits that must be observed. Once they expire, you will not be able to complete an assignment. Also, your final grade will be calculated on the basis of your grades for the original discussion assignments, quizzes and tests. **No substitute assignments for additional credit will be offered by the professor at the conclusion of the course.**

ADA Accommodation Statement

“Students with physical or learning disabilities who may require accommodations are encouraged to contact the Counseling Office. After disclosing the nature of the disability, students are urged to discuss their needs with individual instructors. This should be done at the beginning of each semester. Instructors, in conjunction with appropriate college officials, will provide assistance and/or accommodations only to those students who have completed this process.”

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Middlesex Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious creed, age, sex, national origin, marital status, ancestry, present or past history of mental disorder, learning disability or physical disability, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression or genetic information in its programs and activities. In addition, the College does not discriminate in employment on the additional basis of veteran status or criminal record.

The following people have been designated to handle inquiries or complaints regarding non-discrimination policies and practices:

Primary Title IX Coordinator

Dr. Adrienne Maslin
Dean of Students/Title IX and Section 504/ADA Coordinator
amaslin@mxcc.edu; 860-343-5759; Founders Hall Room 123|

Secondary Title IX Coordinator

Ms. Mary Lou Phillips
Director of Human Resources, Middlesex Community College
mphilips@mxcc.edu; 860-343-5751; Founders Hall Room 115

Secondary Title IX Coordinator

Ms. Queen Fordham
Coordinator of the Meriden Center Welcome Desk
qfordham@mxcc.edu; 203-608-3011

Academic Honesty Statement

“At Middlesex Community College we expect the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic dishonesty is prohibited in accordance with the Board of Trustees’ Proscribed Conduct Policy in Section 5.2.1 of the Board of Trustees’ Policy Manual. This policy prohibits cheating on examinations, unauthorized collaboration on assignments, unauthorized access to examinations or course materials, plagiarism, and other proscribed activities. Plagiarism is defined as the use of another’s idea(s) or phrase(s) and representing that/those idea(s) as your own, either intentionally or unintentionally.”

Religious Accommodation Statement

If your religious obligations conflict with the course calendar requirements, and if you wish to request an accommodation, you must make your request in writing prior to the date of the assessment or activity you will miss and preferably at the beginning of the semester. When requesting a make-up quiz, test, exam, assignment, or activity, state the reason for your request and the date(s) on which your religious obligation(s) will conflict with the course calendar requirements. Also, if your religious obligation/holiday is unfamiliar to your instructor, you may be asked to provide a calendar which shows the published date(s) of your religious observance(s) or holiday(s).

Inclement Weather Statement

In the event of inclement weather either before the start of a extreme weather only at the off campus site, the decision to hold or cancel classes at this extension center will be made by our campus extension program director. Faculty should call the Continuing Education Office at (860) 343-5865.

Note: Off campus sites are ultimately subject to the cancellation policy of the school in which MxCC holds classes.

For more information about the college's policies and procedures regarding academic honesty, accessibility/disability services, attendance, audio-recording in the classroom, grade appeals, plagiarism, religious accommodations, weather and emergency closings, and more, please go to the following website: www.mxcc.edu/catalog/syllabus-policies/. Also, please become familiar with the policies regarding nondiscrimination, sexual misconduct, and general student conduct at the following website: www.mxcc.edu/nondiscrimination/.

Scope of Course

To introduce the student to basic economic principles emphasizing the roles of producers, consumers and workers in a market-driven economy. We will investigate and discuss what influences the economic decisions of these three groups. In addition to the text book assigned for the course, current applications of microeconomic analysis will be examined using various news media forums, including print, internet and video.

Specific Objectives

- 1.)** To introduce the student to the topic of Economics and explain the importance of the subject as it affects individuals' lives
- 2.)** To define Economics and the terms that are normally used in economic discussions, including theories on equitable distribution of the benefits of production. To look at job opportunities available to the "labor resource" in a "market-oriented" economy, breaking down the "labor resource" into specific groups based on factors such as age, gender & ethnicity
- 3.)** To explain the importance of the scientific approach in observing marketplace activity. To distinguish between objective & value-judgments in analyzing market activity, including the employment market
- 5.)** To explain how graphs & models are used to illustrate economic concepts
- 6.)** To calculate the effect of price changes on demand & supply (measuring "elasticity"), including analysis of how price changes can affect demand from different groups of consumers due to such factors as age, gender & ethnicity

7.) To illustrate and explain the effects of Government interference in the marketplace through Price Ceilings, Price Floors. To describe the approaches used by Government to encourage more or less production of particular goods or services & their impact on certain groups in society

8.) To describe how the marketplace achieves efficiency through the interaction of producers & consumers. To question if the marketplace, by itself, is sufficient to insure an equitable distribution of goods, services and employment opportunities among members of society, paying particular attention to the young, elderly & economically disadvantaged

9.) To define & analyze the types of costs that confront producers

10.) To analyze the different types of competitive environments that producers can face, emphasizing their costs & revenues and the intensity of demand in particular industries. To examine the impact of a dominant corporation, such as Enron, on consumer & employee relationships.

Topics to Be Covered

Part I: INTRODUCTION.

Chapter 1. Ten Principles of Economics.

Chapter 2. Thinking Like an Economist.

Part II: SUPPLY AND DEMAND I: HOW MARKETS WORK.

Chapter 4. The Market Forces of Supply and Demand.

Chapter 5. Elasticity and Its Application.

Chapter 6. Supply, Demand, and Government Policies.

Part III: SUPPLY AND DEMAND II: MARKETS AND WELFARE.

Chapter 7. Consumers, Producers, and the Efficiency of Markets.

Part IV: THE ECONOMICS OF PUBLIC SECTOR.

Chapter 10. Externalities.

Chapter 11. Public Goods and Common Resources.

Part V: FIRM BEHAVIOR AND THE ORGANIZATION OF INDUSTRY.

Chapter 13. The Costs of Production.

Chapter 14. Firms in Competitive Markets.

Chapter 15. Monopoly.

Chapter 16. Monopolistic Competition.

Course Schedule (In units)

Units	Available Dates	Assignments	Due Dates
	Available 12:30AM, on		Due by 11:59PM, on:
Unit 1	Mon. 12/29/2014	Introductions & Chps. 1,2	Wed. 12/31/2014
		Quizzes & HomeWork	
Unit 2	Wed. 12/31/2014	Chps. 4,5,6	Mon. 01/05/2015
		Quizzes & HW and Discussion #1	
Unit 3	Sun. 01/04/2015	Chps. 7,10,11	Wed. 01/07/2015
		Quizzes & HW and Discussion #2	
Unit 4	Tue. 01/06/2015	Test 1; Chps. 1,2,4,5,6,10,11	Thu. 01/08/2015
Unit 5	Thu. 01/08/2015	Chps. 13 & 14	Mon. 01/12/2015
		Quizzes & HW and Discussion # 3	
Unit 6	Sun. 01/11/2015	Chps. 15 & 16	Thu. 01/15/2015
		Quizzes & HW and Test 2; Chps. 13,14,15,16	