

## **ECON& 201: Microeconomics**

(Previously ECON 201 Introduction to Economics: Microeconomics)

### **Fall 2008, Section A**

**Meets: Daily 8:30 – 9:20 AM, Room B101**

**Instructor: Chuck Curry**

**Office Hours: 7:30 – 8:20 AM, T & Th, and by appointment, Room D200E**

**Email: ccurry@bellevuecollege.edu**

**Textbook: *Principles of Microeconomics, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition*, by N. Gregory Mankiw.**

**Course Goals:** Microeconomics is the study of the decision-making behavior of households and firms and their interaction in markets. The goal of this course is to introduce you to the basic tools of economic theory and the use of these tools in analyzing real-world issues and problems—what is often called “the economic way of thinking.” We’ll focus on the allocation of resources through competitive markets, prices, and government intervention. We’ll use the tools of economic analysis to examine issues including taxes, trade, monopoly power, and income inequality.

**Recommended:** 30 prior college credits.

### **Schedule:**

#### **Week 1**

Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>      *Principles of Economics*, Ch. 1, pp. 3-11.  
*Thinking Like an Economist*, Ch. 2

#### **Week 2**

Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> – Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>      *Interdependence and the Gains from Trade*, Ch. 3

#### **Week 3**

Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>      *The Market Forces of Supply and Demand*, Ch. 4

#### **Week 4**

Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>      *Elasticity and Its Application*, Ch. 5  
*Supply, Demand, and Government Policies*, Ch. 6

#### **Week 5**

Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>      *Consumers, Producers, and the Efficiency of Markets*, Ch. 7  
*Applications of the Tools of Welfare Economics*, Ch. 8 & 9

#### **Week 6**

Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>      \***Midterm Exam: Tuesday Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>**  
*Externalities*, Ch. 10  
**No Class Weds. Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>—College Issues Day**

**Week 7**

Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>                    *Public Goods and Common Resources*, Ch. 11  
*Earnings and Discrimination*, Chapter 19  
*Income Inequality and Poverty*, Chapter 20

**Week 8**

Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>                    *The Costs of Production*, Ch. 13  
*Firms in Competitive Markets*, Ch. 14  
**No Class Tuesday, Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>—Professional Development Day**

**Week 9**

Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>                    *Firms in Competitive Markets*, Ch. 14  
*Monopoly*, Ch. 15

**Week 10**

Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>                    *Oligopoly*, Ch. 16  
**No Class Thurs. & Fri. 11/27 & 28—Thanksgiving Holiday**

**Week 11**

Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>                        *Monopolistic Competition*, Ch. 17

**Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>                    FINAL EXAM: 7:30—9:20 AM, Room B101**

This schedule, other than the midterm and final exam dates, is subject to change.

**Grading:** Your grade will be based on 10 homework assignments (5 points each), 6 quizzes (20 points each; your lowest quiz score will be dropped), one mid-term exam (50 points), and a final exam (100 points). The total number of points is 300. Extra credit opportunities will be offered occasionally *during* the quarter. *No extra credit work will be assigned after the final exam.* Your final decimal grade will be based on the number of points you earned expressed as a percentage of the total number of points possible.

The table below shows how your final decimal grade will be calculated:

% of points earned	4.0 Scale Grade	% of points earned	4.0 Scale Grade	% of points earned	4.0 Scale Grade	% of points earned	4.0 Scale Grade	% of points earned	4.0 Scale Grade	% of points earned	4.0 Scale Grade
95-100	4.0	89	3.4	83	2.8	74-75	2.2	62-63	1.6	55	1.0
94	3.9	88	3.3	82	2.7	72-73	2.1	60-61	1.5	54	0.9
93	3.8	87	3.2	81	2.6	70-71	2.0	59	1.4	53	0.8
92	3.7	86	3.1	80	2.5	68-69	1.9	58	1.3	52	0.7
91	3.6	85	3.0	78-79	2.4	66-67	1.8	57	1.2	<52	0.0
90	3.5	84	2.9	76-77	2.3	64-65	1.7	56	1.1		

**Attendance and Make-up Policies:** You are responsible for all material covered, and all announcements made, during class. Homework may be handed in up to one week late for partial credit. There are **no make-ups** for missed quizzes. Make-up or early exams will be given **only** for documented emergencies and/or instructor-approved absences.