Principles of Microeconomics

Textbook:

- Microeconomics: Principles and Policy (Baumol & Blinder 7th Edition - Required)
- Study Guide for Baumol & Blinder (Craig Swan, 7th Edition - Optional)

Important Dates for Econ 2010-300 - Spring 1997

- 1/13 (Mon) -- First Day of Class!
- 1/20 (Mon) -- MLK Holiday - No Class!
- 1/24 (Fri) -- E-mail for extra credit is due by midnight - See Below!
- 2/19 (Wed) -- Exam #1 - in class -- (Reading List ch. 1-3, 4, 6, 5)
- 3/24 - 3/28 -- Spring Break!!
- 4/4 (Fri) -- Exam #2 - in class -- (Reading List ch. 7-8, 9-10, 11, 12, 13, 15)
- 4/25 (Fri) -- Make-up Term Papers are due by 5:00 PM
- 5/5 (Mon) -- Last day of class
- 5/8 (Thurs) -- Cumulative final given at 3:30 PM - 6:30 PM in Hale 270

Grading Policy:

- 100 pts. - EXAM1
- 100 pts. - EXAM2
- 100 pts. - Recitation
- 200 pts. - FINAL
- 500 pts. - Total

During the course, there will be four exams. The first two are mid-terms examinations, and will be given during the semester (see schedule above). The final exam is cumulative. Grades will be given on a 90-80-70-60 basis. In other words, if you want at least an A- for the course, you need to earn at least 450/500 points.

Your recitation grade will consist of quizzes, homeworks, and problem sets, as determined by the TA's. Recitation comprises 100 points of your final grade, or the equivalent of one exam. You must attend the recitation in which you are enrolled. We cannot keep track of your grades otherwise, and some assignments may not be recorded. ****Do not try to add/drop into a section you like better if you are already in the class. You might end up on the wait list and never get back in.****

In the event that you miss either exam #1 or exam #2, or if you do poorly on either of the mid-terms (less than 70/100 points), you can write a makeup term paper to replace the low grade. If your scores on the first two exams are both 70 or greater, you may not write a paper. Also, a makeup paper cannot replace your recitation score or your final exam.

The paper will be a 3-5 page short term paper, covering some microeconomic topic of your choice. This paper must be typed, double-spaced with 1 inch margins on all sides. The paper is due on Friday, April 25th, by 5:00 PM. (No late papers will be accepted) The paper must include some valid economic analysis -- not simply your personal opinions. You should use at least 5 sources, and include them in a bibliography (which does not count as one of the pages). These sources can be books (but not the textbook, or the dictionary), and/or newspaper/magazine articles. If you do not include a bibliography and references, you will receive an F. Your topic must be approved by Dave by Friday, April 11th. If you do not have your topic approved first, your paper will not be accepted. Below are some possible paper topics:

1. Environmental economics and pollution policies.
2. Tax policy and equity in the economy.
3. Public choice theory and how we provide public goods.
4. Labor markets and unions. (The effect of labor unions in professional sports?)
****NO PAPERS ON NAFTA WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR THE MICRO CLASS****

Click here for detailed info on the term paper.

***10 extra credit points will be awarded to everyone who sends Dave e-mail by Friday, January 24th, at 11:59:59.99 PM. Details will be given during class. Your message must include your name, CUID# and your class (in this case, "micro principles")***

---

**Reading List for Principles of Microeconomics - Econ 2010-100**

This is a topic list, in the order we'll be covering them. In parentheses, I have put the approximate date when each topic will be started. These are not exact dates, but should help you if you're trying to read ahead in the textbook.

I. Introduction to economics and economic problems.
   -----Read B&B Ch. 1-3 - (Wed 1/15)
II. Demand and Supply.
   -----Read B&B Ch. 4 - (Wed 1/29)
III. Demand and elasticity.
   -----Read B&B Ch. 6 - (Wed 2/5)
IV. Consumer choice theory and the origins of demand.
   -----Read B&B Ch. 5 - (Mon 2/10)
V. Production, Inputs and Cost: Supply Analysis.
   -----Read B&B Ch. 7 - (Fri 2/21)
VI. Output, Price and Profit: Marginal Analysis.
   -----Read B&B Ch. 8 - (Also Fri 2/21)
VII. The firm and industry under perfect competition.
   -----Read B&B Ch. 9-10 - (Fri 2/28)
VIII. Monopoly.
   -----Read B&B Ch. 11 - (Mon 3/10)
IX. Monopolistic Competition and Oligopoly.
   -----Read B&B Ch. 12 - (Fri 3/14)
X. Market shortcomings and remedies.
   -----Read B&B Ch. 13 - (Fri 3/21)
XI. Pricing the factors of production.
   -----Read B&B Ch. 15 - (Mon 3/31)
XII. Labor markets.
   -----Read B&B Ch. 16 - (Mon 4/7)
XIII. Poverty, inequality and discrimination.
   -----Read B&B Ch. 17 - (Fri 4/11)
XIV. Limiting market power: regulation
   -----Read B&B Ch. 18 - (Wed 4/16)
XV. Limiting market power: anti-trust policy
   -----Read B&B Ch. 19 - (Mon 4/21)
XVI. Taxation and resource allocation.
   -----Read B&B Ch. 20 - (Wed 4/23)
XVII. Environmental protection and resource allocation.
   -----Read B&B Ch. 21 - (Mon 4/28)
XVIII. International trade and comparative advantage.
   -----Read B&B Ch. 22 - (Wed 4/30)