

PRINCIPLES OF ECONOMICS (Microeconomics)

PORTERVILLE COLLEGE

ECON P101

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Fall 2009
791-2342

M/W 11:00 AM in SM 121 or M/W 5:15 PM in SM 121

Office hours in SM 113 D

Fall 2009	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM		11:00-12:00		11:00-12:00	
PM	2:15-3:00		2:15-3:15 4:00-5:00		

Please try to come by during these scheduled office hours if you can. I can make other arrangements to meet if you can't make scheduled hours.



If you need special accommodations for a disability, please contact me or contact the campus Disability Resource Center (AC 116, 791-2215) so that we may help you.

TEXT AND OTHER READINGS:

REQUIRED:

Boyes and Melvin, *Economics*, 7th Edition. 2008. Houghton Mifflin Publishers

Occasionally I will post extra reading assignments or announcements for class on an announcement web page. I will also post announcements of general interest to campus students there. Please check it Daily, Monday through Thursday. Find the web page at <http://www.portervillecollege.edu/jkeele>. Follow the link to "Class Announcement Pages" and from there be sure to follow the link to the Economics announcement page.

RECOMMENDED:

Study Guide that accompany the textbook

Online resources that accompany the Book (linked from my web pages)

Student Learning Outcomes:

By the completion of this course the student should be able to:

- Identify and explain the basic premises of the economic way of thinking, such as the impact of secondary effects and the significance of opportunity costs.
- Apply basic economic methods of analysis for the solution of economic problems, such as identifying market equilibrium prices and quantities, evaluating comparative advantage based opportunity cost structures
- Interpret and manipulate basic graphical tools of economics such as supply and demand curves, production possibilities curves, cost curves, and revenue curves.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Internet: Students will need Internet access for this course.

Reading: All assigned reading is required and you are responsible for the material contained in it. Material posted to the class announcement page is also testable. Reading the business and economy section of a major newspaper is strongly recommended.

Homework: I will assign a homework project with each chapter. All are required work. Each is due in class on the day indicated when I give the assignment. Whenever possible, we will go over the assignment in class, but as a spot check, several times during the semester I will require you to turn them in for a grade. Homework will consist of problem sets, reading and creating graphs and charts, minor internet research projects, and occasionally some writing. If you can't be in class when homework is due, turn the homework in anytime **before class. Always do the homework; you never know when it will be graded, and even if it's not, the practice will help you learn.** Homework will not be accepted late.

Chapter Quizzes: We will have a brief in-class or take-home quiz after each two or three chapters (10-25 points per quiz). Quiz dates will be announced as we go. Make-up quizzes are not possible. In extenuating circumstances early quizzes *MAY* be offered, contact me in advance if you see a conflict. We will review the questions after taking each quiz. You must stay for the review to get credit for the quiz. Please bring a green Scantron® (#882) for each quiz. No cell phones, no audio devices (mp3 players), and no leaving the class during in-class quizzes; if you answer a phone, are caught with an earphone in your ear, or leave the classroom you are done with the quiz.

Exams: We will have one midterm and a final. The midterm will be given on the date listed in the syllabus below. The exam format will be Multiple Choice / True/False with some graphs and problems. Please bring a green Scantron® (#882). **Make up exams MAY be possible in extenuating circumstances but will incur a 20 point penalty.** It is the student's responsibility to arrange with me for alternative test arrangements at least ONE WEEK BEFORE the scheduled exam if there is some college-excused reason you cannot make the scheduled time. No cell phones, no audio devices (mp3 players), and no leaving the class during the exam; if you answer a phone, are caught with an earphone in your ear, or leave the classroom you are done with the exam. **The college schedules the final exam; PLEASE, don't even ask about taking it early.** You may bring one 4x6" note card for reference during the midterm and final.

Attendance: Attendance is required. I may drop you from the class after 3 absences. You are responsible for all material presented or discussed in class, whether you are there or not. If you miss class, you will miss important material and you may miss a quiz

Honesty: I require honesty on tests and assignments. Following Porterville College policy, if a student cheats on a test or assignment, or plagiarizes, I will give an "F" grade on that assignment and I will report the incident to the Dean. The student will have to meet with the Dean of students to determine whether further disciplinary action is necessary. Students caught cheating are not eligible for any extra credit or make-up points.

Extra credit/make up: In the final week of classes I will provide you with a 100-question take-home test that covers the material for the entire semester. **You may choose to take that test,** (it is strictly optional, extra credit) marking your answers on a Scantron®, and bringing it with you to the final exam. It is **worth up to 20 points** extra credit (or make-up credit). You must score at least 50% on the extra credit test to get any credit. At 50%, you get 10 points, and then one additional point for each 5 correct answers on the test over 50%. (For example, a score of 75% would earn you 15 points and a score of 100% would earn you 20 points.)

Grading Schemes:

For those who meet the requirements, I will calculate your grades both ways and give you the higher of the two. IF the requirements of the Alternate Scheme are not met, then the Standard scheme will be used exclusively.

Standard Grading Scheme (Default)

Points possible from assignments are as follows:

Homework:	5-15 points for each homework I grade
Chapter Quizzes:	10-25 points for each chapter quiz
Pop Quizzes:	1-10 points at instructor's discretion to reward attendance and timely preparation
Midterm:	100 points
Final:	100 points

We should end up with a total of 300 to 450 points. (earned extra credit or makeup points will be added to your total points with this scheme)

Alternate Grading Scheme:

Available only to students who have NOT missed more than 2 quizzes (both pop and scheduled) and have NOT missed more than 2 homework assignments:

Midterm	100
Final	100

No extra credit points will be counted with this scheme.

Course grades will be given on the following scale with percentages calculated based on total possible points.

A: 90-100%; B: 80-89%; C: 70-79%; D: 60-69%; F below 60%

Reading and Exam Schedule:

Week 1: Introduction/Overview

Assignments:

Arrange Internet Access: This is accessible on campus or you may access it at home. Check the web page to see if there are any announcements.

Read Chapter 1: Economics: The World Around You

Following week 1, we will progress as fast as we are able. Quiz and homework due dates will be announced in class.

We will work through the text chapters in the following order. Our *IDEAL* goal will be to average one chapter per week, but we will probably fall short of that. Some chapters will
Chapter numbers: 1, 2, 3, 4, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 28, 35, 36.

MIDTERM IN CLASS: October 14

Please bring a green Scantron® (882-E)
You may bring a 4X6" note card.

FINAL EXAM AS SCHEDULED BY THE COLLEGE

(Please, don't even ask about taking it early.)

11:00 AM Class: Wednesday December 9 at 10:00 AM

5:15 PM Class: Wednesday December 9 at 5:30 PM

Please bring a green Scantron® (882-E)
You may bring a 4X6" note card