Principles of Microeconomics

1. Course Objectives
   The objective of this course is to make you familiar with basic microeconomic issues and to teach basic tools of economic analysis. Primarily we will be studying how individuals, households and firms make decisions about what to do, where to go, what to buy, what to sell and what to pay. You will learn what a market is and how markets shape the world around us.

   Introduction to Microeconomics course satisfies Quantitative Reasoning Competency (Category A.3) requirements of the IPFW General Education Program. Specifically, the course meets the learning objectives listed below.

   3.1. Interpret information that has been presented in mathematical form (e.g. with functions, equations, graphs, diagrams, tables, words, geometric figures).
   3.2. Represent information/data in mathematical form as appropriate (e.g. with functions, equations, graphs, diagrams, tables, words, geometric figures).
   3.3. Demonstrate skill in carrying out mathematical (e.g. algebraic, geometric, logical, statistical) procedures flexibly, accurately, and efficiently to solve problems.
   3.4. Analyze mathematical arguments, determining whether stated conclusions can be inferred.
   3.5. Communicate which assumptions have been made in the solution process.
   3.6. Analyze mathematical results in order to determine the reasonableness of the solution.
   3.7. Cite the limitations of the process where applicable.
   3.8. Clearly explain the representation, solution, and interpretation of the math problem.

2. Required Readings
   Textbook:

   *These policies will be strictly enforced.
   If you do not follow these guidelines, your instructor will penalize you for it.

3. Evaluation of Work/Grading Policy
   Grade will be based upon completion of the following: first examination; second examination; third examination; and final examination. There will be three examinations offered during the course of the semester; your lowest grade of the first three examinations will be dropped and the best two examinations are equally weighted. The final examination is mandatory and will not be dropped. The final course grade will be based on the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scale</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90 -100% = A</td>
<td>80 - 89% = B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70 - 79% = C</td>
<td>60 - 69% = D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 - 59% = F</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   Tests (Quizzes and Exams)
   The tests will not be easy, and will surely require extensive study. Quizzes will be given during the semester (if there are) - their purpose is to keep you up to date in your studying. If you are not present for a quiz or a scheduled examination, you will
not be excused unless you submit an approved third-party official document. The date for the midterm exams will be given in class. It is impossible to make two examinations which are comparable in coverage and difficulty but essentially different. For this reason, requests to take special examinations (early or late) will be granted only in exceptional circumstances that are beyond the control of a student (e.g., serious illness, university business, a death in the family). I expect you to contact me the day of the examination or before the examination if you must miss an exam or quiz for any reason. The make-up exam is expected to be taken upon your return to class, no exceptions. If a student fails to take an exam and no arrangements were made, a score of zero will be recorded. Each student will be allowed to make-up only one test (midterm, final exam or quiz) during the semester, regardless of the reason for absence.

Third-Party Official Document Policy
The following policy applies to all excused absent:

- After the missed class period, documentation is required for an excused absence.
- The document should contain your name and date (or period) of absence.
- It is the student’s responsibility to request excuse and document absence.
- Student need to present third-party official documents which show that there was a compelling reason (e.g., a medical emergency, a doctor’s note, a death in the family, jury duty, call up for military service, police report) for your absence.
- I do not accept nor acknowledge e-mail notification.
- The official documents need to be provided within a reasonable period of time (NO documents will be accepted after one week) and/or before the final examination if the date of absence is the last week of the semester.
- The submission of falsified documents will be grounds to expel the student from the class.

Late & E-mailed Assignments
Late and/or e-mailed assignments will not be accepted unless prior arrangements have been made with the Instructor and because of extreme circumstances (Not coming to class, or forgetting doesn’t rate as an extreme circumstance.).

No “Extra Credit” Work
Students sometimes ask for some extra credit work near the end (or middle) of the semester in an attempt to bring up poor grades. No extra credit work will be given to any student on an individual basis. Again, there is no extra credit offered at any time during the semester (please don’t ask).

Grades via E-mail
Because of the large number of students in each class, instructor will not be able to reply to individual e-mail requests for exam and/or class grades at the end (or middle) of the semester.

Contesting a Grade
If you wish to contest your grade on any work you complete for this class, please do so within one week after the assignment is returned. To contest your grade, contact me to schedule an appointment within one week of receipt of the grade. At the conference, bring the assignment (if it was returned to you) and any other documentation that may support your case. If you do not hang on to old tests, then the grades I have recorded will stand and you will have nothing to argue your case. Appeals will not be heard unless you have scheduled an appointment with me within the one-week time frame following receipt of the grade.

4. Expectations
The student has read the material before coming to class. The class session should not serve as the student’s first encounter with the material. The class session is a time to clarify and analyze the material. The instructor will assume that the student has an adequate grasp of algebra which is crucial to an understanding of the economic models to be used. Many economics courses, familiarity with graphical analysis is a must. I also hope that each of you will contribute significantly to our class discussions (in the form of questions, answers and comments) and group work. Be prepared to ask
questions, raise concerns and demonstrate your thinking skills.

5. Attendance Policy
Students take responsibility for their learning. It is expected that students attend all scheduled classes during the time indicated in the Schedule of Classes for your section. I also expect you to arrive on time and stay for the entire class period. If you must leave class early, please let me know in advance, and then to sit as near the door as possible and leave quietly. Please remember that late arrivals and early departures distract other students (not to mention your instructor), and hinder your progress in the course. If you are not in class at the scheduled time for your section of the class, it is difficult for the instructor to provide you with timely feedback and other information about your work. If you miss a class, you are still responsible for all material covered and any assignments given. Instructor will answer specific questions but instructor will not re-teach any lesson. It is your responsibility to do the readings and come prepared to listen to the lecture.

6. Institutional Policies and Procedures
In all respects, the policies of the Department, School and the University shall be applied in this course.

ADA Policy
Students with documented physical, learning, psychological and other disabilities are entitled to receive reasonable accommodations. If you need classroom or testing accommodations, please contact the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities (Walb Union, Room 113, 481-6657). The SSD will provide forms verifying the need for accommodation. As soon as the instructor receives the form, you will be provided with the appropriate accommodations. Students are encouraged to request accommodations as close to the beginning of the semester as possible.

Disruptive Behavior
Students who exhibit behaviors which are considered to obstruct or disrupt the class or its learning activities will be considered Disruptive Behavior. Behaviors which are considered to be inappropriate in this classroom include refusing to stay seated during class, sleeping, eating, coming in late, companions, interrupting others, talking, inappropriate behavior during group work, verbal behavior that is disrespectful of other students or the instructor, or others that may be disruptive. Students who exhibit such behavior will be given a verbal warning by the class instructor, then will be given a written warning in a meeting with the chair of the Department/Division, and then will be subject to disciplinary procedures.

Academic Dishonesty
Any form of academic dishonesty is prohibited. Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty in their college work. Cheating, forgery and plagiarism are serious offenses, and students found guilty of any form of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary action. Incidences of violation of academic integrity will result in a grade of F for the course, dismissal of the student from the course and may lead to additional actions. Students are expected to be familiar with and adhere to the university policies with regard to academic dishonesty. These policies can be found on http://bulletin.ipfw.edu/content.php?catoid=31&navoid=801#Academic_Honesty.

Cell Phone & Computer
Cell phone is NOT allowed in the classroom. A cell phone violation will cause your cell phone to be detained until you leave the classroom. Your cell phone needs to be out of sight and turned off. Other than note taking, no activities such as surfing the Internet, playing computer games, typing a paper, etc. is allowed in the classroom. You should disconnect the wireless network from your computer. Any violation will cause your attendance credit to be 0 for that day and you will be asked to leave the classroom.

7. Course Outlines (Tentative: The instructor reserves the right to modify the syllabus during the course of the term.)

1. What Economics is About
   1) What is Microeconomics
   2) How Do Economists Think?
   3) Scientific Thinking
4) Types of Economics
5) Economics and Theory

2. Economic Activities: Producing and Trading
1) Introduction to PPF
2) Economic Concepts Illustrated with a PPF

3. International Trade
1) Assumptions
2) Absolute Advantage
3) Comparative Advantage
4) Specialization
5) Terms of Trade

Exam #1

4. Supply and Demand
1) What is Demand?
2) Change in Demand vs. Change in Quantity Demanded
3) Law of Supply
4) Supply Schedules and Supply Curves
5) Change in Supply vs. Change in Quantity Supplied
6) Equilibrium and Disequilibrium

5. Consumer Choice: Maximizing Utility and Behavioral Economics
1) Utility
2) Consumer Equilibrium
3) Consumer Surplus

Exam #2

6. Elasticity
1) Introduction
2) Elasticity of Demand
3) Other Elasticities

7. Production and Costs
1) Types of Costs
2) Example
3) Production in the Short Run
4) Production in the Long Run

Exam #3

8. Perfect Competition
1) Introduction
2) Perfect Competition in the Short Run
3) Perfect Competition in the Long Run

4) Efficiency

9. Monopoly
1) Introduction
2) Monopoly in the Short-Run
3) Monopoly in the Long-Run
4) Advantages and Disadvantages of Monopoly

10. Monopolistic Competition and Oligopoly
1) Introduction
2) Monopolistic Competition
3) Long Run Conditions
4) Oligopoly
5) Models of Oligopoly

Final Exam