Syllabus

Economic Theory Bootcamp     Mark David Witte
MTWTF 9:00-3:00pm     Office: JC Long 309
Tate 207       Office Hours: MTWTF 8-9am
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COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course provides a foundation in economic theory. The microeconomic focus is on the functions of markets, the theory of the firm, industrial organization and externalities. Macroeconomic principles to be examined include money and credit systems, theories of national income, labor markets, economic growth, and international interdependence.

TEXT
There is one textbook for this class; *Principles of Economics* by N. Gregory Mankiw. A 4th edition of the textbook should be adequate and inexpensive online.

GRADING
While there is no “grade” in this bootcamp all students are expected to submit answers to a comprehensive exam by Monday 8am after the class has adjourned. Working with classmates is not forbidden though it is not encouraged either. Grades on the comprehensive exam are indicative of a student’s understanding and signal their ability to handle the more difficult curriculum forthcoming in the MBA program.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

CORE COURSE OBJECTIVES: Students will gain factual knowledge of the market economy, develop critical thinking and analytical skills through understanding the following microeconomic models and concepts:
1. the basic principles of scarcity, choice and opportunity cost
2. the principle of comparative advantage
3. the principle of increasing opportunity cost
4. the operation of a competitive market and how markets resolve the problem of scarcity
5. the problem of market failure

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS LEARNING GOALS: In this class students must ethically question the tradeoff between equity and efficiency. By understanding this inherent public policy tradeoff students will be encouraged to appraise other ethical tradeoffs as well. Additionally, students will be studying economic principles in a global environment. Analyzing the global interactions between economies, firms and households students will have the opportunity to consider their own actions in a global economy. Finally, students will gain valuable problem-solving skills that can be applied to both personal and business decisions.
SCHEDULE
You, not the professor, are responsible for your notes. The lectures are constructed so that the text may act as a reference.

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<th>DATES</th>
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| 7/12  | Ch. 1 (opportunity cost, costs, incentives, market failure, externalities)  
       | Ch. 4 (supply, demand, price, quantity, substitutes, complements)  
       | Ch. 5 (elasticity, cross-price elasticity, income elasticity) |
| 7/13  | Ch. 7 (consumer surplus, producer surplus, efficiency vs. equity)  
       | Ch. 10 (externality, corrective taxes, cap and trade, Coase theorem) |
| 7/14  | Ch. 13 (costs, revenue, fixed vs. flexible costs, marginal cost)  
       | Ch. 14 (revenue, optimal firm behavior, MC=MR)  
       | Ch. 15 (monopoly, monopoly and welfare, price discrimination) |
| 7/15  | Ch. 16 (monopolistic competition, advertising)  
       | Ch. 17 (oligopoly, cartel, game theory, Nash equilibrium) |
| 7/16  | Ch. 18 (market for labor, marginal product of labor and wages)  
       | Ch. 21 (GDP, GDP deflator, consumption, investment, net exports) |
| 7/19  | YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXAM DUE BY 8AM |

HONOR CODE
Lying, cheating, attempted cheating, and plagiarism are violations of our Honor Code that, when identified, are investigated. Each incident will be examined to determine the degree of deception involved. Incidents where the instructor determines the student’s actions are clearly related more to a misunderstanding will handled by the instructor. A written intervention designed to help prevent the student from repeating the error will be given to the student. The intervention, submitted by form and signed by both the instructor and the student will be forwarded to the Dean of Students and placed in the student’s file. Cases of suspected academic dishonesty will be reported directly by the instructor and/or others having knowledge of the incident to the Dean of Students. A student found responsible by the Honor Board for academic dishonesty will receive a XF in the course, indicating failure of the course due to academic dishonesty. This grade will appear on the student’s transcript for two years after which the student may petition for the X to be expunged. The student may also be placed on disciplinary probation, suspended (temporary removal) or expelled (permanent removal) from the College by the Honor Board. Students should be aware that unauthorized collaboration—working together without permission— is a form of cheating. Statistical methods may be used to identify likely unauthorized collaboration. Unless the instructor specifies that students can work together on an assignment and/or test, no collaboration is permitted. Other forms of cheating include possessing or using an unauthorized study aid (such as a PDA), copying from others’ exams, fabricating data, and giving unauthorized assistance. Research conducted and/or papers written for other classes cannot be used in whole or in part for any assignment in this class without obtaining prior permission from the instructor. Students can find the complete Honor Code and all related processes in the Student Handbook at http://www.cofc.edu/studentaffairs/general_info/studenthandbook.html.