

Columbia University
Department of Economics
Principles of Economics

W1105x-1 Fall 2009
M/W 1:10-2:25
501 Schermerhorn
Sunil K. Gulati

Office Hours: 1125 IAB
M: (11-12); W: (3-4)
e-mail: skg21
tel: x44067

Readings: The required textbook for the course is Principles of Economics by R. Glenn Hubbard and Anthony O'Brien (Updated 2nd Edition; Prentice Hall Publishers, 2009. The 2nd edition from 2008 is also acceptable). The study guides (one each for microeconomics/macroeconomics or a combined version) are recommended, though not required. All are available in the University Bookstore and on reserve at Uris Library. In addition, a regular reading of the *New York Times* or *The Economist* (you can order at www.economistacademic.com--faculty ID 5618) would be helpful. A tentative outline of the readings required for each lecture is attached. Some changes are possible during the course of the semester. You should make every effort to review (at least skim) the listed chapter(s) prior to the relevant lecture and reread the chapter after the lecture. You should also purchase an Interwrite PRS (personal response system) "Clicker" as we will be using it throughout the course. The "clickers" are available in the bookstore and have been packaged with the text (they are also available for purchase separately). More information on the PRS will be provided during the first few lectures.

Lab Sessions: The lab sessions are an integral part of the course and will be used for reviewing distributed problem sets as well as introducing topics not covered in class (or extending topics that are covered only tangentially in the lectures). The lab sessions will be very similar, so if you miss your regularly scheduled session, you should attend another session during the same week. These sessions (outlined in the schedule below) will be conducted by teaching assistants/preceptors. You must register (in the normal way) for one of these sessions:

| Section | Day | Time | Room | Instructor |
|---------|-----------|-------------|-----------|--------------------|
| 1 | Wednesday | 3:10-4:00 | 327 Mudd | Emily Case |
| 2 | Wednesday | 7:10-8:00 | 501 IAB | Alejo Czerwonko |
| 3 | Wednesday | 6:10-7:00 | 902 IAB | Alejo Czerwonko |
| 4 | Thursday | 3:10-4:00 | 628 Kent | Dennis Martin |
| 5 | Thursday | 5:10-6:00 | 103 Knox | Vickram Mohan |
| 6 | Thursday | 7:10-8:00 | 501B IAB | Michael Tannenbaum |
| 7 | Friday | 10:00-10:50 | 501B IAB | Zhanna Zhanabekova |
| 8 | Friday | 11:00-11:50 | 313 Pupin | Zhanna Zhanabekova |

Teaching Assistants: Office hours and contact information for the teaching assistants are as follows:

| Instructor | email (UNI) | Day/Time | Room |
|-------------------------|-------------|----------------------|-----------|
| Alejo Czerwonko | aec2156 | Monday 10:30-12:00 | 1006A IAB |
| Herdis Steingrimsdottir | hs2198 | Friday 4:30-6:30 | 1006A IAB |
| Zhanna Zhanabekova | zvz1 | Monday 6:00-8:00 | 1006A IAB |
| Dennis Martin | dmm2159 | Tuesday 7:00-8:00 | 1006A IAB |
| Vikram Mohan | vbm2101 | Thursday 6:00-7:00 | 1006A IAB |
| Michael Tannenbaum | mbt2116 | Tuesday 11:00-12:00 | 1006A IAB |
| Emily Case | ecc2116 | Wednesday 12:00-1:00 | 1006A IAB |

Evaluation: Course grades will be based on (i) three assigned problem sets (7.5%), (ii) seven in-class quizzes (12.5%) (iii) a 75 minute mid-term examination (30%) and (iv) a comprehensive final exam (50%). Exams will cover all assigned readings, lectures and lab sessions. The (tentative) date for the mid-term is October 28; the final exam date will be finalized in accordance with the University calendar. Grade rosters for the problem sets, quizzes and exams will be posted at *Courseworks*. Exams will be graded collectively by the graduate student teaching assistants. There are no extra credit opportunities.

Review Sessions: Prior to the mid-term and final exams, I will hold a review session covering most of the relevant material. Previous copies of exams will be posted at *Courseworks* and discussed at these sessions.

Quizzes: Of the seven in-class quizzes, only the six best scores will be counted. There are no make-ups for missed quizzes. Quizzes will not be returned although solution sets will be posted at *Courseworks* one day after each quiz.

Problem Sets: No late assignments will be accepted. Problem sets are worth 5 points each and will be graded on a $\checkmark+$ (5 points), \checkmark (3 points), $\checkmark-$ (1 point) and 0 basis. Graded problem sets will be returned in lab sessions. Solution sets will be posted at *Courseworks* one day after due dates. Problem sets must indicate your name, UNI and section # on the front page. While you are free to discuss with classmates, you must submit your own solutions. Simply copying another student's work is cheating. Columbia's policy on academic integrity is at <http://www.college.columbia.edu/bulletin/universitypolicies.php>.

| Tentative Course Schedule | | |
|----------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| September 8 | NO CLASS: Rescheduled as Review Session | |
| September 14 | First Principles Lab Sessions: Introduction Problem Set #1 Posted; Due September 23 | Chapters 1, 2 |
| September 16 | Supply and Demand I | Chapter 3 |
| September 21 | Supply and Demand II Lab Session: Supply/Demand Applications | Chapter 4 |
| September 23 | Elasticity | Chapter 6 |
| September 28 | Theory of Consumer Behavior I Lab Session: Elasticity Math & Applications | Chapter 9 |
| September 30 | Theory of Consumer Behavior II | Chapter 9 Appendix |
| October 5 | Technology and Costs Lab Session: Geometry of Consumer Theory Problem Set #2 Posted; Due October 14 | Chapter 10 |
| October 7 | Competitive Markets I | Chapter 11 |
| October 12 | Competitive Markets II Lab Session: Two Variable Inputs | Chapter 11 |
| October 14 | Imperfect Competition I | Chapter 14 |
| October 19 | Imperfect Competition II Lab Session: Strategic Behavior/Basic Game Theory | Chapters 12,13 |
| October 21 | Externalities/Public Goods | Chapter 5 |
| October 26 | International Trade Mid Term Review | Chapter 8 |
| October 28 | Mid Term Exam | |
| November 2 | University Holiday Lab Session: Financial Statements | |
| November 4 | Introduction to Macro/Measuring Economic Activity | Chapter 19 |
| November 9 | Employment and Inflation/Macro History Lab Session: GNP Accounting/Price Indices | Chapter 20; Handout |
| November 11 | Short Run Income Determination I | Chapter 23 |
| November 16 | Short Run Income Determination II Lab Session: Algebra of Income Determination Problem Set #3 Posted; Due November 25 | Chapter 23 |
| November 18 | Fiscal Policy | Chapter 27 |
| November 23 | Money & Banking Lab Session: Money Creation/Central Banking | Chapter 25 |
| November 25 | FED and Monetary Policy | Chapter 26 |
| November 30 | Aggregate Supply and Demand Lab Session: AD/AS Details | Chapter 24 |
| December 2 | International Finance | Chapters 29/30 |
| December 7 | Macro Policy Issues I Lab Session: Financial Crisis, regulation | Chapter 28 |
| December 9 | Macro Policy Issues II | Handout |
| December 14 | Income Distribution | ----- |
| TBD | Special Sessions: Final Exam Review | |
| December 21 | FINAL EXAM | TENTATIVE |

Until the date for the Final Exam is confirmed, you should not rely on any tentative exam date listed.
Do not make departure plans that may conflict with the final exam.