

Masaryk University – Brno
Department of Economics – Faculty of Economics and Administration
Lipová 507/41a, Pisárky, Brno

Microeconomics 1

http://is.muni.cz/predmet/ESF/podzim2010/BPE_MIC1

Syllabus - Fall Semester 2010

Instructor:	Georgi Burlakov
E-mail:	Georgi.Burlakov@cerge-ei.cz
Language of Instruction:	English
Office Hours:	Monday, 11:00-12:00, room TBA
Semester:	20.09.2010 – 20.12.2010
Exam Period:	03.01.2011 – 15.02.2011

Course Description: The course introduces microeconomics to students. It provides the basic principles and the intuition behind modern professional economic thinking about buying, selling, setting prices, competing for customers, looking for jobs, and earning a living. It also gives a first outlook on the toolbox used in the microeconomic analysis.

The course objectives can be summarized as follows:

- to provide students with basic knowledge about the theory of microeconomics,
- to gain the foundations for forming sound economic thinking in students,
- to help students acquire the basics of marginal analysis,
- to enable students to interpret motivation and behaviour rules of market subjects on the demand and supply sides.

During lectures students get familiar with basic economic terms and concepts. To pass successfully, during the course students should develop and demonstrate ability to interpret and apply the main principles and techniques taught in class for answering the questions and solving the problems given at the tutorial sessions, homework assignments and written exams.

Grading: The overall course grade will be computed by converting into a grade-point score the total number of points gained from participation in class (10%), doing two homework assignments (10%), midterm (30%) and final (50%) written exams.

Teaching Strategy: The course is taught in English and is based on English-language academic sources. Each lecture session involves slide-presentation via digital projector. The main points of the presentation are summarized in handouts distributed during the lecture. They closely follow the structure of the chapters in the textbooks suggested for the course. This helps students organize their notes in a consistent way that makes out-of-class reading more efficient.

Textbooks:

1. Mankiw, N.G., and Taylor, M.P. (2010), Economics: Special Edition with coverage of the world financial crisis, 1e, South-Western Cengage Learning EMEA, pp. 3-916.

2. Course Outline*:

Day	Hours	Topic
20.09.2010	7:40 – 9:15 a.m.	Lecture 1: Introduction to Economics (Mankiw, Ch. 1-2)
Monday	9:20 – 11:00 a.m.	Tutorial session
27.09.2010	7:40 – 9:15 a.m.	Lecture 2: Market Mechanism (Mankiw, Ch. 3)
Monday	9:20 – 11:00 a.m.	Tutorial session
4.10.2010	7:40 – 9:15 a.m.	Lecture 3: Market Equilibrium (Mankiw, Ch. 4)
Monday	9:20 – 11:00 a.m.	Tutorial session
11.10.2010	7:40 – 9:15 a.m.	Lecture 4: Consumer Demand Analysis (Mankiw, Ch. 5, 21)
Monday	9:20 – 11:00 a.m.	Tutorial session
18.10.2010	7:40 – 9:15 a.m.	Lecture 5: Firm Supply Analysis (Mankiw, Ch. 5, 13)
Monday	9:20 – 11:00 a.m.	Tutorial session
25.10.2010	7:40 – 9:15 a.m.	Lecture 6: Perfectly Competitive Markets (Mankiw, Ch. 7, 14)
Monday	9:20 – 11:00 a.m.	Tutorial session
1.11.2010	7:40 – 9:15 a.m.	Lecture 7: Monopoly and Government Policy (Mankiw, Ch. 6, 8, 15)
Monday	9:20 – 11:00 a.m.	Midterm exam (covering the topics of lecture 1-6)
8.11.2010	7:40 – 9:15 a.m.	Lecture 8: Oligopoly (Mankiw, Ch. 16)
Monday	9:20 – 11:00 a.m.	Tutorial session
15.11.2010	7:40 – 9:15 a.m.	Lecture 9: Monopolistic Competition (Mankiw, Ch. 10, 17)
Monday	9:20 – 11:00 a.m.	Tutorial session
22.11.2010	7:40 – 9:15 a.m.	Lecture 10: Labor Market (Mankiw, Ch. 18, 19, 20)
Monday	9:20 – 11:00 a.m.	Tutorial session
29.11.2010	7:40 – 9:15 a.m.	Lecture 11: Capital and Land Markets (Samuelson, Ch. 18, 26, 36, 37)
Monday	9:20 – 11:00 a.m.	Tutorial session
6.12.2010	7:40 – 8:55 a.m.	Lecture 12: Public Goods and Common Resource (Mankiw, Ch. 11)
Monday	9:00 – 10:30 a.m.	(Preliminary) Final Exam 1 (covering the topics of lecture 1-11)
13.12.2010	7:40 – 8:55 a.m.	Lecture 13: Frontiers of Microeconomics (Mankiw, Ch. 22)
Monday	9:00 – 10:30 a.m.	(Preliminary) Final Exam 2 (covering the topics of lecture 1-11)

* All sessions take place in P3 (KPMG Hall).