# ECON 200E – Introduction to Microeconomics Autumn 2015

Class Meetings: Monday and Wednesday, 3:30 - 5:20, CMU 326

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Office Hours: TBD

Office: Savery Hall 319A

# The goals for your learning fall into a couple of categories:

Fundamental Knowledge

- Understand and be able to use microeconomic terminology
- Understand that the highest-valued alternative foregone is the opportunity cost of what is chosen
- Understand how individuals and firms make themselves as well off as possible in a world of scarcity
- Understand how prices inform the decisions about which goods and services to produce, how to produce them, and who gets them
- Understand how government policies affect the allocation of resources in a market economy
- Understand how market structure influences the allocation of resources *Application* 
  - Use microeconomic principles to understand and explain economic events and other social phenomena
  - Use elements of game theory to explain the strategic choices of individuals or organizations
  - Appreciate the usefulness of economic reasoning in personal decision making

### **Required Textbook:**

Principles of Microeconomics (7<sup>th</sup> Edition) by N. Gregory Mankiw

### **Course Grade:**

The grading requirements for this course include homework (10%), two midterm exams (each worth 25%), and a final exam (40%).

### **Course Website:**

For this course, I will be using Canvas to post updates to the course schedule, homework, supplemental materials, and grades.

# **Schedule (Tentative)**

### Lecture 1

Principle of Economics (Ch. 1) Thinking Like an Economist (Ch. 2)

## Lectures 2 and 3

Interdependence and the Gains from Trade (Ch. 3)

# Lectures 4, 5, and 6

The Market Forces of Supply and Demand (Ch. 4) Consumers, Producers, and the Efficiency of Markets (Ch. 7)

# Exam I: Wednesday, October 21

### Lecture 7

Elasticity (Ch. 5)

## Lectures 8 and 9

Supply, Demand, and Government Policies (Ch. 6) The Costs of Taxation (Ch. 8) International Trade (Ch. 9)

### Lectures 10 and 11

The Cost of Production (Ch. 13)

## Exam II: Monday, November 16

### Lectures 12 and 13

Firms in Competitive Markets (Ch. 14)

### Lectures 14 and 15

Monopoly (Ch. 15) Monopolistic Competition (Ch. 16) Oligopoly (Ch. 17)

# Lecture 16

The Markets for the Factors of Production (Ch. 18) Final Exam Review

Final Exam: Thursday, December 17 (2:30-4:20)