Introduction to Microeconomics,
E201, Section 15412
Fall 2009

Contacting the Instructor:
Professor Robert B. Harris
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Office: CA511; Phone: 274-0095
Office Hours: W 1-3pm; Th 6-7pm or by appt.

Required Text:  Frank and Bernanke, Microeconomics, 4th ed.
Connect, on line at http://www.mcgraw-hillconnect.com

To register for Connect, go to:
http://connect.mcgraw-hill.com/class/r_harris_tv_class_fall_2009

Follow the online directions. You will have the option of purchasing Connect (without the e-text) or Connect Plus (which includes an e-text). If you bought a print edition of the textbook packaged with a Connect subscription, you can enter the access code that was provided to activate your subscription; otherwise, you must purchase Connect on line to be able to take this section of E201. Note: you may need to use Internet Explorer as your browser to register, although after registration, Firefox should work if you prefer.

Note: The e-book edition of Frank & Bernanke textbook can be packaged with Connect on line; the print edition is optional but highly recommended. It is difficult to read an entire textbook on a computer screen, and printing from the e-text is difficult--the text can be printed only one section at a time. The e-text can be a great supplement to the print edition, because you can access it on line anywhere, without carrying your book with you, but it is a poor replacement for the print edition.

Grading:

Two online midterm exams @ 20% each (multiple choice)  40%
Departmental Common Final Exam (multiple choice)  20%
Connect homework & quizzes (online)  40%
Total  100%

Note: No make-up exams or homework assignments. No late homework assignments will be accepted for any reasons, although the two lowest homework assignments will be dropped at the end of the semester.
Revised Tutoring Schedule:

The economics department provides a tutor at no charge. (Of course, nothing is truly free, but at the margin, tutoring is “free,” because you have already paid for it, in your tuition!) The tutor is Pingping Ren, who will hold tutoring hours in CA509 at the following times:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>9am-2pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>9am-3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>9am-4pm, 7pm-9pm</td>
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I encourage you to take advantage of the tutoring program whenever you are unclear on the readings or assignments.

Study Tips:

1. Studying economics is a lot like learning a new language. Economics has its own vocabulary with very precise definitions. If you don’t understand the terminology, the concepts can be difficult to grasp. An additional complication is that much of the terminology is used in everyday language, but often with a somewhat different meaning. Make sure that you understand the terms before you try to comprehend the material.

2. Economics involves a specialized way of thinking that must be learned early in the course in order to understand the material that comes later. Pace yourself so that you don’t get behind in the introductory classes. Later chapters build upon the earlier material.

3. You can’t learn economics by osmosis. You may listen to a lecture and feel that everything is clear. However, to understand the material well enough to succeed on the exams, you need to solve problems and answer review questions. Read the text and stay current with the Connect assignments. Not only is the homework graded, but it is also a good way to identify and resolve problems before the exams.

4. Take advantage of the resources that are available to you, starting with your instructor and the Econ Dept. tutor. Don’t feel constrained by the posted office hours; you can telephone or stop by any time. I’m also generally available by e-mail (rharris@iupui.edu).

Plagiarism Policy: In a word, don’t. Everyone is responsible for his or her own work. All work, quizzes, homework, and exams, must be original. Presenting someone else’s work without credit will result in a failing grade for the course. That includes (but is not limited to) material downloaded from the internet without giving proper credit.

Principles of Undergraduate Learning: This course addresses the core communication and quantitative skills principle, emphasizing performance of quantitative analysis and the use of information resources and technology. It also contributes to the critical thinking principle, especially in developing the ability to synthesize information to arrive at reasoned conclusions, to evaluate the logic, validity, and relevance of data, and to solve challenging problems.