



ECON 101 – Principles of Macroeconomics

Course Information

Semester	: Winter 2021 (December 23, 2021 – January 17, 2022)
Credit	: 4
Teaching Hours	: 50 Hours
Location	: Online Asynchronous
Professor Name	: Bill Davis
E-mail	: wdavis1@framingham.edu

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an introduction to the behavior of individual decision makers, particularly consumers and firms, who must make choices under conditions of economic scarcity. The course focuses on how markets work to allocate resources, how households maximize their satisfaction from consumer opportunities subject to an income constraint, and how firms organize production and measure costs in order to maximize profits. Related topics include comparative advantage and trade, competition and monopoly, government regulation, and labor markets. Concepts are discussed using common language and mathematical relationships with a strong focus on practical applications.

B. COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course you should have a grasp of economic principles that you can apply in your personal and professional life. This course should also enable you to better understand current events and help provide a framework for subsequent finance courses. Target skills to be acquired include these:

1. Understanding the principles of economics
2. Ability to differentiate between short-term and long-term economic fluctuations
3. Understanding the interactions among consumers, producers, and the efficiency of markets

C. PREREQUISITES

None.

D. REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

MindTap access for [Principles of Macroeconomics](#), Mankiw, ninth edition, published by Cengage Learning.

MindTap is a web-based management, assignment and assessment platform designed by Cengage to provide online content, grading, and a learning support system. Once you have purchased MindTap and logged in, you will have access to (1) the textbook content in the form of an eBook; (2) mandatory online assignments; (3) other tools to assist you in your reading comprehension; and (4) the ability to download the MindTap app to your phone or tablet to access the ebook there. Students are required to use MindTap, as assignments and exams are only available through this online portal. The cost for this text in MindTap is around \$119.



These are the procedures for logging into MindTap:

- If you are a new user, you can create your account and register for MindTap using the following link:

<https://www.cengage.com/dashboard/#/course-confirmation/MTPNM2PQ0HNJ/initial-course-confirmation>

- The purchase option that you should choose is called Cengage Unlimited, which provides access to all Cengage courses, content and ebooks for the semester. You will also be able to request a print rental for the semester.
- If you already have a Cengage Unlimited subscription, you can just log in with your credentials and you will have full access.
- If you are already logged into www.cengage.com and are asked for a course key, you can use [MTPN-M2PQ-0HNJ](#).
- This is a link to a video that shows how to register: <https://www.cengage.com/student-training/mindtap/not-integrated/ia-no/>

It is the student's responsibility to manage MindTap access. Absent a system-wide problem that affects the entire class, MindTap assignments will not be excused due to access problems. If you are having trouble, contact Cengage Student Support at 800-354-9706.

E. ACCESSING CLASS ONLINE

We will be meeting online for class this semester, and we will be using a Blackboard facility called Collaborate. My experience has been very good with this means of course delivery. Please look for a document called the Blackboard Collaborate QuickStart Guide in the Content area of Blackboard for detailed information about the system, and please note the following shorthand instructions for how to get in:

- 1) check your browser. I'm using a Mac running Big Sur and had been told that I might have to use either the Firefox or Chrome browsers, but Safari is working fine for me.
- 2) go to Blackboard
- 3) log into our course
- 4) click Course Tools on the left
- 5) find Blackboard Collaborate Ultra among the icons and click
- 6) once you're in Collaborate, click the session I have set up for our course. There will be only one.
- 7) click Join Session

I will be recording all of our class meetings. The recordings are accessible from Blackboard Collaborate, where you will follow the first five steps above, but then click on the "hamburger" menu (three horizontal parallel lines) at the top, and then click Recordings.

F. TEACHING METHODOLOGY

Class lectures will be supplemented with notes and problems presented as PowerPoint slides.

If I need to contact the class outside class hours, I will do so by email initiated through Blackboard. It is your responsibility to ensure that email addresses in Blackboard are accurate. It has been my experience that FSU email accounts can be reliably reached via Blackboard, but the same cannot

be said of gmail or other email accounts. I strongly advise you to register your FSU email accounts in Blackboard.

There are two exceptions to the asynchronous class delivery via Blackboard that I have presented: first, I would like everyone to please attend the first class meeting on June 28 live at 8 AM Boston time. This is so that we can get to know each other a bit and I can review the syllabus with you. Second, I have scheduled two class periods leading up to the first and second exams as Office Hours. It is not mandatory that you attend, and I am asking that you make a reservation by email if you would like to chat. We'll meet in Blackboard Collaborate

G. GRADING

Course grades will be determined as follows:

Exam 1	25%
Exam 2	25%
Exam 3	25%
Homework assignments	25%

Exams

Exams are not cumulative per-se but there will be concepts covered in earlier class sessions that serve as a foundation for future topics.

Exams will only be rescheduled for absences due to documented medical reasons; a simple note indicating that you were seen by a doctor is not considered sufficient documentation. Regular exams are open-book and use the multiple-choice format. In the extremely rare case that a make-up exam must be administered, it will be closed-book in the essay format.

Exams will be conducted online in MindTap and will be available only during regularly scheduled class periods. Note this important distinction: while you may view lectures and do homework on your own schedule, exam periods are fixed and you can see when they occur by checking the schedule of Meetings and Assignments. The reason for this is that I need to be standing by during the exam periods in case there are any technical problems that I need to address.

Homework Assignments

Every chapter has a set of online assignments in MindTap. These assignments are intended to ensure that you read and practice the material in the chapter and serve as very good preparation for the exams.

Homework due dates are programmed into MindTap and no late submissions can be accepted.

Extra Credit

Extra credit is not available for any aspect of this class. Don't ask.



Grade Scale

Points	Value	Scale	Points	Value	Scale	Points	Value	Scale
95-100	4.0	A	80-82	2.7	B-	67-69	1.3	D+
90-94	3.7	A-	77-79	2.3	C+	63-66	1.0	D+
87-89	3.3	B+	73-76	2.0	C	60-62	0.7	D-
83-86	3.0	B	70- 72	1.7	C-	below 59	0.0	F

Note that all grades are based purely on exam and homework scores. There is no subjective element to your grades. I will never give extra points because someone is concerned that their grade in this class is not as high as they want it to be for GPA purposes. Don't ask.

H. ANTIRACISM AT FSU AND MY COMMITMENT TO CULTIVATE AN ANTIRACIST CLASSROOM

At Framingham State University, faculty, staff, and students work together to sustain a learning, working, and living community free from hate, discrimination, harassment, and intolerance. We recognize the damaging effects of systemic racism—including policies, structures, and historic practices—on the experience and success of communities of color. Coming from different backgrounds and different levels of privilege, we can all affirm and engage in antiracist work.

Diversity of voices, and of minds, strengthens our ability to solve problems and to ask and answer questions about the world we share. As your instructor, I commit to upholding community values of inclusion, civility, accessibility, and mutual respect. I expect this class to commit to creating a community that affirms and welcomes all persons from diverse backgrounds and experiences, and supports the realization of everyone's potential.

I. SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Framingham State University offers equal opportunities to all qualified students, including those with disabilities and impairments. The University is committed to making reasonable accommodations as are necessary to ensure that its programs and activities do not discriminate, or have the effect of discriminating, on the basis of disability. Academic Support serves students with learning and psychiatric disabilities as well as students with visual, mobility and hearing impairments.

Academic Support works to provide reasonable accommodations to qualified students. The purpose of accommodations, modification, and/or auxiliary aids is to reduce or eliminate any disadvantages that may exist because of a disability. Framingham State University is not mandated by law to waive specific courses or academic requirements considered essential to a particular program or degree. Rather, the University is mandated to modify existing requirements on a case-by-case basis to ensure that individuals are not discriminated against because of their disability.

For further information, please contact LaDonna Bridges at 508-626-4906 or lbridges@framingham.edu.

J. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Framingham State does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, marital status, age, disability, or veteran status in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:



Erin Nechipurenko
Director of Human Resources
Designated Coordinator for Title IX (Employees), Section 504 and Title II of the ADA
Office of Human Resources, Dwight Hall Room 207
Framingham State University
100 State Street, Framingham, MA 01701
(508) 626-4530

K. GENERAL CLASS POLICIES

1) Student Conduct

Framingham State University has established rules and regulations that all students are expected to follow. Students have a right to expect enforcement of these rules and regulations. The University also has the right to expect students to abide by these regulations in a manner that benefits the responsibilities given to students as members of the University community. Knowledge of these rules and regulations can prove beneficial to students in utilizing and protecting their rights. Lack of familiarity with institutional rules or regulations is not grounds for excusing infractions. For all the details on Students' Code of Conduct please visit: [Ram handbook](#).

2) Academic Honesty

Students are expected to adhere to the academic honesty policy of the University, and all work is expected to be original with footnotes, bibliography, and appropriate references to quoted materials.

Framingham State University is committed to maintaining high standards of academic honesty and scholarly practice. Academic honesty requires but is not limited to the following practices: appropriately citing all published and unpublished sources, whether quoted, paraphrased, or otherwise expressed, in all students' oral, written, technical, and artistic work; and observing the policies regarding the use of technical facilities.

Academic honesty also requires:

- Not cheating on exams, tests, quizzes, assignments, papers, etc.
- No plagiarism: plagiarism is not only academically dishonest but also illegal.
- No unauthorized collaboration, use of dishonest practices, etc.
- Not submitting the same assignment in more than one course.

For further detail, consult the Framingham State University web site: [Academic honesty policy](#). Another source for further details can be found in the student's handbook: [Ram handbook](#).

3) Honor Code

Class members are encouraged to study and prepare together for most aspects of the course, but where individual effort is expected, it must be unique for each person and without consultation (including online exams). Your written projects are to be written by you and the final written product must be entirely your own work. If you engage in any form of cheating such as (but not limited to) copying someone else's answers, plagiarizing (if you're unsure what constitutes plagiarism, refer to the student manual), having someone else write or prepare an assignment for you in part or in whole, buying a paper, etc., you will be referred to



the Dean of Students. This could result in the grade of F for the entire course.

Papers and assignments are due at the beginning of the class period for which they are assigned. No papers will be accepted after the beginning of the class period, and any material submitted after that will receive a "0". Students are responsible for making sure all assignments are turned in on time.

A cordial, respectful and professional relationship is expected not only between instructor and student but also among students. Constructive criticism and dialogue is encouraged but must always be communicated in a respectful and collegial manner.

L. SCHEDULE OF CLASS MEETINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Please see document by this name posted to Blackboard. Tentative schedule attached.

<i>Week</i>	<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Homework Due</i>
1		Introduction	
	1	Ten Principles of Economics	
	2	Thinking Like An Economist	Chapter 1
	3	Interdependence and the Gains from Trade	Chapter 2
	4	The Market Forces of Supply and Demand	Chapter 3
		Chapter 4, Part 2	
	5	Elasticity and Its Application	Chapter 4
	6	Supply, Demand, and Government Policies	Chapter 5
2		Deadline to book Office Hour appointment	
	7	Consumers, Producers, and the Efficiency of Markets	Chapter 6
		Office Hour	Chapter 7
Exam One Online, Chapters 1-7, 8.00-9.30 AM Boston Time			
	8	Application: The Costs of Taxation	
	9	Application: International Trade	Chapter 8
	10	Measuring a Nation's Income	Chapter 9
	11	Measuring Cost of Living	Chapter 10
3	12	Production and Growth	Chapter 11
		Deadline to book Office Hour appointment	
	13	Saving, Investment, and the Financial System	Chapter 12
		Office Hour	Chapter 13
Exam Two Online, Chapters 8-13, 8.00-9.30 AM Boston Time			
	14	The Basic Tools of Finance	
4	15	Unemployment	Chapter 14
	16	The Monetary System	Chapter 15
	17	Money Growth and Inflation	Chapter 16
		Review for Exam	Chapter 17
Exam Three Online, Chapters 14-17, 8.00-9.30 AM Boston Time			