



Principles of Economics I

Fall Term

Professor: [Mgr. Hana Džmuráňová](#)
[Mgr. Petr Janský, M.Sc., Ph.D.](#)
[Mgr. Vědunka Kopečná](#)
[Mgr. Michal Král](#)
[Ing. Hana Moravcová](#)

Office hours: by personal arrangement

Contact: jansky@fsv.cuni.cz

Credits: 3U.S. credits

Course Code: JEB101

Course Description:

This course introduces economic thinking and basic principles of microeconomics for economics students as well as for non-economists.

Structure:

The structure of this course is divide between lectures and seminars.

Seminars 1 and 2 are standard seminars designed to help students learn economics and prepare them for further study of economics.

Seminar 3 is for curious and talented students who are keen to learn about economic topics beyond the minimum requirements of this course.

Instructions:

Please contact the UPCES-IEF staff to learn more about the instructions for this course, including meeting times and how to register.

Lectures and seminars

	Day	Time	Room	Name
Lecture	Wednesday	8:00-9:20	314	Petr Janský (web , email)
Seminars PoE	Wednesday	15:30-16:50, 17:00-18:20, 18:30-19,50	206	Hana Džmuráňová (email , web), Vědunka Kopečná (email , web),

				Hana Moravcová (email , web).
Seminar PoM	Wednesday	17:00-18:20	105	Michal Král (email)

At Wednesday lectures, students learn about the basic principles of economics in a way that prepares them for further study of economics as well as their future professional careers. Additionally, guest lecturers from research, business and other sectors are invited to contribute to the lectures and thus enrich the course.

In each week, the three seminars are taught by one of the seminar tutors. In addition, there is a special seminar PoM only for students of Principles of microeconomics (for IEPS students) and is taught by Michal Král, who also deals with any issues related to IEPS students and their additional requirements. Hana Džmuráňová is coordinating the seminars and is responsible for final exams, with which other instructors will help out. Hana Moravcová is responsible for Aplia. Please do not hesitate to contact them in case you have questions related to these issues.

Requirements and assessment

Students attend lectures and seminars, which are organised for their benefit. Students are thus encouraged to provide feedback during the semester so that teaching in ongoing seminars and lectures can be improved. Experience shows that there is a strong positive correlation between attendance at lectures and seminars and good results in exams.

Students of PoE can choose between **two main alternatives for final examination**. Students can decide either to sit in for an exam at the end of the semester (100 % of the grade) or to combine the exam (70 %) with assignments mainly in an online Aplia system during the semester (30 %). The exam is a test that includes various questions such as problem sets and multiple choices (for which students can prepare at seminars). Aplia assignments are submitted on a weekly basis (more on Aplia and how to purchase it is at the end of this syllabus). In case Aplia would worsen the grade, only the exam's result is taken into account. For both Aplia and the exam, the grading follows this simple rule: the total number of points received is divided by the maximum number of points that could have been received.

Students of PoM choose between the exam (75 %) or a combination of the exam (50 %) and Aplia results (25 %). In addition, their requirements include an essay (25 %)

Grading System:

The **grading** follows the following rules. Total values higher than 85 % correspond to grade 1 (výborně in Czech), between 70 % and 85 % to grade 2 (chvalitebně), between 60 % and 70 % to grade 3 (dobře).

Furthermore, it is possible for the instructors to award extra points for extraordinary activity of students during seminars (a maximum of 0.5 point per session and 5 points during the whole course) that count as percentage points towards the grade in addition to those outlined above.

Academic Honesty:

Although the students are encouraged to exchange ideas in and outside class, everybody is required to submit their own work. That means that copying the work of other students or published materials is strictly prohibited.

Reading Materials:

The course follows the material that is present in almost identical form in either of the following two textbooks: Mankiw, N.G., Taylor, M.P.: Economics (the chapter numbers in the weekly schedule below relate to this textbook's 3rd version) or Mankiw, N.G.: Principles of Economics. In addition to attending lectures and seminars, students are encouraged to read one of these textbooks. There are a number of copies of these textbooks available in the IES library (and some in the CERGE-EI library). The supporting web pages of this course include [the webpage of the Principles textbook](#), which has useful student hand-outs and other student resources. Also, there is a Czech-English dictionary specially designed for you by one graduate of the Principles course, Michal Spišiak. It includes a translation of every key word from the Principles textbook and you can access it at <http://dictionary.fsv.cuni.cz>.

Please note that a number of other introductory economics texts provide almost equivalent service to the student as the above listed textbooks. Especially, please consider visiting the webpage of [CORE](#) with an excellent free online textbook.