

# Elements of Microeconomics

Hank Behaeghel

Week 1

# Welcome to Section

- ▶ Everyone here should be here for section for Elements of Microeconomics.
- ▶ My name is Hank and I am one of the junior lecturers within the department.
- ▶ Email: [hbehaeg1@jhu.edu](mailto:hbehaeg1@jhu.edu)
- ▶ OH: TBD, usually available most days.

# Important Notes/Information

- ▶ Read the syllabus and make sure you are familiar with the grading breakdown.
  - ▶ Also please know that this is subject to change throughout the semester but, usually it doesn't.
- ▶ Please do not expect email responses at 2am the night before an exam.
- ▶ Regrading any assignment or exam does require you to come to OH to discuss what you think should be changed.
- ▶ Notes from section will be available. I try to post them into a Dropbox link before the weekend, however, I forget to do it frequently. Do not feel bad about sending me an emailing saying the section notes from the week are not there.

# What You Should Expect In Section

- ▶ First and foremost, section is for any questions that you may have on the week's material. Email me a question you want covered in section after lecture or simply ask it in section.
- ▶ Section is also a great time to get help on homework. I usually try to pick one question from the week's problem set and do it in section.
- ▶ If there are no questions, I review the material that Professor Husain covered.
  - ▶ I will try to do this in a way that supplements lecture and have it not be a repeat.

# The Principles of Micro

- ▶ These come up all the time, you do not need to memorize them per se, but, they transcend the entire course.
- ▶ There are three broad categories that these principles fall into:
  1. How people make decisions
  2. How people interact
  3. How the economy works as a whole

# What You Need to Know About Them

- ▶ None of these work in isolation. Most principles have a guiding hand in another.
- ▶ The idea of trade offs permeates through business decisions and individual choices on work and labor.
- ▶ Rational people thinking on the margin will be useful in later discussion on a firm's supply schedule.
- ▶ All this to say, you do not need to necessarily memorize "Principle X" but, knowing them will make things simpler in the long run.

# Models

- ▶ There are two main models you need to be familiar with at the start of this course.
  - ▶ Circular Flow
  - ▶ Production Possibilities Frontier
- ▶ Out of the two of these you will be tested on the PPF but, the circular flow model is good to know to help guide your understanding of the movement of money.

# Production Possibilities Frontier

