

**BACHELOR OF ARTS PROGRAMME (FYUP)**  
**MINOR COURSE- I (ECONOMICS)**

**ASSIGNMENT 2025**

For January 2025 Admission cycle

**COURSE CODE: BECM-161**

# PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS



SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

INDIRAGANDHINATIONALOPENUNIVERSITY

MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-68

Dear Students,

As we have informed you in the Programme Guide, evaluation at IGNOU consists of two parts: i) continuous evaluation through assignments, and ii) term-end examination. In the final result, assignments of a course carry 30% weightage while 70% weightage is given for term-end examination.

This Assignment booklet has TMAs for the core course **BECM- 161 Principles of Microeconomics** which is of four credit course.

Section A has Descriptive Category Questions (DCQs). These are meant for writing essay type answers, with an introduction and a conclusion. These are intended to test your ability to describe your understanding/knowledge about the topic in a systematic, to-the-point and coherent manner.

Section B has Middle Category Questions (MCQs). These questions require you to first analyse the topic in terms of arguments and explanations and then write the answers in a concise manner. They are meant to test your ability to distinguish, compare and contrast, or clear understanding of the concepts and processes.

Section C has Short Category Questions (SCQs). These questions are meant to improve your skill of recall in brief the relevant/precise information about persons, writing, events, or clear understanding of concepts and processes.

Before you attempt the assignments, please read the instructions carefully provided in the Programme Guide. It is important that you write the answers to all sections questions in your own words. Your answers should be within the approximate range of the word-limit set for a particular section. Remember, writing answers to assignment questions will improve your writing skills and prepare you for the term-end examination.

As mentioned in the Programme Guide, you need to submit all the assignments within the stipulated time for being eligible to appear in the term-end examination. .

**The assignment should be submitted to the Coordinator of your Study Centre as per the following schedule:**

**1. By 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2025 by the students who plan to appear in the December Term End Examination 2025.**

You must obtain a receipt from the Study Centre for the assignments submitted and retain it. If possible, keep a xerox copy of the assignments with you.

The Study Centre will have to return the assignments to you after they are evaluated. Please insist on this. The Study Centre has to send the marks to the Student Evaluation Division at IGNOU, New Delhi.

We expect you to answer each question as per guidelines for each category as mentioned in the assignment. You will find it useful to keep the following points in mind:

- 1) **Planning:** Read the assignments carefully, go through the Units on which they are based. Make some points regarding each question and then rearrange them in a logical order.
- 2) **Organisation:** Be a little selective and analytic before drawing up a rough outline of your answer. Give adequate attention to your introduction and conclusion.  
  
Make sure that your answer:
  - a) is logical and coherent;
  - b) has clear connections between sentences and paragraphs, and
  - c) is written correctly giving adequate consideration to your expression, style and presentation.
- 3) **Presentation:** Once you are satisfied with your answer, you can write down the final version for submission, writing each answer neatly and underlining the points you wish to emphasize. Make sure that the answer is within the stipulated word limit.



# **BECM-161 : PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS**

## **Tutor Marked Assignments**

**Course Code: BECM-161**

**Assignment Code: BECM-161/2025**

**Total Marks: 100**

### **Section A**

**Answer the following Descriptive Category questions in about 500 words each. Each question carries 20 marks** **2 × 20 = 40**

- 1      (a) Using Isoquant and Isocost line, explain the optimum combinations of factors and Producer's equilibrium.  
  
          (b) What is the relationship between long run Marginal cost and Long run Average cost curve? Explain the concept of long period Economic Efficiency using a diagram.
- 2      (a) Explain using diagram the shut down point and break even point for a perfectly competitive firm.  
  
          (b) The price determination under Monopoly is different from Perfect Competition. Explain how.

### **Section B**

**Answer the following Middle Category questions in about 250 words each. Each question carries 10 marks.** **3 × 10 = 30**

- 3      (a) Derive the demand curve from Indifference Curve for an inferior good.  
  
          (b) Explain the total Expenditure method of calculating the price elasticity of demand.
- 4      (a) "Economies of Scale lead to increasing returns in the long run", in the light of this statement, discuss the internal and external economies of scale accruing to the firm in the long run.

- (b) If the government fixes the price above the equilibrium price, what impact will it have on the market?
- 5 (a) A consumer consumes only two goods – X and Y. State and explain the conditions of consumer equilibrium under utility analysis.
- (b) Give reasons for diminishing returns to a factor in the short run.

### **Section C**

**Answer the following Short Category questions in about 100 words each. Each question carries 6 marks.**

**5 × 6 = 30**

- 6 Distinguish between extension of supply and an increase in supply.
- 7 What is Market Failure? Under what conditions can the market fail?
- 8 What happens to the budget line when the income of the consumer increases. Use diagram to show.
- 9 Discuss with example the concept and features of Monopolistic Competition.
- 10 Law of Diminishing returns applies only in the short-run. Do you agree?