



Instructor: Dr. Lilla Marein

Email: lilla.marein@colorado.edu

Phone: (941) 266-3726

Website: canvas.colorado.edu

Virtual Office Hours: Monday 5-7 PM, Thursday 12:30-1:30 PM or by appointment on Zoom:

<https://cuboulder.zoom.us/my/lillamarein>

INSTRUCTOR BIO

Dr. Lilla Marein received her Doctorate in Economics from the University of Colorado Boulder in 2022. She is enthusiastic about teaching and studying economics because it provides students with practical knowledge about how decisions are made at every level of society. In her research, among other things, Dr. Marein studies the impact of corporal punishment in US schools on student outcomes. Dr. Marein is a mother to two young children and is married to a fellow CU economics alumnus. When she is not spending time with her family or working, she enjoys playing volleyball and exploring new places.

Term Start: January 21, 2025

Term End: May 1, 2025

COURSE WEBSITE

Our course website is Canvas

- Login using your University of Colorado Boulder Identikey and password
- Under course list, click “ECON 3070-581: Intermediate Microeconomic Theory Online Spring 2025”

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Microeconomic theory is a powerful tool that is used as the foundation of problem-solving throughout the majority of economic analyses. This course provides a comprehensive introduction to microeconomic theory and its practical applications. We focus on the behavior of households, firms, and the strategic interactions between these agents in the marketplace. You will learn how economists use microeconomic theory to explain how individuals decide what and how much to buy, how firms decide and how much to sell under various economic environments (e.g, market structure, regulation, economic shocks). We will also extend our analyses to include discussions of market failures and public goods, international trade, taxes, and decision-making under uncertainty.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

Requires prerequisite courses of:

1. ECON 2010 (Principles of Microeconomics): grade of C – or higher
2. ECON 1088, MATH 1081, MATH 1300, MATH 1310 OR APPM 1350: grade of C- or higher

This course is restricted to students with 22-180 units completed

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course, you should be able to:

- Identify the fundamentals of microeconomic theory
- Explain how consumers make decisions in the face of scarcity and how these decisions vary in response to changes in the economic environment
- Explain how firms make decisions in the face of scarcity and how these decisions vary in response to changes in the economic environment
- Compare consumer and producer behavior resulting from the different type of market structures
- Apply algebraic, graphical, and calculus tools to microeconomic theory
- Apply microeconomic principles, theories and models to critically analyze and explain economic situations encountered in the real world that involve microeconomics
- Communicate the results of economic analysis in a clear and professional way

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

Course Website: <https://canvas.colorado.edu/> (Canvas) Grades and any further additional readings will be posted on Canvas. Please check Canvas frequently for any relevant notifications/changes that may occur throughout the course.

Textbook (required):

Microeconomics with MyLab, 9th Edition, by Pindyck and Rubinfeld, Pearson Publishing, ISBN 9780134143071

*Note: The deadline to “opt out” of CU Book Access for the Spring 2025 semester is **Wednesday, January 29, 2024**.*

For information about CU Book Access, CU Boulder’s equitable access course materials program that offers eligible students a flat-rate course materials purchasing option, please visit the following webpage:

<https://www.cubookstore.com/bookaccess>.

SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS

Supplemental readings and other materials will be provided in Canvas system, via the CU Library electronic reserve, direct upload, or links to websites.

ONLINE COURSE STRUCTURE

This course is an asynchronous online course. The format will use a combination of readings, online discussions, videos, and other web-based resources. Asynchronous learning does not require real-time interactions; instead, content is available online for you to access when it best suits your schedule, and assignments are completed prior to the deadlines listed in the schedule. You will interact with the instructor and other students using the communication functions provided by Canvas. You will submit assignments using Canvas, email, or through another online system.

There will be 14 Modules corresponding to the 14 weeks of the course (1 Module per week). You should proceed through each module in order, which will be comprised of readings from course texts, supplemental class notes, graded discussions, homeworks, quizzes, exams, and various outside sources of information such as additional readings and video content, among other content.

CONTENT OUTLINE

Review the separate weekly class schedule found on Canvas under “Syllabus” link.

CLASS PARTICIPATION

This course is designed to engage you mostly through exercises. However, there will also be class discussions on the topics covered in the course materials. It is important that you participate in class discussions to facilitate learning by other students and gain exposure to different viewpoints of other students in the class.

EVAULATION AND GRADING

Course grades will be determined by the completion of assignments, exams, and discussions as shown below:

Assignment*	Points per Assignment	Frequency	Number of Assignments Dropped	GRADE POINTS	GRADE PERCENTAGE
Early-Module Assignments	5	12	2	50	5.0%
In-Video Quizzes	2	At least 50	Any >50	100	10.0%
Discussions	20	4	1	60	6.0%
Exercises	15	12	1	165	16.5%
Problem Sets	25	12	1	275	27.5%
Proctored Midterm Exam	125	1	0	125	12.5%
Proctored Cumulative Final Exam	225	1	0	225	22.5%
Total				1000	100%

*Keep a copy of all work created for the course, including work submitted through Canvas.

GRADING CRITERIA

Grade	Percentage Grade	Equivalent Points	Indicates
A	93-100	930 – 1000	Excellent
A-	90-92.99	900 – 929	
B+	87-89.99	870 – 899	
B	83-86.99	830 – 869	Above Average
B-	80-82.99	800 – 829	
C+	77-79.99	770 – 799	
C	73-77.99	730 – 769	Average
C-	70-72.99	700 – 729	
D+	67-69.99	670 – 699	
D	63-67.99	630 – 669	Below Average
D-	60-62.99	600 – 629	
F	0-59	600 or lower	Failure

POLICY ON DUE DATES

Each module you will complete a series of critical thinking questions that reflect material from the various delivery formats and required readings. It is your responsibility to turn in each assignment on the required date. **Late assignments are not accepted for exams or discussions. Early Module Assignments, In-Video Quizzes, Exercises, and Problem Sets can be turned in up to three days late with a 10% grade reduction penalty.** The exceptions that may be considered is due to sickness, university excused function, or circumstances beyond the students' control. The instructor reserves the sole right to determine what grounds constitute a reasonable excuse for missing or submitting a late work assignment and the right to require the student to submit proper verification of such excuse.

ASSIGNMENTS

Early module assignments (50 POINTS) – There will be twelve (12) 5-point early-module assignments. This early-module work is designed to remind you of math and Principles of Microeconomic concepts necessary to be successful in that module. Early module assignments are open book and open note. You have two attempts at each early-module assignment, the highest grade counts, and the lowest two (2) are dropped from your final grade calculation. Early-module work will be submitted through Canvas or MyLab and are due on Tuesdays.

In-Video Quizzes (100 POINTS) – There will be at least 50 2-point in-video quizzes. You will watch lecture videos and answer questions during that video. Not all videos have in-video quizzes. The total possible points for each in-video quiz is 2, regardless of the number of quiz questions in the video. These quizzes are open book and open note. You have two attempts at each in-video quiz, the highest grade counts, and only the highest 50 count towards your final grade calculation. In-video quizzes will be submitted through Canvas using the tool “PlayPosit” and are due on Fridays.

Discussions (60 POINTS) – There will be four (4) 20-point discussions, and only your highest three (3) scores count toward your final grade. These assignments are intended to have you to interact with classmates and build community. The discussion will occur asynchronously; I will post a discussion question, and you will respond to the questions at your convenience prior to the due date. Discussions are open book and open note and will be submitted through Canvas. For each discussion, your initial discussion post will be due several days prior to your discussion response, so please note those individual deadlines on Canvas.

Exercises (165 POINTS) – There will be twelve (12) 15-point exercises. The format of exercises will be multiple choice, calculations, and short answers and will be open book and open notes. Your lowest one (1) exercise is dropped from your final grade calculation. These exercises are very similar to the problem sets. You have two attempts at each question on the exercise. Exercises will be submitted through Canvas or MyLab and are due on Sundays.

Problem Sets (275 POINTS) – There will be twelve (12) 25-point problem sets. The format of the problem sets will be multiple choice, calculations, and short answers and will be open book and open notes, but you only have one try per question. Your lowest one (1) problem set is dropped from your final grade calculation. Problem sets will be submitted through Canvas or MyLab and are due on Mondays.

Proctored Exams (350 POINTS) – There will be two (2) exams. The proctored midterm exam is worth 125 points and the proctored cumulative final exam is worth 225 points. The format of the exam will be multiple choice and calculations and will be closed book. The exams are completed on Canvas or MyLab in a proctored setting.

EXTRA CREDIT

Any extra credit opportunities will be determined by the instructor and announced to the entire class.

PROCTORING INFORMATION

This course requires proctored examinations. Exams are proctored which will require planning on your part. Proctors are individuals who administer the exam process following the guidelines provided by University of Colorado Boulder to ensure academic integrity.

Three (3) Proctoring Options:

1. On-Campus Proctoring (“At CU with my Instructor”)

- On-campus proctoring occurs on selected days and times. The schedule will be available in Canvas.
- You will take the exam in the Department of Economics computer lab using one of the lab's computers.
- Your exam will be proctored by a CU Econ professor.
- Use the link "Schedule your exam at CU with your instructor" in Canvas to schedule your exam time.

2. **Online Proctoring with Proctorio**

- The Department of Economics at the University of Colorado Boulder uses the online proctoring tool, Proctorio, for their proctored exams.
- Proctorio allows students to complete an assessment at a remote location, such as their home, while helping to ensure the integrity of the exam.
- Proctorio will have the appropriate passwords for the exam.
- You will be required to show your desktop to ensure only allowed resources are used.
- Only your professor can review the exam recordings (video, audio and screen capture).
- Requires access to a computer with a functioning webcam and a microphone. Please see Canvas for additional requirements.
- There is no fee for this service.

3. **At an accredited testing center**

- Please contact Dr. Karen Gebhardt to get this arranged asap (karen.gebhardt@colorado.edu).
- There may be a cost associated with using a testing center.

NETIQUETTE

All students should be aware that their behavior impacts other people, even online. I hope that we will all strive to develop a positive and supportive environment and will be courteous to fellow students and your instructor. Due to the nature of the online environment, there are some things to remember.

1. Always think before you write. In other words, without the use of nonverbals with your message, your message can be misinterpreted. So please think twice before you hit submit.
2. Keep it relevant. There are places to chat and post for fun everyday stuff. Do not stray from the discussion in the assigned questions.
3. Never use all caps. This is the equivalent of yelling in the online world. It is not fun to read. Only use capital letters when appropriate.
4. Make sure that you are using appropriate grammar and structure. In other words, I don't want to see anyone writing "R U" instead of "are you". There are people in the class that may not understand this type of abbreviation, not to mention it does nothing to help expand your writing and vocabulary skills. Emoticons are fine as long as they are appropriate. A smile is welcome, anything offensive is not.
5. Treat people the same as you would face-to-face. In other words, it is easy to hide behind the computer. In some cases, it empowers people to treat others in ways they would not in person. Remember there is a person behind the name on your screen. Treat all with dignity and respect and you can expect that in return.
6. Respect the time of others. This class is going to require you to work in groups. Learn to respect the time of others in your group and your experience will be much better. Always remember that you are not the only person with a busy schedule, be flexible. Do not procrastinate! You may be one that works best with the pressures of the deadline looming on you, but others may not be that way. The same is true for the reverse. The key to a successful group is organization, communication and a willingness to do what it takes to get it done.

Website: <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

Compiled by Melissa Landin, Instructor, Dept. of Communication, Inver Hills Community College,
mlandin@inverhills.edu

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

What are the basic computer specifications for Canvas?

- Visit the official [Canvas Computer Specifications Page](#) for the latest list of recommended system requirements.

Which browsers does Canvas support?

- Visit the [Supported Browsers Page](#) for the detailed list of internet browsers in Windows, MacOS, iOS and Android.

Skill Requirements

- Students also need to possess basic computer skills, such as:
 - How to use a web browser and word processor
 - How to send and receive email
 - How to locate a file and attach it to an email or upload a file into a course
 - How to copy and paste
 - Must know basic typing skills and keyboard commands
 - Must know basic computer terminology

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

- Canvas technical support. If you are experiencing issues with Canvas please contact:
 - CU Boulder's Help desk at 303-735-4357 (5-HELP) or help@colorado.edu. 5-Help will answer your call: Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from noon to 6:00 p.m., Closed during [University Holidays](#)
 - On your computer, click the “help” (?) icon on the left side of Canvas, once logged in
 - Within the Canvas App, you can search the Canvas support guides, Report a Problem or chat with Canvas Support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- MyLab tech support:
 - https://help.pearsoncmg.com/ccng/ccng_instr/ccng_xmel_instr_help_support_bridge.html or <https://support.pearson.com/getsupport/s/>

COURSE WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Please look for course drop deadlines in your Buff Portal. For more information, please visit

<https://ce.colorado.edu/resources/topics/dates-and-deadlines-general-info/>, contact your advisor, or reach out to the Division of Continuing Education. If you fail to drop by the deadline you may receive a grade of *F* and you may be liable for any tuition and fees. You may withdraw from a credit course after the published drop deadline. Withdrawals will result in a *W* on your academic record.

The instructor reserves the right to change or modify this course and the syllabus subject to appropriate and timely notice to the students enrolled in this class.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

HONOR CODE

All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the [Honor Code](#). Violations of the Honor Code may include but are not limited to: plagiarism (including use of paper writing services or technology [such as essay bots]), cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access to academic materials, clicker fraud, submitting the same or similar work in more than one course without permission from all course instructors involved, and aiding academic dishonesty. Understanding the course's syllabus is a vital part in adhering to the Honor Code.

All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution:

StudentConduct@colorado.edu. Students found responsible for violating the [Honor Code](#) will be assigned resolution outcomes from the Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution as well as be subject to academic sanctions from the faculty member. Visit [Honor Code](#) for more information on the academic integrity policy.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

Students and faculty are responsible for maintaining an appropriate learning environment in all instructional settings, whether in person, remote, or online. Failure to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, marital status, political affiliation, or political philosophy.

For more information, see the [classroom behavior policy](#), the [Student Code of Conduct](#), and the [Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance](#).

ACCOMMODATION FOR DISABILITIES, TEMPORARY MEDICAL CONDITIONS, AND MEDICAL ISOLATION

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit your accommodation letter from Disability Services to your faculty member in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities in the academic environment. Information on requesting accommodations is located on the [Disability Services website](#). Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or DSinfo@colorado.edu for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition, see [Temporary Medical Conditions](#) on the Disability Services website.

If you have a temporary illness, injury or required medical isolation for which you require adjustment, please email me as soon as possible.

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT, DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT and/or RELATED RETALIATION

CU Boulder is committed to fostering an inclusive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. University policy prohibits [protected-class](#) discrimination and harassment, sexual misconduct (harassment, exploitation, and assault), intimate partner abuse (dating or domestic violence), stalking, and related retaliation by or against members of our community on- and off-campus. The Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) addresses these concerns, and individuals who have been subjected to misconduct can contact OIEC at 303-492-2127 or email CUreport@colorado.edu. Information about university policies, [reporting options](#), and [support resources](#) including confidential services can be found on the [OIEC website](#).

Please know that faculty and graduate instructors must inform OIEC when they are made aware of incidents related to these policies regardless of when or where something occurred. This is to ensure that individuals impacted receive outreach from OIEC about resolution options and support resources. To learn more about reporting and support for a variety of concerns, visit the [Don't Ignore It page](#).

RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATIONS

Campus policy requires faculty to provide reasonable accommodations for students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. Please communicate the need for a religious accommodation in a timely manner. In this class, since it is online and assignments are open for at least a week, there are no extensions given for assignments for which the due dates fall on holidays. However, if a holiday falls during an exam, please reach out to me as soon as possible (and at least 2 weeks prior to the exam) so that we can schedule an alternative time for the exam.

See the [campus policy regarding religious observances](#) for full details.

PREFERRED STUDENT NAMES AND PRONOUNS

CU Boulder recognizes that students' legal information doesn't always align with how they identify. Students may update their preferred names and pronouns via the student portal; those preferred names and pronouns are listed on instructors' class rosters. In the absence of such updates, the name that appears on the class roster is the student's legal name.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

The University of Colorado Boulder is committed to the well-being of all students. If you are struggling with personal stressors, mental health or substance use concerns that are impacting academic or daily life, please contact [Counseling and Psychiatric Services \(CAPS\)](#) located in C4C or call (303) 492-2277, 24/7.

Free and unlimited telehealth is also available through [Academic Live Care](#). The Academic Live Care site also provides information about additional wellness services on campus that are available to students.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

A variety of instructional support services, such as writing center, guidance on personal or educational issues, tutoring questions and library resources are available to the students. For more information about their services, visit their websites linked in “CU Student Resources” under the “Course Information” module in Canvas.