

# ECON 2010 – 020: Principles of Microeconomics

HALE 270 on MWF 2:00-2:50 PM

Fall 2014

Instructor: Mark Goldfarb ([mark.goldfarb@colorado.com](mailto:mark.goldfarb@colorado.com))

Office: ECON401

Office Hours: Tuesday 2:15 – 3:30 PM, Wednesday 3:00 – 4:15 PM, & by appointment

Websites: [Desire2Learn](#) (D2L; for course information)

[Aplia](#) (for online homework)

Course Prerequisites: Officially no prerequisites are required, but you should have a good handle on basic algebra (i.e. solving for 'x') and graphing (i.e. drawing lines, locating points, and solving for areas of triangles and rectangles)

**Required Textbook:** N. Gregory Mankiw; *Principles of Microeconomics*, 7<sup>th</sup> edition

## Teaching Assistants (TAs):

Jacob Howard ([jacob.b.howard@colorado.edu](mailto:jacob.b.howard@colorado.edu))

Casey Newell ([casey.newell@colorado.edu](mailto:casey.newell@colorado.edu))

## Recitations:

Recitation Number	Time of Recitation	Room Number	Instructor
021	M 8:00-8:50 AM	EDUC 132	Howard
022	M 3:00-3:50 PM	ECON 2	Howard
023	Tu 8:00-8:50 AM	ECON 2	Newell
024	M 4:00-4:50 PM	CLRE 212	Newell
025	W 8:00-8:50 AM	EDUC 132	Howard
026	W 3:00-3:50 PM	HUMN 190	Howard
027	W 4:00-4:50 PM	MCOL E155	Newell
028	W 5:00-5:50 PM	MLMS 237	Newell

## EXAM DATES:

<b>Midterm 1</b>	<b>Friday, September 26</b>
<b>Midterm 2</b>	<b>Friday, October 24</b>
<b>Midterm 3</b>	<b>Friday, November 21</b>
<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>Wednesday, December 17, 7:30 PM – 10:00 PM</b>

### Course Description & Objective:

Economics is the study of decision making and its effects on the decision maker and others. In microeconomics, we focus on how people and firms make decisions based on a limited supply of time, money, information, and other resources. Since there are not an infinite amount of resources, it is important to understand how a person or firm can find the right balance and make the best decision.

In this course, we will use many techniques to understand how people and firms make the best choices. You will find that many (if not all) of the techniques for this course appear to be purely mathematics, but ultimately the answers should be explained by economic theory. By the end of this course, you should be able to intelligently explain some of our worldly matters in a basic economic context.

### Grading:

#### Scale:

Score	Grade	Score	Grade
92.5-100%	A	72.5-76.4%	C
89.5-92.4%	A-	69.5-72.4%	C-
86.5-89.4%	B+	66.5-69.4%	D+
82.5-86.4%	B	62.5-66.4%	D
79.5-82.4%	B-	59.5-62.4%	D-
76.5-79.4%	C+	<59.5%	E

### Scheme:

Grade Item	Percentage towards overall grade
Recitation	15%
Aplia	15%
Midterm 1	20%
Midterm 2	20%
Midterm 3	20%
Final Exam	30%

Your overall grade will be comprised of Aplia, recitation, highest two midterms, and the final exam. These are the only things that will make up your overall grade, **there will be NO extra credit**. Since I am allowing the highest two scores of your midterms, **THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUP EXAMS WHATSOEVER!** There will also be no makeup for the Final Exam. If you miss an exam, that exam grade will be a zero.

### **Recitations:**

Recitations take place once a week at the time you registered beginning on the second week of class (no recitations on the first week). Recitations are smaller in class size than the lecture, providing you a more comfortable atmosphere to ask questions and review concepts and ideas covered in lecture. These will be led by your TA and they will determine how your recitation is graded. Your TAs are a valuable resource that you should utilize.

### **Homework & Aplia access:**

For this course, we will be using Aplia, which is a homework tool online. To gain access to my course through Aplia, please go to this website

<http://login.cengagebrain.com/cb/entitlement.htm?code=MCUM-43DM-9R2Y>

Instructions are provided on Desire2Learn or at the end of this syllabus. Please note the last day of the Grace Period for Aplia is September 14. That means in order to use Aplia after September 14, you must either enter in the code that came with your textbook from the bookstore or buy the Aplia separately.

**Help with registration for Aplia will be available outside of the bookstore on Tuesday, August 26 and Wednesday, August 27.**

For each chapter we cover, there will be an online homework assignment through Aplia. Tentatively, I will have the homework assignments of the chapters we covered in class due **one week from when we finished covering the chapter**. The actual due dates and time for each assignment is listed on Aplia and it is your responsibility to get the assignments done.

You will have three attempts for every question on the homework, with the highest score for each question recorded as your grade. Whatever grade for the Aplia assignments are shown will be the grade you receive; no ifs, ands, buts, or coconuts.

### **Exams:**

There will be three midterms and one final exam for this course. The exams will be comprised of multiple choice and short answer. REMEMBER, two highest midterm scores out of three will count towards your overall grade, so **NO MAKEUP EXAMS** will be given!

The midterms are not cumulative and will focus on the material covered after the previous exam up to the lecture before the exam. **The final exam is cumulative!**

Any material covered in lectures, recitations, or in homework are fair game for the exams.

Please bring a pencil, student ID number (the one on myCUinfo, NOT on your student ID), and a calculator. Graphing calculators are fine for the exams, but **cell phones or any other electronic device may not be used!**

Regarding final exams, if you have 3 or more final exams on that day, please let me know as soon as possible (before October 1<sup>st</sup>) so I can help reschedule the final exam for you. Upon this request, I will ask for proof that you have 3 or more final exams. I will ask for this proof again after the withdrawal deadline towards the end of the semester to verify you didn't drop one of the courses.

**Regarding Cheating on the exams:** The Department of Economics do not tolerate cheating in any fashion. If I or the TAs catch you cheating, that exam will be a **ZERO**. In addition, I will notify the Economics Department of any cheating and will also notify the Honor Code. If the Honor Code committee feels there was cheating involved, **you will receive an XE as your grade**, which indicates you failed because of academic dishonesty. **Even if you drop the course, I will change your grade from a W to an XE if the Honor Code committee felt cheating was involved.**

#### **Email Policy:**

There are 150+ in the class. I and the TAs may have a tough time responding to every email. Therefore, any questions that can be answered in the syllabus, on D2L, or in any of my previous emails will NOT be responded to—don't take it personally, just know to read the syllabus and check the course website before asking a question. In addition, please do not ask an unrelated question if I email the class about something else. If you will like a response to your email, please compose a new email, not reply to a class email. **By FERPA, I nor the TAs may discuss personal grades via email. Please visit office hours for that discussion.**

#### **Classroom Behavior:**

In lecture and in recitations, just be kind and respectful. Please refrain from cell phone usage and visiting websites not related to the course (Facebook, Twitter, Reddit, Imgur, etc.). Please refrain from excessively talking to your neighbor/friends during class. You came to class to learn the material, it's only 50 minutes for the lectures and recitations. Please be courteous to your instructors and other students in the class. As we'll learn later in this course, classroom disruption is a negative externality.

## **University Policies:**

### **Disability Policy**

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit a letter from Disability Services to me in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, and <http://www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices>

### **Religious Observance Policy**

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments, or required attendance. If you have a conflict, please contact me at the beginning of the semester so we can make proper arrangements.

### **Code of Behavior Policy**

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty have the professional responsibility to treat all students with understanding, dignity, and respect to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which they and their students express opinions. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the students' legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make the appropriate changes to my records.

### **Honor Code**

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council ([honor@colorado.edu](mailto:honor@colorado.edu): 303-725-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Other information on the Honor Code can be found at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html> and at <http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode>

**Discrimination and Harassment Policy**

The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on Discrimination and Harassment (<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/discrimination.html>), the University of Colorado policy on Sexual Harassment, and the University of Colorado policy on Amorous Relationships applies to all students, staff, and faculty. Any student, staff, or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at <http://www.colorado.edu/odh>.

# How to access your Aplia course

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Goldfarb, ECON 2010, Fall 2014

**Instructor:** Mark Goldfarb

**Start Date:** 08/25/2014

**Course Key:** MCUM-43DM-9R2Y

## What is Aplia?

In just 10 years, more than one billion answers have been submitted through Aplia, the premier online assignment solution. Millions of students use Aplia to better prepare for class and for their exams. Join them today!

## Registration

1. Connect to <http://login.cengagebrain.com/course/MCUM43DM9R2Y>
2. Follow the prompts to register for your Aplia course.

## Payment

After registering for your course, you will need to pay for access using one of the options below:

**Online:** You can pay online using a credit or debit card, or PayPal.

**Bookstore:** You may be able to purchase access to Aplia at your bookstore. Check with the bookstore to find out what they offer for your course.

**Free Trial:** You can access Aplia until 11:59 PM on 09/14/2014 during your free trial. After the free trial ends you will be required to pay for access.

Please note: At the end of the free trial period, your course access will be suspended until your payment has been made. All your scores and course activity will be saved and will be available to you after you pay for access.

If you already registered an access code or bought Aplia online, the course key to register for this course is: MCUM-43DM-9R2Y