

ECON 2010-050

Principle of Microeconomics

Instructor: Tianxiao Zheng

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Office: ECON 309A

Office Hours: M 12:30-01:30, 3:00-4:00 W 3:00-4:00

Course Meetings: TTH 2:00-3:15

Location: HALE 270

Course Website: D2L

Required Textbook

N. Gregory Mankiw “Principle of Microeconomics”, *6th* edition, South Western College Publishers.

Course Overview

Microeconomics studies the economic behavior of individuals economic decision makers, such as a consumer, a producer, a worker, or a manager. It also analyzes the behavior of individual households, industries, markets, labor unions and trade associations. The introduction to microeconomics prepares students to future study in intermediate and advanced level of microeconomics. It also acts as an essential part of studies in international trade, labor, development and other sub-fields of microeconomics.

Prerequisites

Economics Prerequisites: NO

Mathematics Prerequisites: Basic algebra and graphing skills will be expected.

Grading

Your course grade will be calculated as following:

- Recitation (20%)
- Highest two of the following (50%):
 - Midterm 1 25%
 - Midterm 2 25%
 - Midterm 3 25%
- Final (30%)

Recitation:

These weekly meetings start from the second week of the semester. Your TAs will tell you in the first recitation about how the recitation grade will be determined. In recitation, you will have the opportunity to ask questions on topics covered in lectures, review important concepts, do exercises and generally become more comfortable with the material. Your TAs are a valuable resource that you should utilize.

Midterms and Final:

Please note: No exams will be given early, and NO make-up exam.

Due to the large class size, there will be no make-up exams, dropped exams or early exams given for either an excused or unexcused absence.

Midterms and final will be multiple choice questions. Please bring a calculator to every exam. Cell phone & graphing calculators are not permitted. **The use of a cell phone will never be permitted and if you bring a graphing calculator 5 points will be deducted from your overall exam score.** Midterms will not be cumulative. It will cover material we have covered since the last midterm. **Final is cumulative.** This means you will be tested with materials from the entire semester.

Tentative exam dates:

Midterm 1 - September 23rd

Midterm 2 - October 28th

Midterm 3 - December 3rd

Final - TBD

Grading Disputes

Please do not send me emails on your grades. According to FERPA (the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974), I can not talk about your grades in emails. You need to come to see me during office hours if you have any concern with your grades. I will not email you back if you are asking about grades in the email.

Grading Scale

<u>Your score</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Your score</u>	<u>Grade</u>
93-100%	A	73-76%	C
90-92%	A-	70-72%	C-
87-89%	B+	67-69%	D+
83-86%	B	63-66%	D
80-82%	B-	60-62%	D-
77-79%	C+	≤59%	F

Lecture

Lecture notes can be found on D2L after classes. However, you are responsible for all material covered in class. ALL MATERIAL COVERED IN LECTURES AND RECITATION IS FAIR GAME FOR EXAMS. You are welcome to come to my office hours if you have questions, or want to have a discussion of materials related to this course. Please review materials covered in previous class before come to the lecture. Full participation is expected.

Emails

Please be considerate with your use of email. If you email me a substantive question about lectures, exams, or assignments I will most likely encourage you to come to talk to me about it during my office hours. I reserve the right not to answer emails lacking appropriate salutation, grammar and punctuation. Emails asking for administrative information contained within this syllabus or available on the course website will not be answered.

Office hours

Office hours are for your benefit to ask questions or discuss course materials with me in a relative small setting environment. I have office hours on every Monday and Wednesday. If the listed office hours do not work for you, you can send me an email to set up an alternative time.

Tentative course outline

<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Topic</i>
1	Ten Principles of Economics	12	The design of the tax system
2	Thinking like an Economist	13	The costs of production
3	Interdependence and the gains from trade	14	Firms in competitive markets
4	The market forces of supply and demand	15	Monopoly
5	Elasticity and its application	16	Monopolistic Competition
6	Supply, demand, and government policies	17	Oligopoly
7	Consumers, producers, and market efficiency	18	Factors of Production
8	The costs of taxation	19	Earnings and Discrimination
9	International trade	20	Income inequality and poverty
10	Externalities	21	Consumer choice
11	Public goods and common resources		

Note this is a tentative schedule and topics to be covered may change according to the progress of class.

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 Observation Policy

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to 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 no later than the first week 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 has 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 student's 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 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; 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 nonacademic 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 & 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>.