

ECON 2010-070 | PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS | FALL 2013

MWF 3:00pm – 3:50pm | HLMS 252

Instructor Information

Instructor: Seamus X. Li
Email: seamus.x.li@colorado.edu
Website: EconPortal <http://courses.bfwpub.com/krugmanwellsmicro3.php>
Course info <https://sites.google.com/site/seamusxli/teaching>
Office: ECON 306
Office hours: Thu 1:00pm – 4:00pm
Appointments outside regular office hours are available on a limited basis.

Course Description

Microeconomics, roughly speaking, is the study of how individuals and firms make decisions with limited resources. Throughout the course of this semester, we will explore such topics as preferences, supply, demand, market, taxes, government regulations, etc. This course serves as a prerequisite for ECON 2020, Principles of Macroeconomics, as well as many upper division economics courses.

Textbook and required material

Paul Krugman and Robin Wells. 2012. *Microeconomics, Third Edition*. Worth Publishers.

The companion EconPortal access card is required for homework assignments. A Clicker is also required for in-class questions.

Prerequisites

There is no prerequisite for this course. However, a sound understanding of elementary algebra is essential to the successful completion of this course. At the very least, you should be familiar with plotting and inverting simple functions, as well as solving simple equations.

Grading

Your course grade consists of the following components:

- Highest two of the following: 40%
 - EconPortal 20%
 - Midterm I 20%
 - Midterm II 20%
- Recitation 25%
- Final Exam 25%
- Clicker Questions 10%

Total	<hr/> 100%
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EconPortal Assignments. The EconPortal assignments are designed to reinforce your understanding of the course material and to familiarize you with types of questions that may

appear on the exams. They may also help make up for a poorly performed or missed midterm exam; see the paragraph below for details.

Midterm Exams. There are two midterm exams, each of which consists of twenty multiple-choice questions and one short-answer question. I will drop the lowest of the following three scores: EconPortal assignments, Midterm I, and Midterm II. This implies that a missed midterm is replaced by your EconPortal assignments. As such, there will be no make-up midterm exam under any circumstances.

Final Exam. The final exam is cumulative and consists of fifty multiple-choice questions and three short-answer questions. The final exam score will not be dropped for any reason. If you require accommodation for the final exam due to scheduling conflict, it is your responsibility to inform me in a timely manner pursuant to the University's final exam policy, which can be found at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/final-examination-policy>

Recitation. One of the four credit hours you will earn for this course comes from your recitation. Therefore, your performance in the recitation accounts for a quarter of your final score. Your recitation score is determined by the Teaching Assistant who leads your recitation section.

Important: recitations do not begin until the 2nd week of instruction.

Clicker Questions. Clicker questions are assigned during lectures as a means both to check your understanding of the material and to incentivize attendance. The score is determined solely by the percentage of questions answered, regardless of whether your answers were correct.

Letter Grade. Curving may be applied at the instructor's discretion but it should not be expected. Your final score will be rounded to the nearest one decimal place and your final grade is determined as follows:

Percentage	Grade	Percentage	Grade
93.4-100.0	A	73.4-76.9	C
90.0-93.3	A-	70.0-73.3	C-
86.7-89.9	B+	66.7-69.9	D+
83.4-86.6	B	63.4-66.6	D
80.0-83.3	B-	60.0-63.3	D-
76.7-79.9	C+	0.0-59.9	F

Exam Dates

Midterm I	Wednesday	10/09/2013	Regular class time
Midterm II	Wednesday	11/20/2013	Regular class time
Final Exam	Thursday	12/19/2013	7:30am – 10:00am

Office Hours

Both your TA and I have regularly scheduled office hours. Office hours are a great for having your questions answered in a one-on-one, interactive setting, and I highly encourage you to utilize this resource. If you are unable to visit during the regular office hours due to a scheduling conflict, I will be happy to meet with you at an alternative time, subject to availability.

Email Policy

While the teaching assistants and I strive to be as accessible to you as possible through multiple communication channels, including email, please observe the following policy regarding sending emails:

- Always refer first to the syllabus for questions regarding class policy. If the answer to your question can be found in the syllabus, you will likely be referred back to it.
- Some questions are better answered in person, especially questions regarding course material. Please use the office hours of your instructor and TA as the first resource for any help you need on understanding the course material.
- Under no circumstances can the TAs and I provide information about your performance on individual assignments or overall grade over the email due to Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) regulations, since emails are not considered a secure electronic medium. Scores that you have earned on individual assignments are posted on your EconPortal account.

Electronic Device Policy

Cellphones are to be on mute during lectures. You are welcome to use a laptop or a tablet computer for note taking and accessing learning materials online. However, if you are found to be using your electronic device in a disruptive manner, you will be asked to turn it off.

Disability Accommodations

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit a letter from Disability Services 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>

Classroom 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.

See policies at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html> and at http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code

Religious Observance 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 at the beginning of the term so we can make proper arrangements.

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 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 & Harassment Policy

The University of Colorado Policy on Sexual Harassment applies to all students, staff and faculty. Sexual harassment is unwelcome sexual attention. It can involve intimidation, threats, coercion, or promises or create an environment that is hostile or offensive. Harassment may occur between members of the same or opposite gender and between any combinations of members in the campus community: students, faculty, staff, and administrators. Harassment can occur anywhere on campus, including the classroom, the workplace, or a residence hall. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been sexually harassed 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 who believe they have been sexually harassed can be obtained at: <http://www.colorado.edu/odh/>