

University of Colorado at Boulder
Spring Semester 2018

Econ 2010-300: Principles of Microeconomics

LECTURE:	GOLD A2B70, Mon., Wed., Fri. at 1:00pm – 1:50pm
INSTRUCTOR:	Dr. Sergey Nigai
OFFICE:	ECON 10
EMAIL:	sergey.nigai@colorado.edu
WEB-SITE:	D2L and www.saplinglearning.com/login
OFFICE HOURS:	Mon. at 3:00pm-4:30pm and by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:

The objective of this course is to develop an understanding of basic concepts and mechanisms in microeconomics. Among others, we will answer the following questions: How do firms and households make production and consumption decisions? How do market mechanisms work and when do they fail? What is the role of government regulations and taxation? Why do countries trade? We will review these and other questions through the lens of both microeconomic theory and real world data.

REQUIREMENTS AND PREREQUISITES:

There are no prerequisites for this course. Good understanding of basic algebra will be helpful.

IMPORTANT DATES:

The dates for the midterms and final exam are as follows:

- Midterm I: Friday, February 16th, 1:00pm-1:50pm
- Midterm II: Wednesday, March 21st, 1:00pm-1:50pm
- Final: Sunday, May 6th, 7:30pm-10:00pm

REQUIRED BOOK, WEB-PLATFORM AND CLICKERS :

The required text is:

– *Paul Krugman and Robin Wells, Microeconomics, 4th edition, 2015, Worth Publishers.*

The book is available in hardcopy and ebook versions. In addition to the text you are required to sign up for Sapling Homework to complete weekly assignments using the following instructions:

1. Go to www.saplinglearning.com/login to log in or create an account.

2. Under Enroll in a new course, you should see Courses at University of Colorado, Boulder. Click to expand this list and see courses arranged by subject. Click on a subject to see the terms that courses are available. Choose the subject, Principles of Microeconomics.
3. Click on the term to expand the menu further (note that Semester 1 refers to the first course in a sequence and not necessarily the first term of the school year). Choose Semester 1 of 1.
4. Once the menus are fully expanded, you'll see a link to a specific course. Click the link and choose University of Colorado, Boulder - Econ 2010 - Microeconomics - Spring18 - NIGAI

If you have problems with signing up please visit: <https://community.macmillan.com/docs/DOC-5972-sapling-learning-registering-for-courses>.

You will need an i-clicker. You can purchase it from the bookstore. You must register your clicker at <https://cuconnect.colorado.edu/uPortal/index.jsp>.

COURSE STRUCTURE:

The course will consist of lectures, in-class clicker questions, weekly homework, and recitations:

- Attendance: It is essential for you to attend the lectures to understand the material.
- Clicker questions: Your answers will be graded and will count toward the final grade. You will get 2 points for a correct answer, 1 point for an incorrect answer, and 0 for no answer. I will discard 6 answers with the lowest score in the end of the semester.
- Homework: There will be weekly homework assignments. Each assignment will be due by the end of the week, i.e., by midnight of the corresponding Sunday. There will be no make-up assignments for missed homework.
- Recitations: Recitations will begin the second week of classes. It is essential for you to attend the recitations to grasp the material. TA's conducting recitations will grade your performance which will count toward the final grade. You must attend the recitation to which you have been assigned.

TA	Recitation #	Class #	Day	Time	Location
Zhao, Xiaomeng	311	27530	M	3:00-3:50	MUEN D144
Lukacs, Lilla	312	27531	M	4:00-4:50	HLMS 185
Zhao, Xiaomeng	313	27532	M	5:00-5:50	STAD 136C
Zhao, Xiaomeng	314	27533	W	8:00-8:50	ECON 13
Zhang, Mengqi	315	27551	W	4:00-4:50	ECON 119
Lukacs, Lilla	316	27552	W	5:00-5:50	MUEN E432
Lukacs, Lilla	317	28104	F	8:00-8:50	ECON 13
Zhang, Mengqi	318	28105	F	12:00-12:50	MUEN E113
Zhang, Mengqi	319	30103	M	3:00-3:50	ECON 205

EXAMS AND GRADING:

We will have two in-class midterms and a cumulative final exam. There will be no make up exams. The weights of the final grade are as follows:

FINAL EXAM:	40%
MAXIMUM OF MIDTERM I AND MIDTERM II:	30%
CLICKER QUESTIONS:	10%
HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS:	10%
RECITATIONS:	10%

When calculating the final grade for the class, I will use the maximum score you get for either of the two midterms. Hence, if you miss one of the midterms, the score for this test will be automatically dropped. However, if you miss both midterms due to a documented medical reason (you will have to provide proofs for both), the weight of the midterm will be shifted to the final exam. There will be no make up exams or extra-credit assignments. If your scores for both midterms are in top 5% of the class, you will get 10% added to your final exam.

POLICIES:

We will comply with all CU Boulder policies including:

- Accommodation for Disabilities
 - 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 (www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/students). Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or dsinfo@colorado.edu for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see Temporary Medical Conditions under the Students tab on the Disability Services website and discuss your needs with your professor.
- Academic Integrity: <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/academic-integrity-policy>
- Examination: <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/final-examination-policy>
- Religious Holidays. Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. See the campus policy regarding religious observances for full details: <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/observance-religious-holidays-and-absences-classes-andor-exams>
 - Students who miss homework assignment or the midterm exam due to religious holidays must notify me at least two weeks in advance explaining the reason for absence. If this is the case, the weight of the missed homework will be shifted to the remaining assignments and the weight of the midterm exam will be shifted to the final exam. There will be no make up exams or extra-credit assignments.

- Classroom behavior. Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail 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, political affiliation or political philosophy. 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. For more information, see the policies on classroom behavior and the Student Code of Conduct: <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/student-classroom-and-course-related-behavior>
 - The use of electronic devices is generally not permitted. There is now significant amount of research showing that the use of laptops, phones and other electronic devices is detrimental to learning:
 - * <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0956797614524581?journalCode=psa>
 - * <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0360131512002254>
 - If you must use an electronic device for taking notes, use last two rows of the classroom.
- Sexual misconduct, Discrimination, Harassment and/or related retaliation.
 - The University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment or related retaliation against or by any employee or student. CUs Sexual Misconduct Policy prohibits sexual assault, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, intimate partner abuse (dating or domestic violence), stalking or related retaliation. CU Boulders Discrimination and Harassment Policy prohibits discrimination, harassment or related retaliation based on race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct under either policy should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127. Information about the OIEC, the above referenced policies, and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment or related retaliation can be found at the OIEC website.
- Honor code. All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy. Violations of the policy may include: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access to academic materials, clicker fraud, resubmission, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-735-2273). Students who are found responsible for violating the academic integrity policy will be subject to nonacademic sanctions from the Honor Code Council as well as academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the academic integrity policy can be found at the Honor Code Office website: <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/student-honor-code-policy>

In addition, the following policies govern FAQs. Please read carefully before contacting me.

- Missed clicker questions due to absence:

- I will discard 6 clicker questions with the lowest scores. These include missed questions due to absence. There will be no other way to make up for missed points.
- Missed homework:
 - There will be deadlines (announced in advance in class) for submitting homework assignments. If you miss an assignment due to documented medical reason the weight of this homework will be shifted to the remaining ones. There will be no make-up assignments.
- Missed midterm:
 - If you miss one of the midterms, the score for this test will be automatically dropped. However, if you miss both midterms due to a documented medical reason (you will have to provide proofs for both), the weight of the midterm will be shifted to the final exam. There will be no make up exams or extra-credit assignments.