

University of Colorado Boulder  
Econ 2010 Principles of Microeconomics  
Fall 2022  
Syllabus

**Instructor:** Weizhao Sun

**Email:** [Weizhao.Sun@colorado.edu](mailto:Weizhao.Sun@colorado.edu)

**Office Hours** in Econ building, room 306:

Tuesdays: 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Thursdays: 10:00 am – 11:30 am

And on Zoom by appointments only

**Instructor Bio:**

Weizhao Sun obtained his master's degree in economics from Duke University in 2019. He is working towards a Ph.D. in Economics at CU boulder. His fields of interest are applied microeconomics, international trade and economics of development.

If you have any questions regarding this course, feel free to contact your instructor via email or visit your instructor during his office hours.

**Teaching Assistants (TA) Information:**

Peiyuan Li [Peiyuan.Li@colorado.edu](mailto:Peiyuan.Li@colorado.edu)

Office hours:

Alec Truax [Alec.Truax@colorado.edu](mailto:Alec.Truax@colorado.edu)

Office hours: Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 1:00-2:00 pm in Econ 14 and on Zoom by appointment

Grant Webster [Grant.Webster@colorado.edu](mailto:Grant.Webster@colorado.edu)

Office hours: Tuesday & Thursday 9:30-11:00 am in Econ 401

Teaching assistants are in charge of the recitation material and recitation grades. Recitations don't start until the second week. Contact your teaching assistant via email if you have any questions about the recitations.

**Course Info**

**Description:** Principles of Microeconomics is an introductory undergraduate course that teaches the fundamentals of microeconomics. This course introduces microeconomic concepts and analysis, such as supply and demand analysis, theories of the firm and consumer behavior, competition and monopoly, and welfare economics. Students will also be introduced to the use of microeconomic applications to address problems in current economic policy throughout the semester.

**Term starts** Aug 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

**Term ends:** Dec 10<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

**Class** Time and Location: Tuesday and Thursday, in *Gold Biosciences Building (Gold) A2B70*.

**Final Date, Time and Location (according to University Final Schedules):**

December 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 pm -10:00pm in *Gold A2B70*

### **Grading**

Recitation: 10%

Homework on *Mindtap*: 20%

Midterm 1: 20%

Midterm 2: 20%

Final exam: 30%

Lecture attendance bonus: Maximum 4%

### **Required Material and Textbook:**

1. N. Gregory Mankiw, Principles of Microeconomics. 9<sup>th</sup> edition with ***MindTap***.
2. ***iClickers*** accounts and ***iClicker*** APP (for bonus attendance questions only, a physical *iClicker* remote is NOT needed).
3. A PC or laptop with stable Wi-Fi connection to visit ***MindTap*** and do homework online.

**MindTap:** Students in this course are **required** to use MindTap to complete homework. MindTap is an online course platform that enable online access to homework, textbooks and study tools.

Registration links can be found on Canvas course page.

**Instruction and Cost of MindTap:** To keep the cost of your course materials as low as possible and access to those materials as convenient as possible, we have collaborated with the CU Book Store and the publisher to deliver those materials through a program called “Day 1 Digital Access”, which will appear on your tuition and fee bill as “Day 1 Digital Access”.

What does this mean for you?

1. You will receive access to all your course materials, digitally, on the first day of classes, through the course Canvas page.
2. You will see a “Day 1 Digital Access” charge on your tuition and fee bill for: **\$117.00**
  - a. This is a guaranteed lowest price, discounted by the publisher, and not available outside this course
3. You have the option to opt out. This means: you won’t pay for anything, but you lose all access to the course materials, including homework managers like Connect or MindTap
  - a. You can opt out by: using a link in a reminder email you will receive with the subject heading “Day 1 Digital Access”.
  - b. You must opt out no later than **September 7<sup>th</sup>**, otherwise you will be charged for the materials.
4. Please keep in mind that “opting out” means that your access to these materials will be turned **OFF**, and you will have no way to complete assignments.

**iClicker** account is required to take lecture attendance the account and the APP are free. Students do NOT need to purchase physical *iClickers* remote. Make sure to set up the *iClicker* account using your CU Boulder email address. To set up an account and learn about how to take attendance using *iClicker*, please go to: <https://macmillan.force.com/iclicker/s/article/iClicker-Attendance-only-Courses-How-to-Check-In-to-Class-with-the-Student-App>

**Prerequisites:** Being able to read mathematical graphs and solving algebraic equations quickly is necessary for this course.

**Extra Credit and Lecture Attendance:** Extra credits are available by coming to the lectures regularly. The lecture attendance is not required. But students that regularly come to lectures can earn up to 4% bonus towards their final grades. So, the maximum grade that a student can earn is 104%. There are roughly 30 lectures in the fall semester. There are around 24 lectures that I will record attendance. Attendance will be taken before 8:20 am during each lecture using the *iClicker* APP.

The extra credit rubric is the following:

<b>Lecture Attended</b>	Attend 20 lectures or more	18-19	16-17	14-15	Attend less than 14 lectures
<b>Extra Credit in %</b>	4% to final grade	3%	2%	1%	No extra credit

**Recitations** are mandatory and account for 10% of your total grades. In recitations, you will meet your teaching assistant to complete a worksheet each time. Recitation grades are based on attendance only. Talk to you TA regularly and keep track of your attendance grades during the semester. **One** of the recitation absences will be dropped. If you miss more than 1 recitations, the extra absences will negatively affect your grades. The goal of recitation is to ask question, solve homework questions, review concepts, and practice for the exams. You will meet twice a week with one of the TAs for this course. Your TA will offer a worksheet in recitation and you need to complete the worksheet with your TA. The worksheets are closely related to the homework and exams. Thus, it is essential to attend the recitation and study the worksheets.

Recitations don't start until the second week.

**Late policy:** Any late submission of homework will not be accepted and will receive a grade of zero. No extension will be given for regular reasons. In case of an extreme illness, proper documentation will be required for all missed assignments. A time-stamped note from Wardenburg does not qualify as an extreme illness.

**Homework assignment on *MindTap*:** Homework is an important part of this course as it accounts for 20% of grades. There are 19 homework assignments in total, and the lowest 3 will be dropped when calculating final grades. There is at least a homework assignment due every week except for the first week. Most of them are due on Sunday at 11:59 pm. Make sure to frequently check the *MindTap* page and keep track of the due dates.

**Missed Exams:** Please email the instructor directly.

**Electronics:** With regards to classroom behavior, please exercise common courtesy. Please arrive on time, refrain from leaving early, and do not discuss non-course-related content. You may use electronic devices for educational purposes. However, I maintain the right to disallow use of electronic devices if they are used inappropriately.

### **Tentative Schedule**

DATES	CONTENT TO BE COVERED EACH WEEK
Aug 23, 25	Syllabus, Chapter 1, 2
Aug 30, Sept 1	Chapter 2, 3
Sept 6, 8	Chapter 3, 4
Sept 13, 15	Chapter 4
Sept 20, 22	Chapter 5
Sept 27, 29	Chapter 6 & Review for Midterm 1
<b>Oct 4</b>	<b>Midterm 1</b> Covering Chapter 1-6 (with 30 questions in 75 minutes)
Oct 6	Chapter 7
Oct 11, 13	Chapter 8, 9
Oct 18, 20	Chapter 10, 11
Oct 25, 27	Chapter 12, 13
Nov 1, 3	Chapter 13 & Review for Midterm 2
<b>Nov 8</b>	<b>Midterm 2</b> Covering Chapter 7-13 (with 30 questions in 75 minutes)
Nov 10	Chapter 14
Nov 15, 17	Chapter 15, 16
Nov 29, Dec 1	Chapter 16, 17
Dec 6	Chapter 17 with a focus on Game Theory
Dec 8	Final Review Session
<b>Dec 10</b>	<b>Final Exam</b> 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm (with 50 questions in 150 minutes)

### **Chapter Topics:**

Chapter 1: Ten Principles of Economics. Discussion of what economics is.

Chapter 2: Thinking Like an Economist. Production Possibility Frontier and Circular-Flow Diagram.

Chapter 3: Interdependence and the Gains from Trade. Why trade? Comparative advantage and absolute advantage.

Chapter 4: Supply and Demand Introduction. Determinant of price and quantity.

Chapter 5: Elasticity and Its Application. Price, income and cross-price elasticities.

Chapter 6: Supply Demand and Government policies. Price ceilings and floors. Taxes.

Chapter 7: Consumers, Producers and the Efficiency of Markets. Consumer and producer surplus.

Chapter 8: The Costs of Taxation. The deadweight loss.

Chapter 9: International Trade. Imports, exports, gains and losses from trade.

Chapter 10: Externalities. Public policies that solves externality.

Chapter 11: Public Goods and Common Resources. Problems and applications with public goods and common resources.

Chapter 12: The design of the tax system. Evaluation of different tax systems.

Chapter 13: The Costs of Production. Factors of Production.

Chapter 14: Firms in Competitive Markets. The first type of market structures learned in this course.

Chapter 15: Monopoly. The second type of market structures learned in this course.

Chapter 16: Monopolistic Competition. The third type of market structures learned in this course.

Chapter 17: Oligopoly. The fourth type of market structures learned in this course.

**Communication** outside of lectures and office hours, the optimal way to contact me is through email. I will not respond to emails if the answer to your question is in the syllabus. Please use your Colorado.edu account to email me and include in the subject line ECON 2010. Please allow 24 hours for a response during the week, and 48 hours on weekends. I will occasionally distribute information through official university email; thus, it is expected that you will maintain and monitor your university email address. Exam Policy Exams are the only components used to determine grades for which collaboration is explicitly prohibited. If you are caught cheating, you will receive a 0 on the associated assignment. Non-graphing calculators are allowed to be used during exams; use of any other device will be considered cheating. Exams must be completed in pencil on scantrons. Failure to properly bubble in answers will result in your exam not being graded and you will receive a 0. Intellectual Property All course materials are the property of the instructor and may not be shared with any individual outside of the course at any time for any reason without permission in writing from the instructor. Course materials, including but not limited to lecture presentation slides, assignments, grading rubrics, exams, discussion posts, and recitation activities, may not be posted to any website (e.g., Course Hero or similar sites, social media, etc.). The same applies to any audio or video recordings of lecture or recitation. A violation of this policy will be treated as a violation of the academic integrity policy. Electronics Cell phone use is not permitted during class. If there is an emergency requiring the use of a cell phone please step outside the classroom. The use of tablets and laptops for educational purposes (ie lecture slides, Canvas) is permitted; however, I reserve the right to disallow their use if electronics are not being used appropriately.

**Classroom Behavior:** Both students and faculty are responsible for maintaining an appropriate learning environment in all instructional settings, whether in person, remote or online. 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. For more information, see the policies on [classroom behavior](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

**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](#). Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or [dsinfo@colorado.edu](mailto:dsinfo@colorado.edu) for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition, see [Temporary Medical Conditions](#) on the Disability Services website.

**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.

**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 policy may include: plagiarism, 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. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code ([honor@colorado.edu](mailto:honor@colorado.edu); 303-492-5550). Students found responsible for violating the academic integrity policy will be subject to nonacademic sanctions from the Honor Code as well as academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the Honor Code academic integrity policy can be found at the [Honor Code Office website](#).

#### **SEXUAL MISCONDUCT, DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT AND/OR RELATED RETALIATION**

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) is committed to fostering an inclusive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct (harassment, exploitation, and assault), intimate partner violence (dating or domestic violence), stalking, or protected-class discrimination or harassment by members of our community. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct or retaliatory actions for reporting a concern should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127 or [cureport@colorado.edu](mailto:cureport@colorado.edu). Information about the OIEC, university policies, [anonymous reporting](#), and the campus resources can be found on the [OIEC website](#).

Please know that faculty and graduate instructors have a responsibility to inform OIEC when made aware of incidents of sexual misconduct, dating and domestic violence, stalking, discrimination, harassment and/or related retaliation, to ensure that individuals impacted receive information about options for reporting and support resources.

**Religious Holiday:** 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. Please contact the instructor directly. See the [campus policy regarding religious observances](#) for full details.