

PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS
Economics 2010-500
Fall 2019

Instructor:	Kevin Starnes (kevin.w.starnes@colorado.edu)
Class Meeting:	MWF 3:00-3:50, CHEM142
Office Hours:	T/TH 11:00-12:00 , F 1:45-2:45
Office:	ECON 306
TAs:	Andrew Fink (andrew.fink-1@colorado.edu) Office Hours: M 9:30-10:30, TH 2:00-3:00, F 9:30-11:30 Econ 307
	Rimjhim Saxena (rimjhim.saxena@colorado.edu) Office Hours: MW 1:30-2:30, T 2:30-4:30 Econ 307
Website:	Canvas, MindTap

Course Description

Economics is the study of how people respond to incentives. This involves decision making and an analysis of costs and benefits. Economists are concerned with individuals, firms, governments, and any other agents that take part in a market. Economics is a relatively young and growing field that has application in many disciplines. This course will provide an introduction to economics and help you start to see the world through an economist's lens.

Prerequisites

While there are no official prerequisites, students should feel comfortable with algebraic concepts including fractions, graphing, and solving basic linear equations. If you have difficulty with these concepts, please come see me or your teaching assistant in office hours.

Required Materials:

Principles of Microeconomics by N. Gregory Mankiw, 8th edition through MindTap Inclusive Access.

In order 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 "inclusive access", which will appear on your tuition and fee bill as "Day 1 Digital Access".

What does this mean for you?

1. If you do not opt out by Sept. 11, you will see a charge on your tuition and fee bill for \$92.53 with the description "Day 1 Digital Access".
2. You can opt out (which means you don't pay for anything, but you lose all access to the materials, including homework managers like Connect or Mindtap) by using a link in a reminder email you will receive with the subject heading "Day 1 Digital Access".
3. You MUST opt out no later than Sept. 11, otherwise you will be charged for the materials.

The advantage to this method of course materials delivery is twofold. First, every student in the course has access to the materials immediately. Second, the CU Book Store will bill you for these materials on your tuition and fee bill at a negotiated low price unavailable to the general public.

Although you must have these materials to complete some assignments, federal law mandates that you have the option of declining these materials. To do so, please refer to the email you have received with the subject-heading "Day 1 Digital Access". 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.

You must opt out of this charge by clicking the link in your "Day 1 Digital Access" email by Sept. 11 or you will be billed for the materials.

Grading scale:

Grade	Percentage	Grade	Percentage
A	93-100	C	73-76
A-	90-92	C-	70-72
B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	83-86	D	63-66
B-	80-82	D-	60-62
C+	77-79	F	0-59

Grade Breakdown: This class has many different grading components. The real world labor market rewards both knowledge and effort. This class is structured so that if you put in effort but struggle from time to time you can still do well.

Grade Item	Percentage
Homework	10%
Recitation	15%
Midterm 1	20%
Midterm 2	20%
Midterm 3	20%
Final	35%

I will curve final grades so that the class average is about 75%.

The final course grades will be rounded using a ceiling function to the next highest percentile. So if your final class percentage is 82.01%, it will be bumped to 83%, while 82.00% will stay at 82%. This is designed to help you and make sure no student misses a letter grade by a quarter point. You may notice that the above adds to 120%. This is because your lowest midterm will be dropped. Because of this, there are no makeup exams. There will also be no make ups for the final exam.

Exams: Exams will be multiple choice and will use scantrons. Thus, you will need a #2 pencil to complete your exam. In addition, you will need to know your student ID number (as found on MyCUInfo). Midterms will be due at the end of the 50 minutes allotted for class. Failure to turn in your exam in a timely fashion will result in a zero for that exam. This means if you bubble in your answers at the end of the exam, be sure to give yourself time to complete the task of bubbling. Taking extra time on an exam is cheating, even if you are just bubbling in the answers. **Only non-graphing calculators are allowed during exams.** You may not use cell phones, computers, graphing calculators, or another student's calculator. Again, your lowest midterm grade is dropped.

Final: The final exam will take place on **Wednesday Dec 18th from 7:30-10:00 PM** in our usual classroom. The final exam is mandatory. **If you miss the final exam, I will assign you an Incomplete in the course.**

As is university policy, you can reschedule your final exam only if you have three or more exams scheduled for the same day. If this is the case, you may have your exams rescheduled except for the first two exams scheduled for of that day. However, you must request accommodations for this before the 10th week of classes (November 1st).

Homework: You will need Mindtap access to be able to complete homework assignments. Homework will be assigned through Mindtap and will generally be due Sundays at 11:59 PM. You may attempt the homework 3 times and your best attempt will be graded. In addition, I will drop your 3 lowest chapter homework assignments. The first homework will be due Sep 8th.

Makeup Policy: Nearly every grade component in this class has built-in drops. Therefore, there are no makeups.

Attendance Policy: Since this is a college course that uses a specific textbook to introduce and define concepts, you are expected to attend every lecture. However, because you are all adults, I do not require attendance. You are responsible for all material presented in lecture. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to connect with a classmate to get the notes that you missed. Of course, you may also meet with me or your TA at office hours to go over any course material. HOWEVER, there is a limit to how much time will be spent with students who do not attend class, and office hours are not going to be used as a personalized lecture for those who do not attend class. Keep in mind that because recitation revolves around giving more individualized instruction and involves much more participation by design, attendance for recitation is mandatory.

Please note that this does **NOT** mean that you can enter and/or leave class whenever you want. It is distracting to other students (and myself) when people exit/enter the room in the middle of a lecture. If you attend lecture, please stay for the duration of the class. If you have a class right before and must be late in order to attend lecture, please let me know beforehand.

To remain in the course, you must be present for 2 out of the first 3 days of class. Otherwise you will be administratively dropped.

Recitation: Recitation begins the second week of class. Grades for recitation will be explained by your TA. It is important that you attend recitation so you have a chance to re-hash material and ask questions. Make sure to utilize your TA's office hours if you need help. TAs are there for you! Keep in mind that attendance at recitation is mandatory.

Laptops, Tablets, Cell Phones, Pagers and Abacuses: When not used appropriately, laptops can be distracting to others in class. For this reason, I ask that **if you use your laptop to take notes you sit in the first 4 rows of class** so I can ensure you are indeed not distracting those behind you. Please do not use your laptop for anything other than taking notes. If you are caught using your laptop for something other than taking notes you will be asked to leave. Please silence your cell phone prior to class and do not use it except in the case of emergencies.

Email Policy and Office Hours: Office hours are as posted and by appointment in a reasonable time in advance.

If you would like to contact me through email, please use your official school email address. I will not respond to personal email. Do not email me questions that can be found in the syllabus. Since there are many students in this class, please allow me 24 to respond to emails. If I have not responded within one day, please feel free to send me a follow-up email. Please start a new email when asking me a question rather than replying to a class-wide email. This makes sure I see all emails, and also makes sure nobody accidentally clicks the dreaded "reply all" button.

I am not allowed, by law, to discuss grades with you or anyone else via email. Please do not email me with questions about your grade – instead, see me during office hours.

Cheating: Cheating will not be tolerated in this course. This includes cheating on an exam and/or in recitation. **If you are caught cheating I will assign you an F in the course.** I will then meet with the Associate Chair of

Undergraduate Studies for the Economics Department, and we will report this to both the University and the Honor Council which could result in further discipline up to and including expulsion from the University.

Tentative Schedule:

Exams are tentatively scheduled on the following dates.

Exam	Date
Midterm 1	Friday, Sep 27 th in class
Midterm 2	Friday, Nov 1 st in class
Midterm 3	Friday, Dec 6 th in class
Final (cumulative)	Wednesday, Dec 18 th 7:30 – 10:00 pm

Please note that this schedule is subject to the instructor’s discretion.

Additionally, there is no recitation the first week of classes. It is important to note that there is no recitation the first week of class. Recitation begins on the second week of class (week of 9/3, Monday 9/2 is a university holiday).

Important Dates

Sept 4th (Wed.) – Last day to be automatically enrolled from a waitlist.

Sept 11th (Wed.) – Last Day to Drop a Class without penalty

Nov 1st (Fri.) – Last Day to Drop a Class in MyCUInfo

Week of Nov 25th to Nov 29th – Fall/ Thanksgiving Break, No Class

For a more detailed list, please consult the academic calendar:

https://www.colorado.edu/registrar/sites/default/files/attached-files/fall2019acad_calendar.pdf

Tutoring: The department has a free drop in tutor lab. It is located in the basement of the ECON Building in room near the undergraduate computer lab. The department also collects a list of private tutors you can hire. <https://www.colorado.edu/economics/sites/default/files/attached-files/tutorial-lab.pdf> gives information on the tutoring lab, and the list of private tutors can be found at https://www.colorado.edu/economics/sites/default/files/attached-files/tutor_list_0.pdf.

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); 303-492-5550). Students who are 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 a positive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct intimate partner abuse (including dating or domestic violence), stalking, 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. Information about the OIEC, university policies, anonymous reporting, and the campus resources can be found on the OIEC website.

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

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 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.

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.

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. If you have a religious obligation that conflicts with any class attendance or assignments, please let me know at the beginning of the semester or no less than two weeks prior to the conflict so that we can schedule an accommodation. See the campus policy regarding religious observances for full details.