

ECON 3070 – SECTION 010

INTERMEDIATE MICROECONOMIC THEORY

FALL 2023

- Time & Location : MWF 09:05 am - 09:55 am @ ECON 119
- Term : August 28, 2023 ~ December 14, 2023
- Website : Canvas

- Instructor : **Paro Suh**

- Email : Paro.Suh@colorado.edu
- Office : Econ 304
- Office Hours : T 9:00 - 10:00am / R 1:00 - 2:00pm

- TA : **Aolin Li**

- Email : Aolin.Li@colorado.edu
- Office : Econ 313
- Office Hours : M 10:00 - 11:50am

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces the theoretical framework for analyzing the economic behavior of individual decision-makers, such as consumers, workers, and firms. The course will be divided roughly into 3 parts. The first will be an introduction to microeconomics, along with a review of supply and demand. The second part will be a discussion of consumer and firm behavior in competitive markets, along with an analysis of these markets. In the third part of this course, we will relax some of the assumptions built into our model of competitive markets and consider cases where these assumptions do not hold.

PREREQUISITES

- Principles of Microeconomics (ECON 2010)

AND one of the following

- Math Courses (ECON 1088, MATH 1081, MATH 1300, MATH 1310, APPM 1350, or FNCE 2010)

with a minimum grade of C–

COURSE MATERIAL

- **Microeconomics**, 9th Edition

by *Pindyck and Rubinfeld*, Pearson Publishing, ISBN 978014153988

Students are required to have access to *MyLab* (which includes an eBook) at a minimum. *MyLab* is where you will read your textbook and complete graded assignments. In addition, students can optionally purchase a paper text.

COURSE POLICIES

Grading Scheme

| | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Attendance | 5 % |
| Recitations | 8 % |
| Practice Problem Sets | 2 % |
| Graded Problem Sets | 20 % |
| Midterms($\times 2$) | 20 % each |
| Final Exam | 25 % |

I will assign letter grades with a “+/-”. I will follow the economics department guidelines which means that the average grade will be curved to a $B-$. The size of this curve will not be known until after all components of the course have been graded.

Exams

| | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|
| Midterm 1 | Sep 29 (Fri), <i>in class</i> |
| Midterm 2 | Nov 3 (Fri), <i>in class</i> |
| Final | Dec 20 (Wed), 7:30 - 9:00p.m. |

The 2 Midterms will be held during lecture time on September 29th and November 23rd. They will be **non-cumulative** and will consist of multiple-choice, true/false and free-response questions. There will be no make-up exams. If you miss a midterm due to a *proven* emergency or other unusual circumstances (*you should inform me prior to each midterm*), the weight of the midterm will be shifted to the final exam (*e.g.* if you miss a midterm I will reweight the final exam to be 45% of your final grade). The final exam, held on December 20th, will also consist of multiple choice, true/false and free-response questions, but will be **cumulative**. Moreover, you must take the final exam in this course : there will be no make-up final exam.

Attendance (Clicker Questions)

During each class, you will be given 3 ~ 4 clicker questions. These questions will be basic exercises directly related to the content dealt with in the lectures : *they will be hard to miss if you are present and paying attention in class*. You will earn full credit (5% of your final grade) for attendance if you have **at least 100 correct** clicker questions. Every 5 questions you miss below that will count towards -1% of your attendance grade. There will be approximately a total of 120 clicker questions, and you will receive 0% in attendance if you have less than 80.

Problem Sets

• MyLab Problem Sets

Each week, you will be given open-book/ open-notes problems for homework. The problem sets will consist of multiple choice, calculations, and short answer questions.

1. **Practice Problem Sets** (12 sets, 2% of your final grade)

These are low-stake assignments for you to practice every week. You will be allowed multiple attempts on each question. *Questions similar to these practice problems will reappear in the **graded problem sets** and the **exams**.* These practice problem sets will be submitted through *MyLab* and will be **due on Thursdays before 11:59 pm**.

2. **Graded Problem Sets** (12 sets, 20% of your final grade)

The graded problem sets will be very similar in format to the practice one. However you only get one attempt per question, and the results will account for a much larger portion of the final grade. *Two problem sets with the lowest points will be dropped and not be counted.* Because of this policy, you do not need to inform me about not being able to submit an assignment, for whatever reason. The Graded Problem Sets will be submitted through *MyLab* and will be **due on Fridays before 11:59 pm**

Late submissions and make-ups will not be allowed. If you experience any technical difficulties (*i.e. MyLab* is not working) you must notify me before the assignment is due.

Recitations

Starting from the second week, you will meet weekly with the TA for this course. The goal of these recitations is for you to ask questions, review concepts and practice material. Your TA will determine how the grades will be assigned.

Communication

Outside of lectures and office hours, the optimal way to contact me would be through email.

- Please use your colorado.edu account because sometimes other email accounts are filtered into my spam folder.
- Please allow 24 hours for a response during the week, and 48 hours on weekends.
- Please note that I will not respond to questions that could be answered by referring to this syllabus.

Exam Policies

Exams are the only components of the final grade for which collaboration is explicitly prohibited. If you are caught cheating you will receive a 0 on the associated exam. Non-graphing calculators are allowed to be used during exams; use of any other device will be considered cheating.

Electronics

The use of cellphones, tablets and laptops for educational purposes (*i.e.* lecture slides, Canvas, Mindtap, Clicker questions) is permitted; however, I reserve the right to disallow their use if electronics are not being used appropriately.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

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 classroom behavior policy, the Student Code of Conduct and the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance.

Requirements for Covid-19

As a matter of public health and safety, all members of the CU Boulder community and all visitors to campus must follow university, department and building requirements and all public health orders in place to reduce the risk of spreading infectious disease. CU Boulder currently requires COVID-19 vaccination and boosters for all faculty, staff and students. Students, faculty and staff must upload proof of vaccination and boosters or file for an exemption based on medical, ethical or moral grounds through the MyCUHealth portal.

The CU Boulder campus is currently mask-optional. However, if public health conditions change and masks are again required in classrooms, students who fail to adhere to masking requirements will be asked to leave class, and students who do not leave class when asked or who refuse to comply with these requirements will be referred to Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution. For more information, see the policy on classroom behavior and the Student Code of Conduct. If you require accommodation because a disability prevents you from fulfilling these safety measures, please follow the steps in the “Accommodation for Disabilities” statement on this syllabus.

If you feel ill and think you might have COVID-19, if you have tested positive for COVID-19, or if you are unvaccinated or partially vaccinated and have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19, you should stay home and follow the further guidance of the Public Health Office (contacttracing@colorado.edu). If you are fully vaccinated and have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19, you do not need to stay home; rather, you should self-monitor for symptoms and follow the further guidance of the Public Health Office (contacttracing@colorado.edu).

Accommodations 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, 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 academic integrity policy. Violations of the Honor Code may include, but are not limited to: 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 Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution (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 on the Honor Code website.

Sexual Misconduct, Discrimination, Harrasment and/or related Retaliation

CU Boulder is committed to fostering an inclusive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. The university 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 or against 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 email cureport@colorado.edu. Information about university policies, reporting options, and the support resources can be found on the OIEC website.

Please know that faculty and graduate instructors have a responsibility to inform OIEC when they are 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 their rights, support resources, and reporting options. To learn more about reporting and support options for a variety of concerns, visit Don't Ignore It.

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.