ECONOMICS 2010-030 PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS
FALL 2006 SYLLABUS

Instructor: Andrew Meyer
Office location: ECON 309C
Office Hours: T, R 12:45-1:45 and F 11:00-11:45 and by appointment
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Office Phone: 303-492-7195
Course Website: http://ucsu.colorado.edu/~meyerag

Lecture Times: MWF 12:00-12:50 in FAN 141

Required Text: Microeconomics, by Paul Krugman and Robin Wells, 2005.

Optional Text: Study Guide to Accompany Microeconomics (Cunningham and Kelly)

Course Description: Microeconomics is the study of how individuals, firms, and the government make decisions about what to do with scarce resources and how they interact with one another. We will approach the material in a scientific manner and students will be introduced to the "economic way of thinking." This course will give students a new perspective on their day to day actions, and help them to understand why economic agents behave as they do.

Prerequisites: No previous knowledge of economics is assumed or required. Students need to be comfortable with high school level algebra (solve for an unknown, graph a line, solve simple simultaneous equations) and geometry (find the area of a triangle).

Lectures: In lecture, new material will be presented. This material will be based upon the textbook, but may differ in emphasis. Each week (usually Friday) we will work on a "green sheet" in lecture which highlights some of the most important material. These practice problems do not count for your grade, but they will greatly enhance your understanding through learning by doing. Also, they should give you an idea about what types of things I think are important. Students are expected to attend lecture regularly. There may be some material on the exams that is covered only in lecture and not in the textbook. Should you miss a lecture, you should get lecture notes from another student in the class. My notes do not have all the details that are covered in lecture, so I don't give them out to students.

Recitation: What happens in recitation is decided by your recitation instructor. Your TA will inform you of the manner of assessment in recitation. The purpose of recitation is to review and reinforce the material that is presented in lecture. Attending recitation is required and expected. Recitations begin during the second week of class.

Textbook Website: The Krugman and Wells textbook offers a website with practice problems as well as many other resources. Students are encouraged to take advantage of this site as practicing is the best way to learn the material. We will not cover these problems during class. The website address is:
http://worthpublishers.com/krugmanwells/
Simply click on the Microeconomics book to begin.

Grading: Your course grade will be based on two midterms, your recitation grade, and a comprehensive final. Exam dates are listed below. The breakdown of grades is as follows: 30% for Midterm 1, 30% for Midterm 2, 30% for Recitation, and 40% for the Final. To make this add

up to 100%, I'll automatically drop the lowest of your Recitation, Midterm 1, or Midterm 2 scores when determining your grade. You will not be able to drop your Final Exam score. I reserve the right to make adjustments to recitation scores in order to equate grades across TA's.

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:
93.00 – 100.0 % … A
90.00 – 92.99 % … A-
88.00 – 89.99 % … B+
83.00 – 87.99 % … B
80.00 – 82.99 % … B-
78.00 – 79.99 % … C+
73.00 – 77.99 % … C
70.00 – 72.99 % … C-
68.00 – 69.99 % … D+
63.00 – 67.99 % … D
60.00 – 62.99 % … D-
59.99 – 0.00 % … F

Examinations: The two midterm exams will take place during regular class time in the regular class room on the dates listed below. The final will take place during finals week on the date, time, and place listed below. The multiple-choice portion of the exams will be graded by Scantron, so be sure to remember a #2 pencil. **You'll also want to bring a non-graphing calculator (no cell phone calculators).** The number of questions on each exam may vary, but the final will have more questions than the midterms. The format of questions will be multiple choice and some longer problems. Exam questions will be based on material covered in the book and/or in lecture. Midterm exams during the semester are not cumulative, but the material does build upon itself so it is important to fully understand the concepts covered in class. I'll talk more about each exam as the exam date approaches.

Make-Up Examinations: Since this is a large class, **no make-up exams will be given. No exams will be given early.** If you miss an exam for **any reason**, you will need to use that exam as your one allowed dropped score. This is another good reason to attend recitation—it serves as an insurance policy in case you get sick or miss an exam for some other unexpected reason.

Extra Credit: There will only be a few extra credit opportunities during the semester, but they will be unannounced before class and will only be available during class. Each extra credit opportunity is worth between 0 and 3 percentage points to be added to one your recitation/midterm scores that will count toward your final grade.

Example: 80% on midterm 1
65% on midterm 2
85% in recitation
5 points of extra credit earned during the semester
75% on the final exam
Final grade is calculated as .3*80+.3*90+.4*75 = 81% = B-

Important Dates:
Lectures begin: Monday, August 28th
Recitations begin: Week of September 4th
Midterm 1: Monday, October 2nd
Midterm 2: Friday, November 10th
Fall/Thanksgiving Break: November 20-24th

Last day of class: December 15th
Final Exam: Tuesday, Dec 19th, 1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Additional Notes: If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services (DS) early in the semester so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, (http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices).

Disability Services letters for students with disabilities indicate legally mandated reasonable accommodations. Other letters/requests you may receive from agencies such as the Wardenburg Student Health Center, or other health providers, such as physicians or counselors, are recommendations you may choose to follow to assist students but are not necessarily legal mandates. The syllabus statements and answers to Frequently Asked Questions can be found at http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices.

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. In this class, reasonable accommodations will be made for students that notify me adequately in advance of conflicts. Students can see full details at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac relig.html.

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty have the professional responsibility to treat students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which students express opinions. See polices at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html and at http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/

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/.

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 combination 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 Sexual Harassment (OSH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the OSH and the campus resources available to assist individuals who believe they have been sexually harassed can be obtained at: http://www.colorado.edu/sexualharassment/

Be aware of the Drop/Add deadlines (http://registrar.colorado.edu/DropAdd/Default.html). I will only add students to the course after the wait list deadline.

If you have three or more final exams scheduled on the same day, you are entitled to arrange an alternative exam time for the last exam or exams scheduled on that day. To qualify for rescheduling final exam times, you must provide evidence that you have three or more exams on the same day, and arrangements must be made with your instructor no later than the end of the sixth week of the semester. For the complete final examination policy, see the University of Colorado at Boulder Catalog (http://www.colorado.edu/catalog).

Course Topics (We will roughly cover a topic every week and since exams dates are fixed, they will only cover topics we have finished. This schedule is tentative and subject to change.):

Week	Topic	Textbook Chapters
1	Introduction	1
2	PPF/Gains From Trade	2
3	Supply and Demand	3
4	Government Intervention	4
5	Elasticity	5
6	Welfare	6
7	Decisions/Marginal Analysis	7
8	Consumer Choice	10,11
9	Costs of Production	8
10	Perfect Competition	9
11	Monopoly	14
12	Oligopoly/Game Theory	15
13	Monopolistic Competition	16
14	Externalities/Public Goods	19,20
15	Environmental Economics	Lecture Material