

**Principles of Microeconomics**  
**Econ 2010-100**  
**Fall 2009**

University of Colorado at Boulder  
Department of Economics

Instructor: Stephen Nicar  
Office: Econ 304  
email: nicar [at] colorado.edu  
Office hours: T, R from 10:00 - 11:00 am

Class time: M, W, F from 10:00 - 10:50 am  
Classroom: RAMY C250  
Course website: Most material will be posted on CU Learn.  
Homework assignments will be at <http://www.aplia.com>

**Final exam: Tuesday, December 15 from 4:30 - 7:00 pm**

**Required Text:**

Krugman and Wells, *Microeconomics*, 2d edition, Worth Publishers.  
Registration with *Aplia* (see below).

**Course Description and Objectives:**

Examines basic concepts of microeconomics, or the behavior and the interactions of individuals, firms, and government. Topics include determining economic problems, how consumers and businesses make decisions, how markets work and how they fail, and how government actions affect markets.

**Recitation:**

Attending recitation is required. Recitation serves to bridge the gap between the theory presented in class and problems you will see on exams. It also provides you with an opportunity to ask questions in a smaller setting to facilitate the understanding of challenging concepts/problems. Your TA will describe his/her grading policy and what is expected of you during your first recitation.

**Homework:**

Homework assignments will be completed using Aplia (<http://www.aplia.com>), a web-based homework tool. Homework assignments will be placed online and must be completed by the due date given with each assignment. You can start and submit any time before this as well. No late Aplia assignments will be accepted.

You must register for Aplia and pay online by September 7. Aplia offers several options for digital or paper books but at a minimum, you must purchase Aplia + e-book. More information about registering for Aplia is available on the course webpage through CULearn. The Aplia code for this class is: RZUX-QLMB-UPG3.

## Grading:

Your grade will consist of three exams, a cumulative final exam, recitation and homework assignments. Each portion of your grade will be weighted as follows:

Midterm 1:	20%	Friday, Sep 25
Midterm 2:	20%	Friday, Oct 23
Midterm 3:	20%	Friday, Dec 4
Final Exam:	20%	Tuesday, Dec 15 4:30 pm - 7:00 pm
Homework Assignments:	20%	
Recitation:	20%	

To make your total grade add up to 100%, I will automatically drop the lowest of the three midterm scores or your recitation grade. **Your grade on the final exam will not be dropped for any reason.**

## Exams:

I will not give any make up exams and will not give exams early. The only exception is for student athletes with scheduled events on the date of the exams. Please check into this immediately and let me know as soon as possible. I require a signed letter from your coach or the athletics department. To reiterate, there will be **no make up exams**, please do not ask. Take note! If you are planning on leaving town, do not schedule your trip on an exam date.

The format of the exams will be multiple choice questions. Please bring a #2 pencil and a **non-graphing** calculator to every exam. **Cell phone calculators are not be permitted.** The use of a graphing calculator or cell phone during an exam will result in the item being confiscated.

Midterm exams are not cumulative. The final exam is cumulative - this means you will be tested on the material from the entire semester.

**All exams, including the final exam, are held in the usual classroom.**

### **Tentative Schedule:**

We will cover the following topics during the semester. Reading the relevant chapters before the lecture will help with understanding the material. You are responsible for all material covered in the chapters listed, even if not covered in the lecture, unless I specifically say otherwise. As the semester progresses, **I may make changes to the following or change the order in which it is covered.** If I do I will let you know in advance.

- *What is Economics?*  
Chapters 1 and 2
- *Supply and Demand*  
Chapters 3, 4, 5 and 6
- *Individuals and Markets*  
Chapter 7 (and maybe Chapter 8)
- *Economics and Decision Making*  
Chapter 9
- *The Consumer*  
Chapter 10
- *The Production Decision*  
Chapters 12 and 13
- *Market Structure: Beyond Perfect Competition*  
Chapters 14, 15 and 16
- *Microeconomics and Public Policy*  
Chapters 17 and 18

### **Important Dates:**

Mon	Sep 7	Labor Day - No Class
Fri	Sep 25	Midterm 1
Fri	Oct 23	Midterm 2
Mon	Nov 23 - Fri Mar 27	Fall Break - No Class
Fri	Dec 4	Midterm 3
Tue	Dec 15	Final Exam - 4:30 - 7:00 pm

**Disability Policy:**

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit a letter from Disability Services to me in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, and <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices>.

**Religious Observance Policy:**

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. If you have a conflict, please contact me at the beginning of the semester so we can make proper arrangements.

**Classroom Behavior Policy:**

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty have the professional responsibility to treat all students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which they and their students express opinions. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender variance, and nationalities. 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.

**Honor Code:**

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](mailto: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/>.

**Discrimination & Harassment Policy:**

The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on Discrimination and Harassment, the University of Colorado policy on Sexual Harassment and the University of Colorado policy on Amorous Relationships applies to all students, staff and faculty. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at <http://www.colorado.edu/odh>.