

# Principles of Microeconomics

ECON 2010-400, Fall 2018

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 2:00-2:50 PM, HALE 270

## 1 Course Information

**Instructor:** Evelyn Skoy

**Course Website:** [Canvas](#)

**Email:** [evelyn.skoy@colorado.edu](mailto:evelyn.skoy@colorado.edu)

**Office:** Economics 414 (tower on the south side of the building)

**Office Hours:** Wednesdays 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM  
Thursdays 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM  
and by appointment.

### Required Materials:

For this class, we will be using Mankiw's Principles of Microeconomics, 8<sup>th</sup> edition (978133096768). The Economics department and Cengage have worked out an agreement to offer a greatly reduced price to students for [MindTap](#). Students enrolled in this class automatically get access to MindTap which includes the full interactive e-book, mobile app access, Aplia homework, quizzes, Adaptive Test Prep, videos, flashcards, and more. Students do have the option to purchase the loose-leaf print text at the bookstore as well. Students may use an older hardcopy version of the textbook, but please note that the student assumes all risks associated with differences between the editions. The course will be accessed through Canvas and students will be charged through their bursars account at the add/drop date. The price to the students is \$90 (this price includes all fees). This model eliminates any need for access codes or course keys. Students simply register through Canvas in their course and have access on the first day of class.

If you wish to opt out of this program, an email will be sent around the first day of class that describes how you may opt out (must be done prior to September 12<sup>th</sup>). However, keep in mind that all homework is run through Mindtap. Without access to this program, homework grades will be replaced with zeroes.

In addition to the Cengage online materials, students are required to bring an iClicker to class to answer questions for participation points.

**Prerequisites:**

There are no official prerequisites; however, students are expected to have a basic understanding of algebra (such as solving systems of equations) and graphing.

**Teaching Assistants:**

Name: Chad Brown

Office: Econ 307

Email: chbr4636@colorado.edu

Office Hours:

Mon 10:30-11:30am

Wed &amp; Fri 12:30-1:30 pm

And by appointment

Name: Wenbo Meng

Office: Econ 309B

Email: wenbo.meng@colorado.edu

Office Hours:

Mon &amp; Wed 3:30pm-4:30pm

Tues &amp; Thurs 8:30am-9:30am

**Course Description and Objectives**

Economics is the study of how agents (humans, firms, etc...) make decisions under scarcity. Economists typically assume that these decisions are made in a rational manner. For this reason, in this course reasoning skills will be much more important than memorization skills. This course will provide an introduction to the economic thought process which will hopefully benefit you in your future studies. Specifically, we will study how consumers and businesses make decisions, how markets work, how they fail, and how government actions affect markets.

**2 Grading and attendance****Grading Scale:** Let "x" be your grade.

Grade	Percentage	Grade	Percentage
A	$93 \leq x$	C	$73 \leq x < 77$
A-	$90 \leq x < 93$	C-	$70 \leq x < 73$
B+	$87 \leq x < 90$	D+	$67 \leq x < 70$
B	$83 \leq x < 87$	D	$63 \leq x < 67$
B-	$80 \leq x < 83$	D-	$60 \leq x < 63$
C+	$77 \leq x < 80$	F	$x < 60$

**Grading Scheme:**

Grade Item	Percentage
Midterm 1	20
Midterm 2	20
Recitation (if necessary)	20
Final	35
Homework	18
Clickers	7

**Exams:** You may drop your lowest midterm score and replace it with your recitation grade. **THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP EXAMS.** If you cannot take an exam because of an emergency or other commitment,

you can drop the zero and replace it with your recitation grade. Your recitation grade **CANNOT** replace the final exam.

Bring the following to each exam:

- Non-graphing calculator (graphing calculators and cell phone calculators are not allowed - use of one during an exam will result in a score of zero) – calculators are optional and will not be necessary to solve exam questions, but they may aid you in speed and accuracy
- #2 pencil
- Student ID Number (this number can be found on your MyCUInfo page – please come prepared with this number)
- Student ID or government issued ID

**Midterms:** Midterms will take place during class and will be due at the end of the 50 minutes. Failure to turn in the exam in a timely fashion will result in a zero. Give yourself enough time to fill in all bubbles on the scantron prior to the end of the exam.

**Final Exams:** The final exam will take place at the university assigned date and time (tentatively Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> from 1:30-4:00 PM). Final exam date, time, and location are assigned by the university and can be found on [myCUinfo](#). 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 of the day. However, you must request accommodations before the 10<sup>th</sup> week of classes.

The midterm rules above also apply to the final exam. The recitation grade **cannot** replace the final.

**Recitations:** Recitation begins the second week of class. Recitation grading policies are determined by your TA and will be outlined in their syllabus. You must attend the recitation you are registered for unless otherwise arranged with your TA. I strongly recommend attending recitation consistently.

**Homework:** For every chapter we cover, there will be a corresponding homework assignment. Every week there will be at least one homework assignment due. A tentative schedule is listed below, but due dates will be updated on an as-needed basis. Treat the dates in MindTap as the source of truth.

**Clickers:** You will need an i>clicker. You can purchase it at the CU Bookstore, if you do not have one already. We will use clickers regularly to review examples and to solve problems, beginning the second week of class. You will receive one point for participating in a clicker question and an additional point if you answer the question correctly. You are allowed to discuss the questions with your classmates while in class to work together. Your lowest four clicker grades for the semester will be dropped. Please note that it is considered cheating to bring a classmate's clicker to class. If you are caught with more than one clicker, you will be asked to leave class for the day and you and the classmate whose clicker you have will receive an F for the semester.

**Please make sure to register your clicker** at <https://cuconnect.colorado.edu/uPortal/index.jsp>. Failure to register your clicker will result in a score of zero for all clicker questions.

### 3 Class Policies

Note that I reserve the right to change this syllabus at any time. This is your contract for the course. Please pay attention to the policies and note the given notice stating that I reserve the right to change them throughout the course.

Emails: This is a large class which makes answering every single email extremely costly. Therefore, I will only respond to emails if they cannot be answered by the syllabus. In addition, when I send out an email to the entire class and you have a follow-up question I ask that you do not reply to my email. Please send me a new email that way I am able to keep each student's question separate from others. Please allow 24 hours for me to respond on weekdays and 48 hours on weekends.

Laptops, Tablets, and Cell Phones: 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 last 4 rows of class. PDF copies of the slides will be posted prior to class and you are more than welcome to download them to your laptop or tablet prior to class to annotate them. 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.

Curving: There will be no individual curving. Please do not email at the end of the semester asking for your grade to be changed. Should a curve be necessary, everyone in the class will receive an equal curve (for individual exams or at the end of the semester). Recitations will be curved so that each TA's recitations have the same average.

Cheating: If you are caught cheating in any fashion (on exams, in recitation, or clickers (see above)) you will be given an F for the semester and your case will be reported to the Honor Code Council for review.

### 4 Tentative Schedule

Week	Lecture	Homework Due
1	Syllabus, Chapter 1 and begin Chapter 2	
2	Chapter 3	9/9 – Chapter 1 and Chapter 2
3	Chapter 4	9/16 – Chapter 3
4	Chapter 5	9/23 – Chapter 4
5	Chapter 6	9/30 – Chapter 5
6	Chapter 7	10/7 – Chapter 6
7	Chapter 8 and MT 1 (Tentative Date is 10/10 and will cover Chapters 1-7)	10/14 – Chapter 7
8	Chapter 9	10/21 – Chapter 8
9	Chapter 10	10/28 – Chapter 9
10	Chapter 11 and begin Chapter 13	11/4 – Chapter 10
11	Chapter 13 and Chapter 14	11/11 – Chapter 11
12	Review and MT 2 (Tentative date is 11/14 and will cover chapters 8-11, 13)	11/18 – Chapter 13
13	Chapter 15 and Chapter 16	12/2 – Chapter 14
14	Finish Chapter 16 and begin Chapter 17	12/9 – Chapter 15 and 16
15	Chapter 17 and Review	12/16 – Chapter 17

## 5 University Policies

### **Students with Disabilities**

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to your professor a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner (for exam accommodations provide your letter at least one week prior to the exam) so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact Disability Services at [303-492-8671](tel:303-492-8671) or by e-mail at [dsinfo@colorado.edu](mailto:dsinfo@colorado.edu). If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see [Temporary Injuries](#) guidelines under the Quick Links at the [Disability Services website](#) and discuss your needs with your professor.

### **Religious Observance Policy**

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. In this class, if you have a conflict, please contact me at the beginning of the term so that we can make proper arrangements. See full details at [http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac\\_relig.html](http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html).

### **Classroom Behavior Policy**

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. See policies at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html> and at [www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student\\_code](http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code).

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 differences of race, color, culture, religion, creed, politics, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, and nationalities.

### **Discrimination and Harassment Policy**

The University of Colorado at Boulder Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures, the University of Colorado Sexual Harassment Policy and Procedures, and the University of Colorado Conflict of Interest in Cases of Amorous Relationships Policy apply to all students, staff, and faculty. Any student, staff, or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of sexual harassment or discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127, or the Office of Student Conduct (OSC) at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH, the above referenced policies, and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at <http://www.colorado.edu/odh>.

### **Honor Code**

All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the [academic integrity policy](#) of the institution. Violations of the policy may include: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access, clicker fraud, resubmission, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor

Code Council ([honor@colorado.edu](mailto:honor@colorado.edu); [303-735-2273](tel:303-735-2273)). Students who are found responsible for violating the academic integrity policy will be subject to nonacademic sanctions from the Honor Code Council as well as academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the academic integrity policy can be found at [honorcode.colorado.edu](http://honorcode.colorado.edu).