

Syllabus  
Econ 1078 - Math Tools for Economists  
Summer 2011  
M-F 2:30-4:05 MUEN E431

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**Office Hours:** TWF 1-2 and by appointment  
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**Textbook:** *Essential Mathematics for Economic Analysis*, 3rd Edition, by Knut Sydsaeter and Peter Hammond

## Description

The goal of this class is to provide students with the mathematical tools needed for future courses in business and economics. We will cover polynomials, functions, solving systems of equations, logic, probability, and differentiation. The most effective way to learn the material is to practice.

## Calculator Note

As this is a course designed to teach mathematical techniques you will need a calculator that can do basic mathematical functions. These include exponentials, logarithms, radicals, and factorials ( $\log$ ,  $\ln$ ,  $e^x$ ,  $\sqrt[n]{x}$  and  $x!$ ). Any basic scientific calculator will perform these functions. While a graphing calculator may be useful in doing some of the homework problems, you cannot use a graphing calculator on exams or quizzes. You also cannot use a cell phone calculator on quizzes or exams.

## Grading

Breakdown:  
Quizzes and In-class Assignments (lowest dropped) 20% total  
Midterm 1 and 2: 25% each  
Final exam (Cumulative) 30%

Anything covered in class is fair game for exams.

## Quizzes and In-class Assignments

Three quizzes will be on specified days covering material from class. I will intersperse several in-class assignments randomly throughout the term. You will be allowed to work on them in class and turn them in by the end of class as well. They are designed to give you appropriate practice and will be similar to quiz and test questions. They will also serve as a substitute for an attendance policy. *You will not be allowed to make these up for any reason and I will drop the lowest of these grades.*

## Problem Sets

For each chapter, I will suggest a list of problems from the book that will be good practice for the exams and quizzes. These problems will not be handed in, but I highly encourage you to attempt as many of them as possible and ask questions as necessary as practice for exams and quizzes.

## Exams

We will take a total of three exams in this course. The midterm exams will be held on June 9<sup>th</sup> and June 22<sup>nd</sup>. These exams will be held during the normal class time. If you miss a midterm exam, the weight of that exam will carry over onto the final. The final exam will be held on Friday July 1<sup>st</sup>, also at the normal exam time. The final exam will be cumulative.

## Tentative Schedule of Topics by Week

(Subject to Change)

Week of	Chapters	Topic	Quiz/Exam
5/31	1	Algebra Basics	None
6/6	2 and 3	Equations, Summation, and Logic	Quiz 1 (6/6); Exam 1 (6/9)
6/13	3 and 4	Logic, Probability, and Functions	Quiz 2 (6/15)
6/20	4	Functions	Exam 2 (6/22)
6/27	5	Graphs	Quiz 3 (6/27); Final (7/1)

## Important Dates

Quiz 1 - Monday, June 6

Quiz 2 - Wed, June 15

Quiz 3 - Monday, June 27

Midterm 1 - Thur, June 9

Midterm 2 - Wed, June 22

Final - Fri, July 1 2:30-4:05 PM

## University Policy

Harassment Policy: The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on Discrimination and Harassment (<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/discrimination.html>) applies to all students, staff and faculty. Any student, staff member or faculty member who believes (s)he has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based on 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.

**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.

**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.

**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).