

Economics 2010-600
Principles of Microeconomics
Fall 2021
Professor Jennifer Klein, Ph.D.

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Zoom Office Hours: Mondays 4-5pm, Thursdays 10-11am

[Link to TA information](#)

Zoom ID: 920 5202 7294

Website: Canvas

Course Description

Microeconomics is the study of agents making decisions given the limited resources available to them. You will see that this description can be applied to many different settings in the world as well as in your own life. 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. There is no required courses for Econ 2010, however basic mathematical/algebra skills are necessary. In addition, you will need to understand how to make and read graphs.

This course is taught asynchronously, but it is *not* self-paced. We will cover roughly one chapter per week through video lectures accessed on Canvas, and attendance is mandatory at in-person recitation sections. Please note that all times listed are for Mountain Time. Extensions will not be granted for time zone confusion.

Core Curriculum: This course is approved for the arts and sciences core curriculum area of contemporary studies.

Learning Objectives

At the end of this course, you should have a general understanding of microeconomics and how to apply economic thinking to everyday decisions. You should be able to use models developed this semester to: (i) understand how the behavior consumers, firms, and governments affect markets and the allocation of limited resources, (ii) understand how the principles of opportunity cost, rationality of agents, marginal analysis, and the role of the government influence individual markets, (iii) examine the power of economic analysis in policy matters and other human activity, while noting its limitations as well.

Textbook

Principles of Microeconomics by N. Gregory Mankiw. We will be using a eBook version of this text so you do not need to buy a hard copy. I encourage you to read the relevant sections of the textbook before attending lecture as it will aid in your understanding of the material.

Grade Breakdown

Grades for this course will be based on the following criteria:

- Video Lectures (5% total)
- Recitation Attendance (5% total)
- Review Quizzes (5% total)
- MindTap Assignments (15% total)
- 3 Midterm Quizzes (45% total)
- Cumulative Final Exam (25%)

Video Lectures (5% total): Each week has up to 4 video lectures. There are practice questions embedded into the videos. Videos must be watched in their entirety by **Thursday at 11:59pm** each week for credit. Questions are graded for completeness, not correctness. The four lowest scores are dropped (roughly one week of classes).

Recitation Attendance (5% total): In recitation you will have activities to illustrate the concepts learned in lecture. These may be online experiments/activities conducted in MindTap, activities done live in the classroom, or practice assignments. Recitation will start in the 2nd week of classes and you must attend the section you have registered for. In some weeks there will be opportunities for extra credit. Your grade will be based on participation, with the one day's score dropped.

Review Quizzes (5% total): Review quizzes are short, six-question quizzes taken on Canvas. These are intended to be taken *after* you have completed the Video Lectures for the week. The questions are graded, but should be easy provided you have engaged with the week's material. You may use notes. Quiz should be completed by **Fridays at 11:59pm**. Two lowest scores are dropped.

Assignments (15% total): You will have weekly homework assignments through the MindTap online system. All assignments will be due **Sunday at 11:59pm** at the end of the week they are assigned. No late homework assignments are accepted, so you should begin your assignments early in the week in case you have any problems. I cannot assist you with any technical problems with MindTap, if you are having any technical trouble please contact Cengage support as soon as possible at <http://support.cengage.com> to get the problem resolved.

Each week you will also notice there is a set of "End of Chapter" problems for the chapter(s) we cover during the week listed as "Practice". Please note that these are not graded and do not count toward your homework score. I HIGHLY encourage you to try these problems before the graded problems to help understand how our topics in class will be applied. Purchase of the MindTap system also gives you access to an electronic version of the textbook. Two lowest homework scores are dropped.

Inclusive Access: To keep the cost of your course materials as low as possible and access to those materials as convenient as possible, we have collaborated with the CU Book Store and the publisher to deliver those materials through a program called "Day 1 Digital Access". You have electronic access to your course materials immediately through Canvas. You do not need to go to the bookstore. You do not need to pay for them right now. Should you drop the course by the

add/drop date, you will not be billed for the materials. For any inquiries regarding registration, login, pricing for MindTap you can email Ami Painter at ami.painter@cengage.com.

The CU Book Store will bill you for these materials on your tuition and fee bill at the guaranteed lowest price. This charge will occur at or near the drop/add date. You will see a “Day 1 Digital Access” charge on your tuition and fee bill for: \$114.99. If you have another class using Cengage materials and click on it, it will show as a paid course. If the other Cengage course is an inclusive access as well, then you would want to opt out of that class so you do not pay twice.

Although you must have these materials to pass the course, federal law mandates that you have the option of declining these materials. To do so, please visit: www.cubookstore.com/optout by September 8th. Please keep in mind that “opting out” means that your access to these materials will be turned off and you will have no way to complete assignments.

3 Midterms (45% total): Midterms will be held on October 1, October 22, and November 19. Each midterm will be open from 9am on the date listed until 9am the following day, but once you begin you will have 60 minutes to complete the exam. Midterms **cannot** be rescheduled. Your final score will be determined by: 20% (for each of your two highest scores) and 5% (for your lowest score). If you miss a midterm due to an emergency the weight of the midterm will automatically be added to your other midterm scores which will then each be worth 22.5% of your grade. You **cannot** miss more than one midterm.

To take the midterm exams and the final exam, you will be required to use Proctorio, an online proctoring tool. Proctorio allows students to complete an assessment at a remote location, such as their home, while helping to ensure the integrity of the exam. There is no cost to use this tool.

Please read Proctorio Information to set up Proctorio and finish Practice with Proctorio (Remotely Proctored) by September 16th. If you have technical difficulties with this practice exam, email your TA immediately. If you do not complete the practice exam by September 16th (two weeks prior to the first exam week) and have technical difficulties that prevent you from completing midterms or final, you will receive a zero for that exam. Note that you are required to have a computer with a functioning webcam and microphone or have access to a computer with a functioning webcam microphone to complete your exams.

Cumulative Final Exam (25%): The cumulative final exam will be available from Monday, December 13th at 9am to Wednesday, December 15th at 9am. It will cover information from all of the material from the course. The final will be taken remotely on Canvas using the Proctorio monitoring software. There is no make up final exam, it must be taken as scheduled.

Additional Policies

Administrative Drops: Students may be dropped administratively if they do not attend class regularly during the first two weeks of the semester. In this course, regular attendance will be defined as having completed at least one of the Video Exercises in the first two weeks and having attended your first recitation meeting in Week 2.

Email Policy: If you wish to contact me, please ensure you include Econ 2010-600 in your email subject and use your official school email or else I may miss your email. Please note that in compliance with FERPA I am not permitted to discuss grades via email. Instead, please come see me in office hours. Use your school email. I will NOT reply to personal email. I will NOT reply to questions that have been addressed in the syllabus (or I will reply by referring back to the syllabus). I will generally respond by the end of the day during business hours (M-F 9am-5pm). Do not expect to receive replies to emails after hours or on weekends.

Requirements for COVID-19: As a matter of public health and safety due to the pandemic, 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. Students who fail to adhere to these 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.

As of Aug. 13, 2021, CU Boulder has returned to requiring masks in classrooms and laboratories regardless of vaccination status. This requirement is a temporary precaution during the delta surge to supplement CU Boulder's COVID-19 vaccine requirement. Exemptions include individuals who cannot medically tolerate a face covering, as well as those who are hearing-impaired or otherwise disabled or who are communicating with someone who is hearing-impaired or otherwise disabled and where the ability to see the mouth is essential to communication. If you qualify for a mask-related accommodation, please follow the steps in the Accommodation for Disabilities statement on this syllabus.

Students who have tested positive for COVID-19, have symptoms of COVID-19, or have had close contact with someone who has tested positive for or had symptoms of COVID-19 must stay home.

Disability Accommodations: 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 [for](#) further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see [Temporary Medical Conditions](#) under the Students tab on the Disability Services website.

Religious Observances: 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.

Honor Code: All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy. Violations of the policy may

include: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access to academic materials, clicker fraud, resubmission, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-735-2273) and will result in a failing grade for the course. 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 the [Honor Code Office website](#). This misconduct includes, but is not limited to: Represent the work of others as their own, Use or obtain unauthorized assistance in any academic assignment, Give unauthorized assistance to other students, Modify, without instructor approval, an examination, paper, record, or report for the purpose of obtaining additional credit, Misrepresent the content of submitted work.

Sexual Misconduct, Discrimination, Harassment, and/or Related Retaliation: The University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) is committed to fostering an inclusive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder 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 OIEC, university policies, [reporting options](#), and the campus resources can be found on the [OIEC website](#).

Please know that faculty and graduate instructors have a responsibility to inform OIEC when 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.

Classroom Behavior: 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 race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. 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. For more information, see the [policies on classroom behavior](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Tentative Class Schedule

Week	Topics	Recitation
Week 1	August 23-29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Course Introduction, Principles of Economics Demand and Supply Chapter 4 (4-1 to 4-3) 	None
Week 2	Aug 30 - Sept 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sept. 3-6: Equilibrium, Changes in Equilibrium Chapter 4 	S & D Experiment
Week 3	September 6-12 Monday, September 6th: Labor Day, No Classes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elasticity Chapter 5 	Analyze S&D Expt
Week 4	September 13-19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government Interventions: Price Controls, Taxes Chapter 6 	Tax Experiment
Week 5	Sept 20-26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welfare Economics: Surplus & Market Efficiency Chapter 7 	Practice with Taxes
Week 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Market Failure: Externalities Fri., Oct. 1st: Quiz 1 (Chapters 4-7) Chapter 10 	Quiz Review
Week 7	October 4-10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Types of Goods Comparative Advantage & Specialization Chapter 11,3 	Externality Expt
Week 8	October 11-17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gains from Trade, Trade Restrictions Chapter 9 	Gains from Trade
Week 9	October 18-24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other Trade Topics Fri., October 22: Quiz 2 (Chapters 3, 9-11) 	Quiz Review
Week 10	October 25-31 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Firm Costs, Production Function Chapter 13 	Cost Activity
Week 11	November 1-7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Competitive Markets, Profit Maximization Chapter 14 	Practice with Costs
Week 12	November 8-14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monopoly, Price Discrimination Chapter 15 	Competition Discussion
Week 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spectrum of Market Power Fri., November 19: Midterm Quiz 3 (Chapter 13-15) 	Quiz Review
Week 14	November 22-28: Fall Break, No Classes	
Week 15	Nov 29 - Dec 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consumer Choice Theory Chapter 21 	Monopoly Experiment
Week 16	December 6, 8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special Cases of Optimization Friday, Dec. 10th: Reading Day, No Classes 	Drawing Demand
Week 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday, Dec 13 - Wednesday, Dec 15: Final Exam (Cumulative) Exam lasts 2 hours 	