

University of Colorado Boulder  
Econ 2010 Principles of Microeconomics  
Summer 2021  
Syllabus

**Instructor:** Mr. Weizhao Sun

Email: [Weizhao.Sun@colorado.edu](mailto:Weizhao.Sun@colorado.edu)

Office hours on Zoom: Monday-Friday 2:00-3:00 pm

Zoom link: <https://cuboulder.zoom.us/j/93615872008>



*Instructor Bio:*

Weizhao Sun obtained his master's degree in economics from Duke University in 2019. He is working towards the degree of Ph.D. in Economics at CU Boulder. His fields of interest are applied microeconomics, international trade and economics of development.

Term starts June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021

Term ends: July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

Class Time and Location: Monday-Friday at 9:25–11:00, in Math 100.

**Teaching Assistant:**

Anja Gruber

section 101, M & W 11:20-12:40p in DUAN G1B20

[Anja.gruber@colorado.edu](mailto:Anja.gruber@colorado.edu)

Office Hour: Tuesday 3-5pm, Wednesday 2:30-3:30pm and by appointments,

on Zoom: <https://cuboulder.zoom.us/j/4608807288>

Xiang Chi

section 102, T & Th 11:20-12:40p in GOLD A120

[Xiang.Chi@Colorado.EDU](mailto:Xiang.Chi@Colorado.EDU)

Office Hour: Tuesday 4-5pm, Friday 1-3pm and by appointments,

on Zoom: <https://cuboulder.zoom.us/j/6607616192>

**Grading**

Recitation: 10%

Homework: 20%

Midterm 1: 20%

Midterm 2: 20%

Final exam: 30%

Lecture attendance: not required but earns bonus credits, see below.

**Textbook:** N. Gregory Mankiw, Principles of Microeconomics. 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, or 9<sup>th</sup> edition. This is required. All course materials follow this book.

### **Course Info**

*Description:* Principles of Microeconomics is an introductory undergraduate course that teaches the fundamentals of microeconomics. This course introduces microeconomic concepts and analysis, such as supply and demand analysis, theories of the firm and consumer behavior, competition and monopoly, and welfare economics. Students will also be introduced to the use of microeconomic applications to address problems in current economic policy throughout the semester.

*Prerequisites:* There are no prerequisites for this course. Understanding how to read graphs and solve algebraic equations will be necessary on many homework assignments and exams.

*Extra Credit:* Extra credit are available, please see below.

*Lecture:* The lecture attendance is not required. **But, coming to the lecture grants you bonus credits towards your final grades according to the following rubric. Full attendance grants you 4% bonus to your final grades. Missing one lecture grants you 3% bonus to your exam grades. Missing two grants you 2%. Missing three grants you 1%. Missing more than three doesn't earn bonus. Lecture absences due to covid-19 related symptoms, other significant sickness and important religious activity can be made up by completing a bonus assignment. Bonus assignments are available to students only if they show proper proof of incidents and please contact the instructor directly.** There will be more or less 20 lectures that I will record attendance. To take attendance, I will post an attendance question on my slide that asks you to write down short answers on a piece of paper. Please also write your name on it and leave the paper on the desk at the end of the class. The summer term is short and intensive. It is easy for students to fall behind if they don't come to the lecture regularly. With regards to classroom behavior, please exercise common courtesy. Please arrive on time, refrain from leaving early, and do not discuss non-course related content. You may use electronic devices for educational purposes. However, I maintain the right to disallow use of electronic devices if they are used inappropriately.

*Recitation:* **Recitations are mandatory and account for 10% of your total grades.** Your TA will decide how you can earn these 10%. The goal of recitation is to ask question, solve homework questions, review concepts, and practice for the exams. You will meet twice a week with one of the TAs for this course. Your TA will offer a worksheet for you to be completed in each recitation. The worksheets are closely related to the problem sets and exams. Thus, it is essential to attend the recitation and study the worksheets. Your TAs may not answer detailed questions relating to the problem sets, but they will review the worksheets with you which looks similar to the problem sets.

*Homework:* There will be eight problem sets. The one with the lowest grade will be dropped. In total, they account for 20% of your grades. To submit, please prepare either clear pictures, scanned PDFs, or word documents of your answers and upload to Canvas before the due dates. Please don't send hardcopies to the

teachers.

*Homework schedule:*

- Problem set 1 is due on Saturday June 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 pm
- Problem set 2 is due on Tuesday June 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 pm
- Problem set 3 is due on Saturday June 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 pm
- Problem set 4 is due on Tuesday June 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 pm
- Problem set 5 is due on Saturday June 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 pm
- Problem set 6 is due on Tuesday June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:59 pm
- Problem set 7 is due on Saturday June 26<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 am
- Problem set 8 is due on Thursday July 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:59 am

*Late policy:* If you forget to submit by the due dates, here is the late policy. **Works submitted one day after the due dates have their grades taken 2% off**; two days after the due dates, 20% off; three days after the due dates, 40% off; four days after the due dates, 60% off; five days and over, not accepted. For example, if a homework could have earned 95%, but the person submitted 23 hours after the due time, this homework gets only 93.1%. If it's submitted 47 hours after the due time, it gets 76%. **This is a very generous late policy which allows you to submit one day late with little punishment.** On the other hand, **I expect to give no extension to the homework for personal reasons.** Under special occasions, please email me directly if you need an extension because of an extreme sickness, religious events, etc..

*Missed Exams:* Please email the instructor directly.

**Tentative Schedule**

First week: June 1 <sup>st</sup> to June 4 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 1-4 of Mankiw's Principles of Microeconomics
Second week: June 7 <sup>th</sup> to June 10 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 4-6
<b>June 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Midterm 1 covering chapters 1-6</b>
Third week: June 14 <sup>th</sup> to June 18 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 7-11
Fourth week: June 21 <sup>st</sup> to June 24 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 11-15
<b>June 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Midterm 2 covering chapters 7-14</b>
Last week: June 28 <sup>st</sup> to June 30 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 15-17
July 1 <sup>st</sup>	No class, do homework and review
<b>July 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Final exam covering chapters 1-17</b>

**Chapter Topics:**

Chapter 1: Ten Principles of Economics. Discussion of what economics is.

Chapter 2: Thinking Like an Economist. Production Possibility Frontier and Circular-Flow Diagram.

Chapter 3: Interdependence and the Gains from Trade. Why trade? Comparative advantage and absolute advantage.

Chapter 4: Supply and Demand Introduction. Determinant of price and quantity.

Chapter 5: Elasticity and Its Application. Price, income and cross-price elasticities.  
Chapter 6: Supply Demand and Government policies. Price ceilings and floors. Taxes.  
Chapter 7: Consumers, Producers and the Efficiency of Markets. Consumer and producer surplus.  
Chapter 8: The Costs of Taxation. The deadweight loss.  
Chapter 9: International Trade. Imports, exports, gains and losses from trade.  
Chapter 10: Externalities. Public policies that solves externality.  
Chapter 11: Public Goods and Common Resources. Problems and applications with public goods and common resources.  
Chapter 12: The design of the tax system. Evaluation of different tax systems.  
Chapter 13: The Costs of Production. Factors of Production.  
Chapter 14: Firms in Competitive Markets. The first type of market structures learned in this course.  
Chapter 15: Monopoly. The second type of market structures learned in this course.  
Chapter 16: Monopolistic Competition. The third type of market structures learned in this course.  
Chapter 17: Oligopoly. The fourth type of market structures learned in this course.

## Course Policies

*Missed Assignments:* Given the generosity of the homework grading policy, I don't expect to give extensions to any missed assignments for personal reasons. In the case that an extreme illness is experienced leading to missing homework and/or midterm exams I will shift the weight of these missed assignments to subsequent homework and/or the final exam. Please discuss the details with me through emails. Proper documentation will be required for all missed assignments. A time-stamped note from Wardenburg does not qualify as an extreme illness.

*Communication* Outside of lectures and office hours, the optimal way to contact me is through email. I will not respond to emails if the answer to your question is in the syllabus. Please use your Colorado.edu account to email me and include in the subject line ECON 2010. Please allow 24 hours for a response during the week, and 48 hours on weekends. I will occasionally distribute information through official university email; thus, it is expected that you will maintain and monitor your university email address.

*Exam Policy* Exams are the only components used to determine grades for which collaboration is explicitly prohibited. If you are caught cheating, you will receive a 0 on the associated assignment. Non-graphing calculators are allowed to be used during exams; use of any other device will be considered cheating. Exams must be completed in pencil on scantrons. Failure to properly bubble in answers will result in your exam not being graded and you will receive a 0.

*Intellectual Property* All course materials are the property of the instructor and may not be shared with any individual outside of the course at any time for any reason without permission in writing from the instructor. Course materials, including but not limited to lecture presentation slides, assignments, grading rubrics, exams, discussion posts, and recitation activities, may not be posted to any website (e.g., Course Hero or similar sites, social media, etc.). The same applies to any audio or video recordings of lecture or recitation. A violation of this policy will be treated as a violation of the academic integrity policy. Electronics Cell phone use is not permitted during class. If there is an emergency requiring the use of a cell phone please step outside the classroom. The use of tablets and

laptops for educational purposes (ie lecture slides, Canvas) is permitted; however, I reserve the right to disallow their use if electronics are not being used appropriately.

## CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

Both students and faculty are responsible for maintaining an appropriate learning environment in all instructional settings, whether in person, remote or online. 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. For more information, see the policies on [classroom behavior](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

## 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 public health orders in place to reduce the risk of spreading infectious disease. Required safety measures at CU Boulder relevant to the classroom setting include:

- maintain 6-foot distancing when possible,
- wear a face covering in public indoor spaces and outdoors while on campus consistent with state and county health orders,
- clean local work area,
- practice hand hygiene,
- follow public health orders, and
- if sick and you live off campus, do not come onto campus (unless instructed by a CU Healthcare professional), or if you live on-campus, please alert [CU Boulder Medical Services](#).

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 policies on [COVID-19 Health and Safety](#) and [classroom behavior](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#). If you require accommodation because a disability prevents you from fulfilling these safety measures, please see the “Accommodation for Disabilities” statement on this syllabus.

All students who are new to campus must complete the [COVID-19 Student Health and](#)

[Expectations Course](#). Before coming to campus each day, all students are required to complete the [Buff Pass](#).

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. In this class, if you are sick or quarantined. We will make special accommodation regarding attendance grades for students with symptoms of Covid-19.

## ACCOMMODATION FOR DISABILITIES

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 [dsinfo@colorado.edu](mailto:dsinfo@colorado.edu) for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition, see [Temporary Medical Conditions](#) on the Disability Services website.

## PREFERRED STUDENT NAMES AND PRONOUNS

CU Boulder recognizes that students' legal information doesn't always align with how they identify. Students may update their preferred names and pronouns via the student portal; those preferred names and pronouns are listed on instructors' class rosters. In the absence of such updates, the name that appears on the class roster is the student's legal name.

## HONOR CODE

All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the Honor Code. Violations of the policy may include: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access to academic materials, clicker fraud, submitting the same or similar work in more than one course without permission from all course instructors involved, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code ([honor@colorado.edu](mailto:honor@colorado.edu)); 303-492-5550). Students found responsible for violating the academic integrity policy will be subject to nonacademic sanctions from the Honor Code as well as academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the Honor Code academic integrity policy can be found at the [Honor Code Office website](#).

## 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 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 [cureport@colorado.edu](mailto:cureport@colorado.edu). Information about the OIEC, university policies, [anonymous reporting](#), 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 options for reporting and support resources.

## RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

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. Please contact the instructor directly. See the [campus policy regarding religious observances](#) for full details.