

**UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO**  
**Department of Economics**  
**Economics 3070**  
**Intermediate Microeconomic Theory**  
**Fall 2019 – Section 20 and 30**

**Professor:** Tania Barham  
**Office:** Economics 114  
**Email:** [tania.barham@colorado.edu](mailto:tania.barham@colorado.edu)  
**Lectures (2 classes):** Section 20 11:00am-11:50 Gugg 205  
Section 30 12:00pm-12:50 Econ117  
**Office Hours:** ECON 114 M 1:00-2:00 W: 9:30am-10:30am and 1:00-2:00  
**Course Website:** <https://ibs.colorado.edu/barham/courses/econ3070/>  
**TA:** Brach Champion (section 20): M/W 12pm-1pm  
Burl Amsbury (section 30): W 10:30-11:30 and 1:30-2:30

### **Course Description**

This course introduces the theoretical framework for analyzing the economic behavior of individual decision-makers, such as consumers, workers, firms, and managers. The course is divided into six sections. We begin with a basic review of supply and demand in Section 1. We then proceed to Section 2, which covers consumer behavior and market demand. In this section, we build a model of consumer choice and use this model to derive individual demand and market demand. In Section 3, we turn our attention to the other side of the market and analyze the behavior of firms and market supply. We build a model to show how each firm decides what technology it should use to make its product and what quantity of this product to bring to market. This model is then used to derive the firm's supply curve and the market supply curve. Section 4 brings the two sides of the market together to show how price and output are determined by the market. In Section 5 we will examine a variety of market structures, the primary ones examined include, perfect competition and monopoly. If time permits, we will close the semester by examining some issues such as behavioral economics or public policy.

### **Prerequisites**

Available to students who have completed ECON 100 Introduction to Economics or ECON 2010 Principles of Microeconomics, and either ECON 1078 Math Tools for Economists I and ECON 1088 Math Tools for Economists II, or MATH 1300.

### **Textbook**

The required textbook is *Microeconomics: An Integrated Approach*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition, by David Besanko and Ronald R. Braeutigam, 2005, John Wiley & Sons, New York, ISBN 978-1-11857227-6. There is a study guide available to accompany the textbook. You may wish to purchase the study guide if you would like extra practice solving problems, but doing so is not required. You can also purchase the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the text as they are very similar.

### **Clickers**

Students are required to have a clicker for this class and extra batteries for each class. Clicker information will be used to help determine your attendance grade. You are responsible for purchasing and registering your clicker by Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Make sure you use your identity key log in name so your clicker number can be matched to the grade roster. If you have any problems with your clickers call IT at 5HELP. Remember that using someone else's clicker for them violates

the honor code, so don't do it and don't ask someone to use your clicker if you are going to be absent from class.

## Course Requirements

**Attendance for two of the first three classes in mandatory or you may be dropped from the class.** Your participation and attendance grades will be based on random attendance checks and clicker data throughout the semester and your participation during the class. You must attend lecture and sections with your TA. I allow you to be absent for 4 classes before an absence affects your participation grade. You may miss 2 sections before it affects your grade. There is no need to email to me to let me know you will be absent or why, unless you are very sick and will be out for than the 4 free classes you may miss. Your grade is made of up the percent of classes you are marked present for which attendance is taken. If you miss class, it is the student's responsibility to catch-up on any missed material from other students in the class.

## Grading

There will be 8 homework assignments, two mid-term examinations and one final exam. The weighting for these assessments are:

Assignments	10%
Participation/Attendance	10% (attendance in lectures and section)
Midterm Exam 1	20%
Midterm Exam 2	25%
Final Exam	35%

## Assignments

The schedule of when problem sets are due is below. **Problem sets handed in at the beginning of class or earlier are considered on time. Late problem sets (even those that are handed in after the beginning of class) will receive a score of zero.** The two assignments with the lowest scores will be dropped and not count towards your grade. Because of this policy, you do not need to let me know you are not handing a homework in for whatever the reason. I recommend you do all homework as the exams are structured somewhat similarly to homework questions.

Homework solutions will be posted soon after the due date. Students can work on the problem sets in small groups (4 people or less). However, each person **must** submit their own write-ups of their problem sets **and** you must put the names of your group members on your assignment (make sure your name is distinct from the group members, so I know who to give the grade to). Handing in identical homework is not permitted and will result in a zero for all people with identical homework. Homeworks for which any answer is identical to a solution key from past years will receive a grade of 0, even if just one of the questions on the homework was copied.

Each assignment will be graded on a scale from 0 to 3: 0 points for not handing it in, 1 point for poor performance, 2 points for average performance, and 3 points for outstanding performance.

## Exams

There are two midterms and a final in this course. No makeup exams will be given. If there is a proven emergency or other unusual circumstance and you miss an exam, your grade for your miss examine will be filled in by reweighting future exams (e.g. if you miss the second exam I will reweight the final).

## Tentative Course Schedule

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS	ASSIGNMENTS DUE
W1: Aug 26	Analyzing Economic Problems	Ch 1	
	Math Review	A.1-A.7	
W2: Sept 2nd	Supply and Demand Analysis	Ch 2	PS 0 Math Review (W)
	Preferences and Utility	Ch 3	
W3: Sept 9	Preferences and Utility	Ch 3	PS 1 – Ch 1-2 (F)
	Consumer Choice	Ch 4	
W4: Sept 16	Consumer Choice	Ch 4	PS 2 - Ch 3 (F)
	The Theory of Demand	Ch 5	
W5: Sept 23	The Theory of Demand	Ch 5	PS 3 – Ch 4 (F)
	The Theory of Demand	Ch 5	
W6: Sept 30	Inputs and Production Functions	Ch 6	PS 4 – Ch 5 (W)
	Inputs and Production Functions	Ch 6	
W7: Oct 7	<b>Midterm Exam 1 (Ch 1-5)</b>	<b>W Oct. 9th</b>	
	Inputs and Production Functions	Ch 6	
W8: Oct 14	Inputs and Production Functions	Ch 6	
	Costs and Cost Minimization	Ch 7	PS 5 Ch 6 (F)
W9: Oct 21	Costs and Cost Minimization	Ch 7	
	Cost Curves	Ch 8	
W10: Oct 28	Cost Curves	Ch 8	
	Perfectly Competitive Markets	Ch 9	PS 6 - Ch 7/8 (F)
W11: Nov 4	Perfectly Competitive Markets	Ch 9	
	Perfectly Competitive Markets	Ch 9	
W12: Nov 11	Competitive Markets: Applications	Ch 10	PS 7 - Ch 9 (F)
	<b>Midterm 2 Exam (Ch 1-9)</b>	<b>F Nov. 15<sup>th</sup></b>	
W13: Nov. 18	Efficiency of Competitive Mrkt	Ch 16.4	
<b>THANKS GIVING WEEK</b>			
W14: Dec 2	Monopoly and Monopsony	Ch 11	PS 8 - Ch 10-16 (W)
	Monopoly and Monopsony	Ch 11	
W15: Dec 9	TBD (Mon)		
	Office Hours (Wed)		
	No Class (Fri.)		
<i>Final Exam Covers ALL Chapters</i>			
<b>Tentative Final Exam Schedule: please double check this yourself.</b> <b>Section 20 11am-11:50: Sunday Dec 15<sup>th</sup> 1:30-4pm</b> <b>Section 30 12pm-12:50pm: Saturday Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>: 4:30-7pm</b>			

## University Policies

- If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services by **Sept 16<sup>th</sup>** so that your needs may 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 or injury, see [Temporary Medical Conditions](#) under the Students tab on the Disability Services website.

### 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. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. For more information, see the policies on [classroom behavior](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

### 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 who are 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 a positive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct (including sexual assault, exploitation, harassment, dating or domestic violence, and stalking), discrimination, and 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 instructors have a responsibility to inform OIEC when made aware of incidents of sexual misconduct, 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. If you have a conflict due to a religious obligation, please see me by *Sept. 9* to discuss. See the [campus policy regarding religious observances](#) for full details.