

University of Colorado - Department of Economics  
Econ 2010 - Principles of Microeconomics  
Fall 2014

**Instructor:** William Ridley ([william.ridley@colorado.edu](mailto:william.ridley@colorado.edu))

**Office:** Economics 401

**Class Time & Location:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM in HALE 270

**Office Hours:** Mondays and Wednesdays 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM or by appointment

**Class URL:** <https://learn.colorado.edu>

**Prerequisites:** None, but basic algebra and graphing skills are assumed

**Teaching Assistants:** Doyoung Park ([doyoung.park@colorado.edu](mailto:doyoung.park@colorado.edu))  
April Ross ([april.ross@colorado.edu](mailto:april.ross@colorado.edu))

**Course Description:** This course is an introduction to the concepts of microeconomics. Microeconomics is broadly defined as the study of individuals' and firms' decisions – why do people do what they do in a market setting? The course serves as an introduction to the basics of economic theory. Its central goal is to help you learn how to model economic behavior. Developing the ability to interpret the world through the lens of economics will add substantially to your ability to understand the world around you. As this is an introductory course, you will spend a lot of your time learning the language of the field, as well as learning how to 'think like an economist.'

**Textbook:** *Principles of Microeconomics* 7th edition, by N. Gregory Mankiw (earlier editions are okay)

**Grading:** Your course grade depends on your two best scores from recitation and the two midterms, a cumulative final examination, and in-class clicker points.

Item	Percentage
2 best scores from:	
Recitation	25%
Midterm 1	25%
Midterm 2	25%
Final Exam	35%
Clickers	15%

**Examinations:** Exams will be multiple choice. All exams will take place in our regular classroom. **There will be no make-ups for missed exams.** If you have three or more final examinations on the same day, you can arrange to have the last one taken at an alternative time. It is your responsibility to notify me no later than six weeks into the semester.

**Recitation:** Recitations are led by your TA and will meet weekly. **Recitations will start the 2nd week of class (the week of September 1st).** Your recitation leader will decide how the recitation grade will be determined. This is a four-credit course with one credit coming from the recitation, so I expect you to take it seriously. TAs are an EXTREMELY VALUABLE resource and I encourage you to go to their office hours as often as possible if you have questions.

**Clickers:** Clickers will be used in class to gauge your understanding of the material and encourage attendance. Incorrectly answered clicker questions will still receive partial credit. You should only be using your own clicker in class. Students caught answering with more than one will lose 50% of the available clicker points.

### Grading Scale

Score	Grade	Score	Grade	Score	Grade
93-100%	A	80-82.99%	B-	67-69.99%	D+
90-92.99%	A-	77-79.99%	C+	63-66.99%	D
87-89.99%	B+	73-76.99%	C	60-62.99%	D-
83-86.99%	B	70-72.99%	C-	< 60%	F

**Email Policy:** While the teaching assistants and I strive to be as accessible to you as possible through multiple communication channels, including email, please observe the following policy regarding sending emails:

- Always refer first to the syllabus for questions regarding class policy. If the answer to your question can be found in the syllabus, you will likely be referred back to it.
- Some questions are better answered in person, especially questions regarding course material. Please use the office hours of your instructor and TA as the first resource for any help you need on understanding the course material.
- Under no circumstances can the TAs and I provide information about your performance on individual assignments or overall grade over email due to Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) regulations, since email is not considered a secure electronic medium.

### Important Dates

Date	Item
Oct 09	Midterm 1
Nov 20	Midterm 2
Nov 25	No Class (Fall Break)
Nov 27	No Class (Fall Break)
Dec 17	Final Exam (Wednesday 1:30 PM)

### Tentative Course Outline

Chapter	Topic
2	Thinking Like an Economist
3	Interdependence and the Gains from Trade
4	The Market Forces of Supply and Demand
5	Elasticity and Its Application
6	Supply, Demand, and Government Policies
7	Consumers, Producers, and Market Efficiency
8	The Costs of Taxation
9	International Trade
10	Externalities
11	Public Goods and Common Resources
13	The Costs of Production
14	Firms in Competitive Markets
15	Monopoly
18	The Markets for Factors of Production

**Students with Disabilities**

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Center for Community N200, and <http://www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices>. If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see guidelines at <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/go.cgi?select=temporary.html>.

**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. If you have a conflict, please contact me at the beginning of the term so that we can make proper arrangements.

**Classroom Behavior Policy**

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, and gender expression, age, disability, and nationalities. 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.

**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