

# Principles of Microeconomics

ECON 2010-300 { Spring 2020  
University of Colorado, Boulder

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<b>Instructor:</b> Xiaomeng Zhao	<b>Office Hours:</b> M&W 12:00pm { 1:00pm
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This Syllabus covers all the important organizational details. Further information if not specified here will be given in class at the appropriate time.

**Office Hours:** M&W 12:00 { 13:00 ECON 309C.

**Logistics and Important Dates:** We meet three times a week on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 13:00 to 13:50 in room GOLD A2B70. Once a week you will also meet with your Teaching Assistants for the class during Recitation Sessions. During Recitation Sessions you will regularly review the past and upcoming assignments and get extra help prior to exams.

There will be two in-class midterm exams and one final exam. Please mark your calendar as follows:

Midterm 1, 02/21 class time

Midterm 2, 03/18 class time

Final, 05/04 4:30 p.m. { 7:00 p.m.

No makeup exams will be given. The only exceptions are covered by campus guidelines on absences due to religious observance (see below). If you fail to show up for an exam without an acceptable excuse (such as an illness that is documented with a medical note), you will get a zero for that exam.

**Textbook, Web Platform and Clicker:** The textbook for the class is N. Gregory Mankiw, Principles of Microeconomics, 9th edition. You will need to enroll in the web portal Cengage-Mindtap. Through Cengage-Mindtap you will have access to additional learning material and to weekly problem sets which will be graded. The best way to login into Mindtap is through Canvas <https://canvas.colorado.edu/> You will also need an iClicker. You can purchase it at the CU Bookstore, if you do not have one already. We will use clickers regularly to review examples and to solve problems. Please make sure to register your clicker at <https://oit.colorado.edu/tutorial/cuclickers-iclicker-remote-registration>

**TA and Recitations:** Recitations start in the second week. Please check your enrollment records to establish the day and time of your session.

**Assignments and Grading:** I will assign weekly problem sets through Mindtap that will be graded. A portion of the questions in the problem sets will aim at reinforcing your understanding and mastering of the material, while a portion will be representative of the type of questions that you will get in the midterm and final exams.

Your final score will be calculated as the following:

Midterm 1 20%

Midterm 2 20%

iClicker attendance 10%

Final 25%

Mindtap Homework 15%

Recitation 10%

Your overall average score will not automatically translate into a certain letter grade. I will determine the mapping from this score to letter grade once all assignments are graded. In practice, this means for example that a 88% average score may be an "A", or, alternatively, that a 91% average score may be a "B+". I will report in class the average, maximum, and minimum scores on the tests, which will give you feedback on how your class performance translates into letter grades.

#### Tentative Course Outline:

Week#1 .....Syllabus and Ten Principles of Economics  
Week#2 ..... Thinking like an Economist  
Week#3 .....Gains from Trade  
Week#4 .....Market Forces of Supply and Demand  
Week#5 ..... Elasticity  
Week#6 ..... Midterm 1  
Week#7 ..... Supply, Demand, and Government Policies  
Week#8 ..... Consumer, Producer Surplus and Market  
Efficiency  
Week#9 .....Cost of Taxation  
Week#10 .....Externalities  
Week#11 .....Midterm 2  
Week#12 ..... Costs of Production  
Week#13 ..... Firms in Competitive Markets  
Week#14 ..... Monopoly  
Week#15 .....Public Goods and Common  
Resources(Optional)

erate acts of sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment or related retaliation against or by any employee or student. CU's Sexual Misconduct Policy prohibits sexual assault, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, intimate partner abuse (dating or domestic violence), stalking or related retaliation. CU Boulder's Discrimination and Harassment Policy prohibits discrimination, harassment or related retaliation based on race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct under either policy should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127. Information about the OIEC, the above referenced policies, and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment or related retaliation can be found at the OIEC website.

**Honor Code:**