

ECON 306: Intermediate Microeconomics

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Spring 2019

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Office Hours: T/Th 11:00am-12:30pm
Office: Clark A14-A

Web: <https://canvas.colostate.edu>
Class Hours: T/Th 2:00pm-3:15pm
Class Room: ENGRG B103

Course Description

This course builds on your knowledge of microeconomics from Principles of Microeconomics. This class takes the concepts from the introductory course and extends them, analyzing competitive and noncompetitive markets with respect to their efficiency. It takes the general models you learned in principles and builds mathematical models which represent the decisions of consumers, producers and workers.

Required Textbooks

- *Microeconomics*, 9th ed. (P&R) by R. Pindyck and D. Rubinfeld (Electronic, loose-leaf, or hardcover versions are available).
- I will make other readings available on Canvas as needed.

Methodology and Delivery

This course is presented as a series of lectures and class discussions. **It is very important that you attend every class period.** It is expected that you complete the required readings prior to the first class meeting of a given week.

Prerequisites/Corequisites

Principles of Microeconomics (ECON 202) and introduction to calculus (MATH 141, 155, or 160), or equivalent from another institution. These are enforced.

Course Objectives

At the conclusion of this course students should be able to:

1. Develop mathematical models to explain economic decision-making.
2. Explain the process of resource allocation within a market, and understand how the structure of a specific market will impact this allocation.
3. Illustrate how government intervention may help or hinder the functioning of markets.
4. Understand how these tools may be used in a real world context.

Contact Hours

The federal credit hour definition requires 2 hours of outside work for each hour of instruction every week. Below you will find an example of a weekly schedule that satisfies these expectations where contact hours measure the amount of time students are expected to be engaged in the course including both instructional time (reviewing lectures) and other time engaged with the course materials.

Activity	Contact Hours Per Week
Attend Class	3.0
Reading	2.0
Review Class Notes	1.0
Exam Study/Homework Problems/Essay Writing	3.0
Total	9.0

Course Assignments

1. There will be 4 Exams and 4 Problem Sets. Exams will be weighted at 60% of the final grade, Problem Sets will be weighted at 40% of the final grade.
2. **Problem Sets:** Problem sets will consist of practice problem-solving type questions. Students will work together in groups of 3 or 4 on problem sets. Each student should make an effort to work through the problems on her own. However, each group needs to turn in only one copy of their solutions. No credit will be given for late problem sets. Problem sets are due at the beginning of class on the assigned dates. Problem sets will not be accepted via email. All pages of your problem set should be stapled, clipped, or otherwise attached together. I reserve the right to take off points for not following this direction. In general, we will not have time in class to review problem sets. However, answers will be made available after an assignment is turned in to facilitate reviewing for the exams.

3. **Exams:** There will be 4 exams. The exams will contain material from the textbook, in-class examples, and the problem sets. None of the exams are cumulative. These exams will be taken individually, in class on the date listed in the schedule. This will be a closed book/note exam, but a one page, single sided, hand written sheet (8.5"x11") and a graphing calculator are allowed.

Table 1: Grading Schedule

Assignment	Grade Points	Grade Percentage
Problem Sets (4 @ 100 Pts)	400	≈ 40%
Exams (4 @ 150 Pts)	600	≈ 60%
Total	1,000	100 %

Course Grading Criteria

Table 2: Course Grading Criteria

Grade	Percentage Grade	Equivalent Points	Indicates
A	90-100	900-1000	Excellent
B	80-89	800-899	Above Average
C	70-79	700-799	Average
D	60-69	600-699	Below Average
F	0-59	Less than 600	Failure

Department Statement on Copyright

Please do not share material from this course in online, print or other media. Course material is the property of the instructor who developed the course. Materials authored by third parties and used in the course are also subject to copyright protections. Posting course materials on external sites (commercial or not) violates both copyright law the CSU Student Conduct Code. Students who share course content without the instructor's express permission, including with online sites that post materials to sell to other students, could face disciplinary or legal action.

Academic Integrity

I take academic integrity seriously. Any evidence of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism or cheating on exams, will be penalized with a failing grade for the course and passed on to the Office of Student Affairs for investigation and possible disciplinary action.

At a minimum, academic integrity means that no one will use another's work as their own. The CSU writing center defines plagiarism this way: "Plagiarism is the unauthorized or unacknowledged use of another person's academic or scholarly work. Done on purpose, it is cheating.

Done accidentally, it is no less serious. Regardless of how it occurs, plagiarism is a theft of intellectual property and a violation of an ironclad rule demanding credit be given where credit is due." -Writing Guides: Understanding Plagiarism. <http://writing.colostate.edu/guides/researchsources/understandingplagiarism>.

Academic Dishonesty could result in expulsion from the university. This course will adhere to the CSU Academic Integrity Policies and Guiding Principles as found in the General Catalog and the Student Conduct Code. At a minimum, violations will result in a grading penalty in this course and a report to the Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct Services. Of course, academic integrity means more than just avoiding plagiarism and cheating. It also involves doing your own reading and studying. It includes class attendance, careful consideration of all class materials, and engagement with the class and your fellow students.

CSU Honor Pledge

Academic integrity lies at the core of our common goal: to create an intellectually honest and rigorous community. Because academic integrity, and the personal and social integrity of which academic integrity is an integral part, is so central to our mission as students, teachers, scholars and citizens, I will ask that you affirm the CSU Honor Pledge as part of completing your work in this course. Each exam and assignment you submit, you will be required to affirm the following statement:

"I have not given, received, or used any unauthorized assistance."

Further information about Academic Integrity is available at CSU's Practicing Academic Integrity <http://learning.colostate.edu/integrity/index.cfm>.

Course Withdrawal Policy

Any student who wishes to withdraw from the course must submit a request directly to Division of Continuing Education. For complete information, please visit their website at <http://www.learn.colostate.edu/help/creditstudents/registration/drop-policy.dot>

ADA and Resources for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities may be eligible for accommodations in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. It is the student's responsibility to disclose any learning disabilities. Please contact the instructor if a special accommodation is required. To request accommodations, students should contact Resources for Disabled Students at (970) 491-6385 or go to <http://rds.colostate.edu>. Documentation of disability is required and the RDS office will assist in this process.

Title IX

CSU's Discrimination, Harassment, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking, and Retaliation policy designates faculty and employees of the Univer-

sity as "Responsible Employees." This designation is consistent with federal law and guidance, and requires faculty to report information regarding students who may have experienced any form of sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, relationship violence, stalking or retaliation. This includes information shared with faculty in person, electronic communications or in class assignments. As "Responsible Employees," faculty may refer students to campus resources (see below), together with informing the Office of Support and Safety Assessment to help ensure student safety and welfare. Information regarding sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, relationship violence, stalking and retaliation is treated with the greatest degree of confidentiality possible while also ensuring student and campus safety. Any student who may be the victim of sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, relationship violence, stalking or retaliation is encouraged to report to CSU through one or more of the following resources: Emergency Response 911, Deputy Title IX Coordinator/Office of Support and Safety Assessment (970) 491-1350, Colorado State University Police Department (non-emergency) (970) 491-6425. For counseling support and assistance, please see the CSU Health Network, which includes a variety of counseling services that can be accessed at: <http://www.health.colostate.edu/>. The Sexual Assault Victim Assistance Team is a confidential student resource that does not have a reporting requirement: <http://www.wgac.colostate.edu/need-help-support>.

Other Accommodations

- Canvas technical support: <http://info.canvas.colostate.edu/student-resources.aspx>
- Writing Center: help with written assignments can be found at the Writing Center <http://writingcenter.colostate.edu>.

Classroom Conduct

Students are required to act respectfully in the classroom at all times, any disruptive behavior that inhibits fellow-student learning will not be permitted and will constitute a one day removal from lecture/recitation; a second offense will require a formal meeting with the student, instructor, and TA. Such behavior includes holding conversations during lecture/recitation, any unauthorized cell phone, laptop, or tablet use, or other behavior which detracts from the class.

Office Hours

Cancellation of any office hours or appointments will be notified via a notice on my door, announcement in class or by email. If you wish to see me in person outside of office hours, please make an appointment by email. I encourage students to ask me short questions by email, as this method can be quicker than an appointment if the query is straightforward.

Extra Credit Policy

Extra credit may be awarded at the discretion of the Instructor during the semester.

Disclaimer

All of the information in this course syllabus is subject to change when deemed necessary by the instructor. Students will be notified verbally in class, via postings on the class homepage, or by email if such changes occur.

Course Schedule

Week 01, 01/21 - 01/25: Introduction and Math Review

- Required Readings:
 1. P&R Ch. 1 & 2

Week 02, 01/28 - 02/01: Consumer Behavior

- Required Readings:
 1. P&R Ch. 3

Week 03, 02/04 - 02/08: Individual and Market Demand

- Required Readings:
 1. P&R Ch. 4
- Problem Set 1 Assigned **Tuesday**.

Week 04, 02/11 - 02/15: Production and Exam 1

- Required Readings:
 1. P&R Ch. 6
- Problem Set 1 Due **Tuesday**.
- Exam 1 **Thursday**.

Week 05, 02/18 - 02/22: The Cost of Production

- Required Readings:
 1. P&R Ch. 7

Week 06, 02/25 - 03/01: Profit Maximization and Competitive Supply

- Required Readings:
 1. P&R Ch. 8

Week 07, 03/04 - 03/08: The Analysis of Competitive Markets

- Required Readings:
 1. P&R Ch. 9
- Problem Set 2 Assigned **Tuesday**.

Week 08, 03/11 - 03/15: Market Power and **Exam 2**

- Problem Set 2 Due **Tuesday**
- Exam 2 **Thursday**.

Week 09, 03/18 - 03/22: Spring Break

Week 10, 03/25 - 03/29: Monopolistic Competition and Oligopoly

- Required Readings:
 1. P&R Ch. 12

Week 11, 04/01 - 04/05: Game Theory

- Required Readings:
 1. P&R Ch. 13

Week 12, 04/08 - 04/12: Markets with Asymmetric Information

- Required Readings:
 1. P&R Ch. 17

Week 13, 04/15 - 04/19: Externalities and Public Goods

- Required Readings:
 1. P&R Ch. 18
- Problem Set 3 Assigned on **Tuesday**.

Week 14, 04/22 - 04/26: Uncertainty and Consumer Behavior

- Required Readings:
 1. P&R Ch.5
- Problem Set 3 Due on **Tuesday**.
- Exam 3 on **Thursday**.

Week 15, 04/29 - 05/03: Application: Urban Economics 1

- Required Readings:
 1. Selected Readings Posted on Canvas.
- Problem Set 4 Assigned on **Thursday**

Week 16, 05/06 - 05/10: Application: Urban Economics 2

- Required Readings:
 1. Selected Readings Posted On Canvas.
- Problem Set 4 Due on **Thursday**.

Week 17, 05/13 - 05/17: Final Exam