

# ECON 3070-003

## Intermediate Microeconomics

**Instructor:** Tianxiao Zheng  
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**Office:** ECON 309A  
**Office Hours:** W 1:30-3:30  
**Course Meetings:** MWF 11:00-11:50  
**Location:** MUEN E431  
**Course Website:** D2L

### Recommended Textbook

Besanko and Braeutigam, "Microeconomics", 5th edition, Wiley (4th edition is also fine).

### Course Overview

Microeconomics studies the economic behavior of individual economic decision makers, such as a consumer, a producer, a worker, or a manager. It also analyzes the behavior of individual households, industries, markets, labor unions and trade associations. This course will perform as an intermediate step to future study in advanced Microeconomics. It also acts as an essential part of studies in international trade, labor, development and other sub-fields of microeconomics.

The course name comes as "Intermediate" which indicates this course is designed to provide students with more detailed and thorough theories and techniques beyond an introductory Microeconomics course. After a successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Describe key concepts and models in words as well as in a formal mathematical way.
2. Utilize graphing and mathematical techniques to explain intuitions behind an economic question, and solve microeconomic questions.
3. Apply concepts and models to explain economic behaviors in real world.

### Prerequisites

**Economics Prerequisites:** ECON 1000 or ECON 2010

**Mathematics Prerequisites:** ECON 1078 & 1088 or MATH 1300 or MATH 1310 or MATH 1081 or MATH 1080 & 1090 & 1100 or APPM 1350 or equivalent

This class requires substantial working knowledge of calculus and students are assumed to meet this requirement. There will be no formal review of calculus techniques. Therefore, the mathematics prerequisites will be strictly enforced.

## Grading

Your course grade will be calculated as following:

20%(participation)+20%(quiz)+25%(midterm)+35%( final)

## Participation

Each week I will distribute in-class practice questions. Students can form groups to discuss and complete these questions but each of you need to submit your own work separately. I will collect them at the end of class. **Please note: Your answers will NOT be graded but each completed class-assigned work will be taken as your class participation grade.** This means either missing a class or incomplete work will end up with 0 participation grade on that day.

## Exams

**Please note: No exams will be given early, and NO make-up exam.**

There will be no make-up exams, dropped exams or early exams given for either an excused or unexcused absence. If you miss an exam for an excused absence, your final will be reweighted if you provide the necessary documentation. (i.e. if you miss the midterm your final will be worth 60% of your final grade).

The format of midterm and final exams will be multiple choice and short answer questions. Please bring a calculator to every exam. Cell phone & graphing calculators are not permitted. **The use of a cell phone will never be permitted and if you bring a graphing calculator 5 points will be deducted from your overall exam score.**

There will be three quizzes throughout the semester. The format of quiz will be short answer questions. Each quiz will cover materials since the last exam. The midterm will cover the first half part of materials in this course. **The final is cumulative.** This means you will be tested with materials from the entire semester.

**Tentative exam dates:**

Sep 26 - 1st quiz (20 mins in class)

Oct 24 - midterm (50 mins)

Nov 19 - 2nd quiz (20 mins in class)

TBD - final

## Grading Disputes

Please do not send me emails on your grades. According to FERPA (the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974), I can not talk about your grades in emails. You need to come to see me during office hours if you have any concern with your grades. I will not email you back if you are asking about grades in the email.

## Grading Scale

<u>Your score</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Your score</u>	<u>Grade</u>
93-100%	A	73-76%	C
90-92%	A-	70-72%	C-
87-89%	B+	67-69%	D+
83-86%	B	63-66%	D
80-82%	B-	60-62%	D-
77-79%	C+	59%	F

## Lecture

It is your responsibility to come to each class and take notes. I will not provide or post notes, please do not ask. If you miss a class, you should be able to get notes from your classmates. You are welcome to come to my office hours if you have questions, or want to have a discussion of materials related to this course. Please review materials covered in previous class before come to the lecture. Full participation is expected.

## Emails

Please be considerate with your use of email. If you email me a substantive question about lectures, exams, or assignments I will most likely encourage you to come to talk to me about it during my office hours. I reserve the right not to answer emails lacking appropriate salutation, grammar and punctuation. Emails asking for administrative information contained within this syllabus or available on the course website will not be answered.

## Office hours

Office hours are for your benefit to ask questions or discuss course materials with me in a relative small setting environment. I have office hours on every Monday and Wednesday. If the listed office hours do not work for you, you can send me an email to set up an alternative time.

## Tentative course schedule

**week 1 (8/25-8/29):** Chap 1 and assignment one on 8/29

**week 2 (9/1-9/5):** Chap 3 and assignment two on 9/5, no class 9/1

**week 3 (9/8-9/12):** Chap 4 and assignment three on 9/12

**week 4 (9/15-9/19):** Chap 4 and assignment four on 9/19

**week 5 (9/22-9/26):** Chap 5 and 1st quiz on 9/26

week 6 (9/29-10/3): Chap 5 and assignment five on 10/3  
week 7 (10/6-10/10) Chap 6 and assignment six on 10/10  
week 8 (10/13-10/17) Chap 7 and assignment seven on 10/17  
week 9 (10/20-10/24) Chap 7 and midterm on 10/24  
week 10 (10/27-10/31) Chap 8 and assignment eight on 10/31  
week 11 (11/3-11/7) Chap 8 and assignment nine on 11/7  
week 12 (11/10-11/14)

## Honor Code

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council ([honor@colorado.edu](mailto:honor@colorado.edu); 303-725-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and nonacademic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Other information on the Honor Code can be found at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html> and at <http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/>.

## Discrimination & Harassment Policy

The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on Discrimination and Harassment (<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/discrimination.html>), the University of Colorado policy on Sexual Harassment and the University of Colorado policy on Amorous Relationships applies to all students, staff and faculty. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of J(cs-486)]TJ 0 -13.549 Td [