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# UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

## INTERMEDIATE MICROECONOMIC THEORY

### ECON 3070-581 SYLLABUS, SUMMER 2020

INSTRUCTOR: MINGHUI LI

Email [minghui.li@colorado.edu](mailto:minghui.li@colorado.edu)

Office Hours

- **Online Office Hours:** Wednesday and Thursday 10-11:30am or by appointment via <https://cuboulder.zoom.us/j/9151694084>

TEACHING ASSISTANT: YUWEI JIA

Email [yuwei.jia@colorado.edu](mailto:yuwei.jia@colorado.edu)

Office Hours

- **Online Office Hours:** Monday, Wednesday and Friday 2:00-3:00pm or by appointment via <https://cuboulder.zoom.us/my/yuwei.jia>.

## COURSE WEBSITE

Canvas is our class website:

- Login using your University of Colorado Boulder identikey and password <https://canvas.colorado.edu/>
- Under Course List, click "ECON 3070-581: Intermediate Microeconomic Theory"
- Note: all email correspondence will be through your CU Boulder email address.
  - *Do not use the Canvas email or messages, it is not checked.*

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

*From General Catalog: Explores theory and application of models of consumer choice, firm and market organization, and general equilibrium. Extensions include intertemporal decisions, decisions under uncertainty, externalities, and strategic interaction.*

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to microeconomic theory, focusing on the behavior of households, firms, and the interaction of these agents in the marketplace. Microeconomic theory is used to explain how individuals decide what and how much to buy and how firms decide what and how much to sell under various economic environments (e.g., market structures, taxation, regulation). Extensions and applications will include market failures such as externalities and public goods, investments and net present value, and risk.

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## EVALUATION AND GRADING

Course grades will be determined by the completion of assignments, exams, and discussions, as shown below:

| <b>Assignment*</b>              | <i>Points per Assignment</i> | <i>Frequency</i> | <i>GRADE POINTS</i> | <i>GRADE PERCENTAGE</i> |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Early-Module Assignment         | (5)                          | * (10)           | = 50                | 5%                      |
| Discussion Postings             | (30)                         | * (4)            | = 120               | 12%                     |
| Problem Sets                    | (30)                         | * (11)           | = 330               | 33%                     |
| Proctored Midterm Exam          | (200)                        | * (1)            | = 200               | 20%                     |
| Proctored Cumulative Final Exam | (300)                        | * (1)            | = 300               | 30%                     |
| <i>TOTAL</i>                    | <i>1000</i>                  | <i>27</i>        | <i>1000</i>         | <i>100%</i>             |

question and you will respond to the questions at your convenience prior to the due date. See the class schedule for due dates of posts and comments. Discussions are open book and open note. Discussions will be submitted through Canvas.

*Problem Sets* (330 POINTS) – There will be twelve (12) 30-point problem sets. The format of the problem sets will be multiple choice, calculations, and short answers and will be open book and open notes. Your lowest one (1) problem set is dropped from your final grade calculation. Problem sets will be submitted through Canvas or MyLab.

*Exams* (500 POINTS) – There will be two (2) exams. The proctored midterm exam is worth 200 points and the proctored cumulative final exam is worth 300 points. The format of the exam will be multiple choice and calculations and will be closed book. The exams are completed on Canvas or MyLab in a proctored setting.

**This course requires proctored examinations.** The Department of Economics at the University of Colorado Boulder requires students to use the online proctoring tool, Proctorio, for their proctored exams. Proctorio allows students to complete an assessment at a remote location, such as their home, while helping to ensure the integrity of the exam. There is no cost to use this tool.

- Please review [Proctorio Minimum System Requirements](#) to ensure you have the correct hardware and software to use this tool.
- Note that you are required to have a computer with a functioning webcam and microphone or have access to a computer with a functioning webcam microphone to complete your exams.

See Canvas for detailed information about proctoring. If you are in a rural area or on a military base, you may need to be approved to use a person as a proctor and information is provided on Canvas for this approval process.

## EXTRA CREDIT

Up to 50 points of extra credit may be available (= maximum 5% of the course grade).

- Practice Problem sets on MyLab. Each time you complete an assigned Practice Problem set by the due date, you will receive up to 3 points extra credit, up to 36 points total (= 12 Practice Problem sets \* 3 points).
- An additional 14 points extra may be available during the semester.

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**Communication-** I am nice and I want you to succeed. Do not hesitate to contact me about anything. Yes, anything.

### **E-mail**

Instructor Minghui Li [minghui.li@colorado.edu](mailto:minghui.li@colorado.edu)

- All e-mail sent to me should contain the following: Course Name and Number (i.e., ECON 3070), Your Name, Short Description of your question. I will respond to email within 12-18 hours, but usually within 2-4 hours. I always respond to email. If you have not had a response within 18 hours I did not receive the email. Be sure to use your CU email address because sometimes gmail and yahoo email accounts are filtered into my spam folder.

### **Office Hours**

- Off campus Office Hours: Wednesday and Thursday 10:00am-11:30am via <https://cuboulder.zoom.us/j/9151694084>

### **General Course Announcements**

- Announcements: Please check the "announcements" section on Canvas often.

## COURSE POLICIES

### NETIQUETTE

All students should be aware that their behavior impacts other people, even online. I hope that we will all strive to develop a positive and supportive environment and will be courteous to fellow students and your instructor. Due to the nature of the online environment, there are some things to remember.

1. Always think before you write. In other words, without the use of nonverbals with your message, your message can be misinterpreted. So please think twice before you hit submit.
2. Keep it relevant. There are places to chat and post for fun everyday stuff. Do not stray from the discussion in the assigned questions.
3. Never use all caps. This is the equivalent of yelling in the online world. It is not fun to read. Only use capital letters when appropriate.
4. Make sure that you are using

Website: <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

*Compiled by Melissa Landin, Instructor, Dept. of Communication, Inver Hills Community College,  
mlandin@inverhills.edu*

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

You are required to have a working webcam and audio on your computer for the proctored examinations.

Canvas technical support.

- Computer specifications: Visit the official [Canvas Computer Specifications Page](#) for the latest list of recommended system requirements.
- Recommended browsers: Visit the [Supported Browsers Page](#) for the detailed list of internet browsers in Windows, MacOS, iOS and Android.
- If you are experiencing issues with Canvas please contact:
  - CU Boulder's Help desk at 303-735-4357 (5-HELP) or [help@colorado.edu](mailto:help@colorado.edu). 5-Help will

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))

CU Boulder recognizes that students' legal information doesn't always align with how they identify. Students may update their preferred names and pronouns via the student portal; those preferred names and pronouns are listed on instructors' class rosters. In the absence of such updates, the name that appears on the class roster is the student's legal name.

COURSE W



