

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO AT BOULDER
Department of Economics
Syllabus

Econ 3070-007
Intermediate Microeconomic Theory
Spring 2009

Instructor

Joyce C. Loh

Office

Economics Building, Room 306

Email

lohj@colorado.edu. This is the best way to get in touch with me. During the week, I will do my best to respond within 24 hours to any queries regarding the course. If I don't, it is fair to assume that I don't have time; if there is any reason that you cannot make these office hours, I am willing to meet you by appointment.

Class Meeting Time

Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 2:00PM ~ 2:50PM, ECON 119

Course Website

I have constructed a CULearn link as the course website. All relevant materials will be posted on it. It is your responsibility to regularly check the information posted online.

Course Description

This course introduces the theoretical framework for analyzing the economic behavior of individual decision-makers, such as consumers and firms. The techniques presented in this course are used by almost every economist and can be applied to many applied fields including international economics, environmental economics, labor economics, and industrial organization.

how each firm decides what technology it should use to produce its product and what quantity of this product to bring to the market. This model will be then used to derive the supply curves of the firm and the market. Section 4 will bring the two sides of the market together to show how the price and the output are determined by the market. The perfect competition of market structure will be examined. If time permits, we will close the semester with an introduction to the general equilibrium and/or other important microeconomic topics.

Course Structure

The course will consist of lectures, readings, assignments, and exams. The lectures will follow the readings in terms of topics covered. However, there may be some materials covered in lecture that will not be covered by the readings, and there will most certainly be some materials in the readings not covered in lecture. Therefore, attending lectures and taking good notes are very important to succeed in this course.

Readings will be primarily from the required textbook. However, I may elect to assign additional calculus and optimization techniques covered in the prerequisite classes, and feel comfortable expressing these concepts in short-answer questions in assignments and exams.

Midterm Exam 1	25%
Midterm Exam 2	25%
Final Exam (mandatory and cumulative)	30%

Each assignment will be graded on a scale from 0 to 10: zero point for not handing it in, 2 point for poor performance, 5 points for average performance, and 10 points for outstanding performance. The lowest two assignment scores will be dropped before the course grades are determined at the end of the semester. You are encouraged to work on the problem sets in small groups. However, you have to turn in your own problem set.

The midterm exam will be graded on a 50-point scale, and the final exam will be graded on a 120-point scale. They will be based on the lectures and the assignments.

I will not curve any single exam or assignment, but the whole class grade will be curved at the end of semester if the average is lower than 70. Throughout the semester, I will distribute some handouts or worksheets in class without advance notice. Some of them will be collected before the class is dismissed and counted as attendance or extra credit.

Exam Rules

You are only allowed to bring the (colored) pens, pencils, erasers, white-out, rulers, and basic calculators (see the attached picture). If the calculators you bring to the exams are not the basic ones, I'll take possession of them until you finish the exams. Scratch paper will be provided. If a decimal answer is necessary to complete the question, calculation hints will be provided at the end of each part. You may not need to use all but only some of them to finish one question. If you feel competent at algebra, you may not need a basic calculator at all for the exams.

Missed Assignments & Exams

Late assignments will not be accepted since the solutions will be posted on the course website shortly after the assignments are due. You may, however, miss two assignments without penalty since your lowest two assignment scores will be dropped.

No make-up exams will be given. If there is a proven emergency or other unusual circumstances that have been discussed with me prior to an exam, no make-up exam will be given but your grades will be reweighed.

Tutoring Resources

Department of Economics provides a free drop-in tutorial lab for undergraduates enrolled in introductory and intermediate Economics courses at CU-Boulder. The details can be found at <http://www.colorado.edu/Economics/undergraduate/index.html>, and then click [Drop-IN Tutorial Lab](#) (to be updated soon). If you prefer one-on-one tutorial, Department of Economics also keeps a list of graduate students who are willing to tutor the undergrad students in different topics. The list can be found at the same webpage, and then click [Tutor List](#) (to be updated soon).

Tentative Course Schedule

Date	Day	Topic	Reading
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	14	Wed
	16	Fri
	19	Mon

Math Review
Math Review
No class

Extra Readings	
Extra Readings	

	24	Fri
	27	Mon
	29	Wed
May	1	Fri

Perfectly Competitive Markets
 General Equilibrium Theory
 General Equilibrium Theory
 Q&A for Cumulative Final Exam

Ch9	Pset 9 Due
Ch16	
Ch16	
Extra Exercises for Cumulative Final Exam	

mandates. The syllabus statements and answers to Frequently Asked Questions can be found at <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices>.

Sexual Harassment

The University of Colorado Policy on Sexual Harassment applies to all students, staff, and faculty. Sexual harassment is unwelcome sexual attention. It can involve intimidation, threats, coercion, or promises or create an environment that is hostile or offensive. Harassment may occur between members of the same or opposite gender and between any combinations of members in the campus community: students, faculty, staff, and administrators. Harassment can occur anywhere on campus, including the classroom, the workplace, or a residence hall. Any student, staff, or faculty member who believes s/he has been sexually harassed should contact the Office of Sexual Harassment (OSH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the OSH and the campus resources available to assist individuals who believe they have been sexually harassed can be obtained at <http://www.colorado.edu/odh/>