

Instructor: Benjamin Zhang

Office: Economics 309A

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Course website:

The course is divided into three parts. The first deals with theories of consumer behavior and demand. We will show how a consumer may make optimal choices, how individual demands are formed, and how market demands can be derived. Part two discusses the firm's technologies and production. This lays the foundation for the study of firm behavior under different forms of market structure. The third part of the course integrates the previous material into models of prices and outputs under different market structures. A variety of market structures are examined including perfect competition, monopoly, and oligopoly. If time permits, we will close the semester with an introduction to game theory and the economics of information.

Lectures: Attendance of the first week is mandatory, and non-attendance may result in being administratively dropped from the course. I do not take attendance in lectures. You are all (legally) adults and it's your decision to make whether attending is worth your while. That said, it is crucial that you make the effort to attend every lecture for success in this course.

In some cases lecture will extend beyond the content of the textbook, so it is strongly encouraged you attend lecture. My lecture notes will not be available, so if you do miss a class you should plan on getting notes from a classmate. Lectures are intended to cover material from the book and connect the concepts to real world examples, providing additional in class practice when appropriate.

Grade Policy: There will be 4 components to your final grade.

Weekly Problem Sets 10%

Recitation 10%

Exam 1 18% Friday, February 17th

Exam 2 18% Friday, March 17th

Exam 3 18% Friday, April 14th

Cumulative Final 26% (see final exam schedule on mycuinfo)

	100%	92%	.....	A
	91%	90%	.....	A-
	89%	88%	.....	B+
	87%	82%	.....	B
	81%	80%	.....	B-
Grading Scale:	79%	78%	.....	C+
	77%	72%	.....	C
	71%	70%	.....	C-
	69%	68%	.....	D+
	67%	62%	.....	D
	61%	60%	.....	D-
	59.5%	and below	.....	F

Exams: Exams 1, 2 and 3 will not be cumulative beyond the cumulative nature of the material. I do not give make-up exams nor do I give exams early. Any unexcused absence on an exam day will result in a zero for that exam. Finally, no cell phone calculators are permitted for exams. Please bring a basic calculator or be prepared to do calculations with pen and paper.

If you have three or more final exams scheduled on the same day, you are entitled to arrange an

that you have three or more exams on the same day or two exams meeting at the same time, and arrangements must be made with your instructor no later than the late drop deadline.

Weekly Problem Sets: Every Friday, I will assign a short problem set due on the following Monday, at the beginning of lecture. They will be graded on completeness and a randomly selected problem each week. Late assignments will not be accepted, the two lowest scores will be dropped.

Office Hours: These are for your benefit, take advantage of them. It is an excellent opportunity to get individual or small group help to clarify concepts from class. If my office hours do not work for you due to another class or work, please email me and we can arrange a time to meet.

Email: Please use email wisely. I will do my best to respond to emails in a timely fashion, usually less than 2 hours - keep in mind your instructors also have lives, do not expect a fast response out of regular business hours (M-F 8-5). If your question has to do with clarification, it may be difficult to explain fully over email, so I will suggest coming to office hours. If I feel the entire class could benefit from the clarification, I will do so in lecture. *Finally, I will not answer emails which ask something administrative which is included on the syllabus, i.e. when is the exam?*

University Policies:

Disability Policy: If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit a letter from Disability Services to me in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, and <http://www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices>

Religious Observance Policy: Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments, or required attendance. If you have a conflict, please contact me at the beginning of the semester so we can make proper arrangements.

Code of Behavior Policy: Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty have the professional responsibility to treat all students with understanding, dignity, and respect to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which they and their students express opinions. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the students 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 the appropriate changes to my records.

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 threaten-