

PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS

ECON 202 Section 1

9:00-9:50 Monday and Wednesday Clark 104
Recitation/Lab as per your sign-up, 50 minutes

Instructor: Mr. Larry Chisesi
Office: C309-H Clark
Office Hours: 11:00 A.M. –11:50 AM MW or by appointment
Phone: (Economic Department Office, leave message!) 970- 491-6324
E-mail: lchisesi@rams.colostate.edu

Graduate Teaching Assistants:

Mr. Jesse Gastelle Clark B303 Tu-Wed 2:00-3:30
Jesse.Gastelle@colostate.edu
Mr. Travis Wiseman Clark C320A MWF 10:00-10:50
& 11:11:30 Tu –Thu
Travis.Wiseman@colostate.edu
Class Web Site: <http://ramct.colostate.edu>
Textbook: Microeconomics, by Krugman and Wells (Worth,2005)
Textbook Web Site: <http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/krugmanwellsmicro/>

COURSE DESCRIPTION and OBJECTIVES

This course introduces students to the subject of economics, particularly as it pertains to the behavior of firms, consumers, industries and society. Topics covered include basic principles, markets and market structures, supply and demand, market imperfections, externalities, taxation and public goods. After completing the course you should be able to understand the basic issues of microeconomics, the methods used in microeconomics and be able to apply principles of economics to situations you encounter in the real world.

COURSE METHODS

To accomplish its objectives, the course relies on the following methods:

- * in-class development of central ideas using lectures with integrated class participation.
- * extensions and applications during recitations/labs led by your Graduate Teaching Assistants.
- * on-line practice tests (voluntary) and text book homework problems assigned in lecture (required).
- * out of class writing assignments (required) providing you the opportunity to articulate, in your own words, concepts learned in class.
- * individual consultation between the student and the teacher or GTA, as needed, to ensure student understanding and to allow discussion to extend beyond the classroom.
- * confirmation and evaluation of student understanding using in-class multiple choice tests.

Examinations

(60% of your grade) There will be three (3) in-class multiple choice exams. Each exam will be worth 20% each of your grade. See the Class Schedule for exam dates and times. Reminders will be posted on RamCT.

THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUP EXAMS! If you must unexpectedly miss an exam, you must present written evidence of a medical or family emergency. If you know in advance that you will be unable to take an exam, contact the professor as soon as possible to make other arrangements. In general, with an acceptable reason, you may be able to arrange to take an exam early, but **never** late. If you are involved in a University sponsored event, please present the appropriate documentation to me one week before a test or assignment is due.

Writing Assignments:

(20% of your grade). There will be two writing assignments during the course, which will consist of 2-3 page essays on topics assigned by the instructor. Specific details on page formatting and style will accompany each assignment. Assignments will be posted on RamCT and will be announced in class. You will typically have at least a week to complete an assignment.

Writing as an activity has been incorporated into all AUCC courses, and these two meet most of that requirement. The remaining writing assessments will be built into your homework grades. You will be graded on the quality of your writing, in addition to the quality of your content. A rubric outlining the grading procedure for your written work will also accompany the assignment.

New this year, writing assignments will be submitted on paper to your GTA at recitation and an electronic copy shall be submitted to a website that will evaluate the essay for authenticity. Details will be presented in class regarding this new requirement. You are encouraged to work together to help learn microeconomics, but written assignment **MUST** be your own work, not a group project.

Homework: There will be weekly homework due at the beginning of recitation and homework in total accounts for 20% of your grade. There are a total of 12 assignments each worth 1.67 % of your grade. Homework will come primarily from problems in the textbook. Homework will be collected at the **beginning** of each recitation/lab. During class your TA will review the homework questions and integrate principles from lecture into the review. By the end of each recitation/lab, you should fully understand the problems and how key concepts presented in lecture appear in the problems. We will also work practice tests in lab.

GRADES:

Assignments and tests have specific point values that, by the end of the semester, sum to one-hundred (100) points. Regardless of the number of items on a test or assignment, the points you earn will be converted to fit the scale points available for that piece of work. For example, if a test is worth 15 percent of your grade and there are 25 questions on the test, the number you answer correctly out of 25 questions will be converted to fit the 15 point scale. If you get 25 out of 25, you score 100% on that test and earn the full 15 points. If you get 20 out of 25, or 80% correct, you earn 80% of 15 points, or 12 out of 15. The instructor will total all your grades and round up to the highest whole point at the end of the course. The writing assignments will each be worth 12.5% of your grade, or 12.5 points each. Each homework can have a different number

of problems, but your score will be converted to reflect that each assignment is worth one and two-thirds point on the one-hundred point scale.

Assignment:	Percentage
Midterms and exams	60%
Writing Assignments	20%
Weekly Homework	20%
TOTAL	100%

Each student is responsible for retaining exams and essays in order to verify points earned. The guaranteed maximum grading scale is:

A = 90% + :

B = 80 - 89% :

C = 70 - 79% :

D = 60 - 69% :

F = below 60%:

Pluses and minuses will NOT be used. The professor reserves the right to lower the scale.

Appeals

You have one week after each exam is first returned to turn in to the instructor a written appeal. Your appeal should state specifically for which questions you believe additional points should be awarded. The instructor reserves the right to regrade the entire exam, not just the questions under appeal.

Extra Credit

There is one extra credit point due for turning in the check-in sheet during the first week of recitation. Additional assignment of extra credit is at the sole discretion of your instructor.

Alternative Testing

If you require special accommodation during examinations, please contact the instructor at least one week before the scheduled examination in order to coordinate testing with Resources for Disabled Students. The student is responsible for obtaining the appropriate verification and paper work.

Academic Integrity

As per university policy, "Any student found responsible for having engaged in academic dishonesty will be subject to academic penalty and/or University disciplinary action." (*General Catalog 2007-2008*, p. 40). Any academic dishonesty in this course will result in a grade of "F" for the course and will be reported to the Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct Services.

Please be aware that the General Catalog specifically identifies the following examples of academic dishonesty: cheating in the classroom, plagiarism, unauthorized possession or disposition of academic materials, falsification, and facilitation of cases of academic dishonesty.

Cheating in the classroom is defined as follows:

"Cheating includes using unauthorized sources of information and providing or receiving unauthorized assistance on any form of academic work. Examples include copying the work of another student on an exam, problem set, or quiz; taking an exam or completing homework for another student; possessing unauthorized notes, study sheets, answer codes, programmed calculators, or other material during an exam or other graded paper results." (General Catalog 2007-2008, p. 40).

Plagiarism is defined as follows:

"Plagiarism includes the copying of language, structure, ideas, or thoughts of another, and representing them as one's own without proper acknowledgment. Examples include a submission of purchased research papers as one's own work; paraphrasing and/or quoting material without properly documenting the source." (General Catalog 2007-2008, p. 40).

EXPECTATIONS

I believe that all of you are enrolled at CSU because you are smart, hard working and academically competent people. I also believe that you want to be in this class, and are making a free choice to do this. Additionally, I have the following expectations regarding your responsibilities and behavior in this class:

(1) I expect you to read the syllabus and to make yourself aware of all requirements and deadlines associated with this class.

(2) I expect you to behave with respect toward the instructor, graduate teaching assistants, and other students in the class. If you cannot attend class in a respectful manner, or believe your time is better spent doing something else, then please do not come to class!

(3) I expect you to make the effort to learn microeconomics.

(4) I expect you to ask for help if you need it.

(5) I expect that full time students are working full time at their school work. To be successful in college, a student should reasonably expect to spend 1-2 hours studying outside of class for each hour in class. A three (3) hour class such as EC202 would require 3-6 hours outside of class per week. That means that if you are carrying 5 courses, or 15 hours, you are spending 30 and 45 hours a week studying and attending class, depending on the difficulty level of the material and on your own abilities. In designing the assignments, tests and material for this course, I assume that you are making this time commitment to your education.

In addition to teaching, I have had 26 years in my life where I have been either a part time or full time student. I've learned a lot about how to manage school and life. If I can help you be successful in your academic goals, please come and see me, I would be very happy to help you.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Week 1 Jan 21-23	Introduction- Comparative Advantage	Ch. 1 & Ch 2-pp 22-29
<i>Extra Credit : Check in sheet (1 pt)</i>		
Week 2 Jan 26-30	Supply and Demand	Ch 3
<i>Homework 1: Chapter 3 problem set</i>		
Week 3 Feb 2-6	Why are markets good?	Ch. 4
<i>Homework 2: Chapter 4 problem set</i>		
Week 4 Feb 9-13	Elasticities	Ch 5
<i>Homework 3: Chapter 5 problem set</i>		
Week 5 Feb 16-20	Consumer Surplus/Producer Surplus	Ch 6
<i>Homework 4 Chapter 6 problem set</i>		
Week 6 Feb 23-27	Review and Test 1 (Wed Feb 25 th)	
<i>No Homework</i>		
<u>Essay 1 Assigned</u>	<u>Essay 1 will be assigned at recitation</u>	
Week 7 March 2-6	Cost functions and firms	Ch. 8
<i>Homework 5 Chapter 8 problem set</i>		
Week 8 March 9-13	Modeling Perfect Competition	Ch 9
<i>Homework 6 Chapter 9 problem set</i>		
<u>Essay 1 Due</u>	<u>Essay 1 due March 12th and 13th</u>	
Week 9 March 16-20	SPRING BREAK! No Classes	
Week 10 Mar 23-27	Monopoly	Ch 14
<i>Homework 7 Chapter 14 problem set</i>		
Week 11 Mar 30-Apr 3	Oligopoly/Game Theory	Ch. 15
<i>Homework 8 Chapter 15 problem Set</i>		
Week 12 Apr 6-10	Monopolistic Comp	Ch 16
<i>Homework 9 Chapter 16 problem set</i>		
Week 13 April 13-17	Review and Test 2 on Wed, April 15 th	
<i>No Homework</i>		
Week 14 April 20-24	Taxes	Ch 21
<i>Homework 10 Chapter 21 problem set</i>		
<u>Essay 2 Assigned</u>	<u>Essay 2 will be assigned at recitation</u>	
Week 15 April 27-May 1	Externalities	Ch 19
<i>Homework 11 Chapter 19 problem set</i>		
Week 16 May 4-8	Public Goods	Ch 20
<i>Homework 12 Chapter 20 problem set</i>		
<u>Essay 2 due</u>	<u>Essay 2 is due May 7th and 8th</u>	
Week 17 May 11-15	Final Exam	

Key Dates:

Test 1 February 25th (Wed)

Test 2 April 15th (Wed)

Test 3 May 12th at 11:20 AM in our same classroom

Essay 1 assigned March 5th and 6th due March 12th and 13th

Essay 2 assigned April 23rd and 24th, due May 7th and 8th