

Syllabus  
Math Tools for Economists II  
ECON1088-002  
2016 Spring

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Instructor: Sihong Xie

Class Meeting: MWF 3:00PM - 3:50PM, ECON 117

Office Location: Economics Building Room 307

Office Hours: Mon/ Wed 1:30pm- 2:50pm and by appointment

Class Website: Desire2Learn (D2L)

Email Address: [sihong.xie@colorado.edu](mailto:sihong.xie@colorado.edu)

This is the best way to contact me outside of my office hours.  
Please allow me 24 hours to respond.

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### COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES

This course is the second of two courses designed to give you the mathematical background necessary for future courses in business and economics. It is a continuation of ECON 1078 which builds upon the basic foundation developed in that course. Topics to be covered in this course include derivatives, optimization, and integrals. These are Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9, and 11 in the textbook. These tools will help you better understand the mathematical framework on which economics models are built and help you to prepare for more advanced courses in economics.

### EXPECTATIONS

You can expect me to:

- o be prepared for the day's work and do my best to assist you in your course work .
- o treat you equally, be professional and respectful at all times
- o be available in my office hours, ask thoughtful questions and give my full attention.

You are expected to:

- o regularly attend class, arrive and leave on time, and silence your phone.
- o complete all assignments and turn in work on time.
- o be respectful to others and

Having a math book around in life is a wise thing to do, so I suggest buying one rather than renting it, especially if you will continue to learn economics, you may want to read all chapters in this book even those chapters we do not cover in ECON 1078 and ECON 1088.

### CALCULATORS

Calculators will NOT be allowed during exams!!!

I want you to understand what you are doing and calculators are a major impediment to understanding, so I will make sure that any actual calculations you need to perform on the test will be straight forward, so using a calculator is unnecessary.

### NOTES

I do not distribute my lecture notes. I will ask you do small practice problems along with lectures during class

## ASSESSMENT and GRADING

Evaluations will take the following forms:

|                |     |
|----------------|-----|
| Attendance     | 10% |
| Homework       | 20% |
| Midterm Exam 1 | 20% |
| Midterm Exam 2 | 20% |
| Final Exam     | 30% |

All exams are closebook exams. All you need bring to exams are pencils.

I reserve the rights to curve the grades for any individual exam or course overall.

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|--------------------------------|--|
| <u>Attendance:</u>             | Attendance will be taken in the format of minute paper. These papers will not be graded. They serve as attendance counts. There are no makeups for missing minute papers. If you miss a minute paper, it will be accounted as one absence and will be dropped.   |
| <u>Homework:</u>               | I will create four homework. You will be able to use your lecture notes, your text, and your classmates to help you work out the problems. The due date for each assignment will be given at the time it is handed out and no assignments will be accepted late. I will grade each problem set on a scale of 0-10. For each assignment, I will choose two questions to grade in detail. 6 points are for completeness of an assignment, 4 points are for correctness of selected questions. Answers will be posted on D2L. |
| <u>Midterm Exam 1 &amp; 2:</u> | The first midterm exam will take place on Friday, February 12, 2016 during the regularly scheduled class time. The Second midterm exam will take place on Monday, March 14, 2016 during the regularly scheduled class time.  |

There will be no makeup exam given. If you must miss an exam, the weight of the missed midterm will be added to your final exam. You must notify me of your exam absence before the

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|  | If you are a student athlete, and your game schedules conflict with exam schedule, please inform me in a written note before Monday, February 22nd, 2016, so I can arrange your exam proctored by an athletic administrator. |
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Grades will be determined as follows:

| <u>Your Score</u> | <u>Grade</u> | <u>Your Score</u> | <u>Grade</u> |
|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|
| 94.00 ± 100       | A            | 73.00 ± 76.99     | C            |
| 90.00 ± 93.99     | A-           | 70.00 ± 72.99     | C-           |
| 87.00 ± 89.99     | B+           | 67.00 ± 69.99     | D+           |
| 83.00 ± 86.99     | B            | 63.00 ± 66.99     | D            |
| 80.00 ± 82.99     | B-           | 60.00 ± 62.99     | D-           |
| 77.00 ± 79.99     | C+           | 59.99 and below   | F            |

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

#### *Students with Disabilities*

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Center for Community N200, and <http://www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices>.

If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see guidelines at <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/go.cgi?select=temporary.html>.

Disability Services' letters for students with disabilities indicate legally mandated reasonable accommodations. The syllabus statements and answers to Frequently Asked Questions can be found at <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices>.

#### *Religious Observance Policy*

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to 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 term so we can make proper arrangements.

#### *Classroom 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 has 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 student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an

[http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student\\_cod](http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_cod)

*Honor Code*

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