

# INTERMEDIATE MICROECONOMIC THEORY

ECON 3070-004 | SPRING 2014 | MWF 10:00am – 10:50am | MUEN E131

## COURSE SYLLABUS

### Instructor Information

Instructor: Seamus X. Li

1:00pm

Appointments outside regular office hours are available on a limited basis.

### Course Website

Desire2Learn (D2L): <https://learn.colorado.edu/>

Item scores and supplemental course material will be posted on Desire2Learn.

### Course Description

This course studies the behavior of individual economic agents and their market interactions. The course is roughly composed of four parts. Part I introduces the basics of microeconomic analysis, and serves as a quick review of some basic economic concepts. Part II studies consumer behavior and market demand. We will show how a consumer may make optimal choices, how individual demands are formed, and how market demand can be derived. Part III discusses the firm's technologies, production functions and production costs. We shall see how firms can make the optimal input choices to minimize production costs. This lays the foundation for the study of behavior of firms under different forms of market structure. Part IV integrates the previous material into models of prices and outputs. Topics in game theory and business strategies will be covered. Economic efficiency and public policy issues will also be discussed.

### Required Text

Besanko, David and Ronald Braeutigam. *Microeconomics*. 4<sup>th</sup> edition, 2011.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> editions should also work for this course. Alternatively, you may choose to acquire a loose-leaf or digital edition at a reduced cost.

### Prerequisites

Economics: ECON 1000 or 2010

Mathematics: Either ECON 1078 and 1088, or MATH 1300, or MATH 1310, or MATH 1081, or MATH 1080, 1090, and 1100, or APPM 1350, or equivalent.

The Department of Economics strictly enforces these prerequisites. In this course we will use calculus intensively. It is assumed that every student has a working knowledge of basic algebra, calculus, and graphing skills. Relevant math techniques will be briefly reviewed when necessary, but you are responsible for your own learning. We will provide additional resources and support for students who need it.

## Grading

Your course grade will be based on the higher of the following two calculations of your final score:

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<b>Method I</b>		<b>Method II</b>	
Group Assignments	25%	Group Assignments	25%
Midterm I	20%		
Midterm II	20%		
Final Exam	25%		
Attendance	10%		

**Tentative Exam Dates**

Midterm I	Friday	02/14/2014	Regular class time
Midterm II	Friday	03/21/2014	Regular class time
Final Exam	Saturday	05/03/2014	4:30pm – 07:00pm

All exams will take place in the regular classroom unless otherwise instructed. Other important dates can be found on the CU Academic Calendar:

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