

relevant information can be found in our Canvas.

**Disclaimer:** all syllabi are subject to **change!** This includes any dates posted below as these might change depending on class progress.



### INSTRUCTOR

Daniela Monge-Navarro, Ph.D. (she/her)

(You may call me professor Monge or simply professor.)

Department of Economics

[daniela.monge@colorado.edu](mailto:daniela.monge@colorado.edu)

**Office:** ECON 206



### OFFICE HOURS

**In person: Wednesdays, 1:30pm-3:30pm (ECON 206)**

- **Drop in** without reserving a slot

**Virtual hours:**

- **Reserve** a slot to get the time you need

Reserve the time slot here: [Calendly](#). If the available times conflict with your schedule or you can't find any available for the coming week, I'm happy to schedule an appointment at another time that works for you, just email me. (Does emailing a professor make you nervous? If so, check out [these tips](#).)



### COURSE DETAILS

**Class times:** Tuesdays & Thursdays, 2:00pm-3:15pm

**Location:** Cristol Chem & Biochem Building 140

**Recitations:** 411-416 (check your schedule and location)

Click on the arrow below for a clickable list of syllabus sections.

On a computer you can also hover over the right dashed scrollbar to view a clickable table of contents for the syllabus sections.

► **Syllabus sections**

## Course Description

Harvard economics professor Greg Mankiw defines economics as “the study of how society manages its scarce resources." This could mean natural resources like oil or timber, but it could also mean how individuals allocate their time and money. So at its core, economics is a study of why people make the decisions that they do. In this course, you will learn how economists go about answering this very broad question, while also learning how policy decisions can be made to shift individuals' behavior. Some basic topics will include: a simple model of supply and demand, elasticity, taxation and welfare, trade, externalities and public goods, monopoly and oligopoly, and the labor market.

Mathematician George Pólya used to say “mathematics is not a spectator sport”. Economics, it turns out, isn't a spectator sport either. *The concepts we’re going to learn this term require constant practice and repetition for them to sink in.* As such, doing the problem sets and practice problems for this course will be essential to your success.

The foundation for economic analysis and thinking provided should be applied beyond the classroom and last throughout subsequent courses or professional careers whether in economics, business, or even seemingly “unrelated” fields.

## Learning Objectives

This is an introductory course into economics and specifically the branch of Microeconomics. The goal is you take with you basic skills that will open future courses and expand your toolkit for how you analyze the world. Overall you will be challenged to think critically while you get to (hopefully) enjoy the process of learning about microeconomics, its applications, and gaining these new analytical skills.

Now, what are our more “specific” objectives?

- Cultivate critical thinking, creative inquiry, and collaborative problem solving.
- Demonstrate understanding of the fundamental microeconomic concepts.
  - Study how behavior of consumers, firms, and governments affects markets and the allocation of limited resources
  - Understand the principles of opportunity cost, rationality of agents, marginal analysis, and the role of the government
  - Examine the power of economic analysis in policy matters and other human activity, while noting its limitations as well

## Required Materials