

PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS ECON 2010.300E

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

INSTRUCTOR: DR. ALPNA BHATIA

SPRING 2020: JAN 21-MAY 15

CLASS TIME AND LOCATION: TUESDAY, 6-8PM ECON 205

CLASS WEBSITE ACCESS VIA [CANVAS](#).

Office Hours: Tues 12:30 pm -2 pm 06A, UCB
Wed 1-3 pm Economics 06A, UCB online office hours, use Canvas Chat or [Zoom](#)
Or via appointment

Email: alpna.bhatia@colorado.edu

Phone: +1720-609-7071 Phone works well for quick text messages.

INSTRUCTOR BIO

Dr Alpna Bhatia (Dr B) has a Ph.d in Economics from the University of Colorado at Boulder. Her areas of academic research and interest include (but are not limited too) gender issues, sustainable development, and teaching methodology. She has been learning and teaching for around twenty years. Outside of class, Dr B is the chief experimenter in her kitchen, master list maker, and occasional killer of plants.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

From General Catalog: Examines basic concepts of microeconomics or the behavior and the interactions of individuals, firms and government. Topics include determining economic problems, how consumers and businesses make decisions, how markets work, and how they fail and how government actions affect markets.

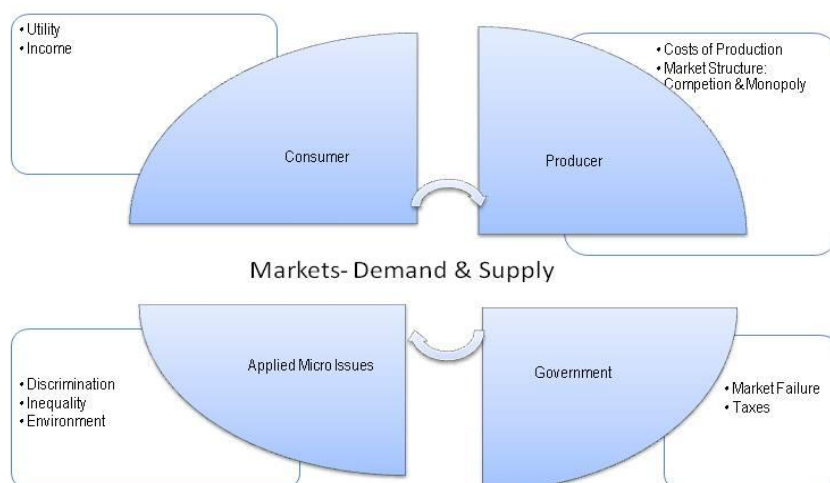
COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of the course you should be able to:

1. Define the basic economic terms presented.
2. Distinguish between different economic terms and concepts and recognize how those concepts apply to different economic problems.
3. Analyze different economic principles and use those principles to differentiate between the illogical and the sensible, between the misleading use of statistics, misleading anecdotal evidence, and the reasonable presentation of information.
4. Synthesize the information given in each section to explain key concepts and set up and solve problems that utilize the economic principles.
5. Acquire the ability to think about complex economic issues in a logical objective manner, so that you discriminate between correct solutions to economic problems, and common misconceptions.
6. Evaluate different economic arguments and interpret the reasons why some are well-founded, while others are not.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

This class requires no previous completion of any courses.



MATERIALS

Textbook (required): Mankiw, N. Gregory; Principles of Microeconomics 8th edition with MindTap. MindTap is where you will read your textbook and complete some graded assignments. You will access MindTap through our course website on Canvas.

COURSE WEBSITE

[Canvas](#) is our class website. You will access your textbook, class discussions, notes, any further additional readings and most importantly your grades via Canvas. Please check Canvas frequently for any relevant notifications/changes that may occur throughout the course. To access Canvas:

- Login using your University of Colorado Boulder identikey and password at [Canvas](#)
- Under Course List, click “ECON 2010-301E: Principles of Microeconomics Hybrid Evening”

SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS

Supplemental readings and other materials will be provided in Canvas system, via the CU Library electronic reserve, or by links to websites.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY AND DELIVERY

This course is designed to integrate face-to-face and online activities so that they reinforce, complement, and build on one another. The weekly class session will be held from 6-pm onwards on Tuesday. Much of the course will be delivered via distance education format using the CU Canvas system. This format will use a combination of readings, online discussion, and other web-based resources. You will interact with the instructor and other students using the communication functions provided by Canvas. You will submit assignments in accordance with the course outline using Canvas. Expect to complete weekly online pre-class and post-class activities.

COURSE OUTLINE

The course content is broken into weeklong modules. Syllabi will not be changed once the semester begins. I will notify all students if any changes, should they occur, in a timely manner in writing via email/Canvas. Review the separate weekly class schedule titled "Course Outline" found on Canvas under "Syllabus" link.

EVALUATION AND GRADING

Course grades are determined by the completion of assignments, exams, and discussions, as following:

Assignment	Points per Assignment	Frequency	GRADE POINTS	GRADE PERCENTAGE
Pre Class Work:				
Quiz	5	11 best of 12	55	6%
Writing	15	11 best of 12	165	17%
In-Class Work:				
(Group) Work	15	11 best of 12	165	17%
Paper & Presentation	50	1	50	5%
Problem Sets	15	11 best of 12	165	17%
Practice Exams	15	2	30	3%
Practice sets	1	20	20	2%
Midterm Exam	150	1	150	15%
Cumulative Final Exam	200	1	200	20%
TOTAL			1000	100%

*Please keep a copy of all work created for the course, including work submitted through Canvas.

COURSE GRADING CRITERIA

I assign letter grades based on the following criteria:

Grade	Percentage Grade	Equivalent Points	Indicates
A	93-100	930 – 1000	<i>Excellent</i>
A-	90-92.99	900 – 929	
B+	87-89.99	870 – 899	
B	83-86.99	830 – 869	<i>Above Average</i>
B-	80-82.99	800 – 829	
C+	77-79.99	770 – 799	
C	73-77.99	730 – 769	<i>Average</i>
C-	70-72.99	700 – 729	
D+	67-69.99	670 – 699	
D	63-67.99	630 – 669	<i>Below Average</i>
D-	60-62.99	600 – 629	
F	0-59	600 or lower	<i>Failure</i>

ASSIGNMENTS

Pre-class work– There will be two different kinds of assignments due in preparation for each week’s class session: Quizzes, and Writing. Your lowest one (1) of each of these assignments is dropped from your final grade calculation. These assignments are open book and open note and will be submitted through Canvas. See the class schedule for due dates. These assignments are always due on Monday, the day before class, at 11:59pm

In-class work– You will earn points in class through answering questions and participating in class activities.

Mini-Paper - ONCE, during in class, you will write and present a mini-paper which will have a summary and application of a microeconomic topics. The evaluation of the assignment be based in part on the following criteria:

- The ability to convey a theme or argument clearly and coherently.
- The ability to analyze critically and to synthesize the course material.
- The ability to acquire and apply information from appropriate sources.
- Competence in standard written English (including proper use of syntax, grammar, punctuation and spelling as well as use of appropriate vocabulary, formatting, and references).

Problem Sets- There will be fourteen 15-point problem sets. The format of the problem sets will be multiple choice, calculations, and short answers and will be open book and open notes. Your lowest one (1) problem set is dropped from your final grade calculation. Problem sets will be submitted through Canvas and are due by midnight FRIDAY after we meet for class.

Exams- There will be two (2) exams. The midterm exam is worth 150 points and the proctored cumulative final exam is worth 200 points. The format of the exam will be multiple choice and calculations and will be closed book. You may use a calculator. The exams are held, in class, in week 7 and 14.

EXTRA CREDIT POLICY

Up to 50 points of extra credit available (= maximum 5% of the course grade) may be available during the semester for completing certain activities. These extra credit opportunities will be determined by the instructor, will be available to all, and announced in class. One way for you to earn extra credit is to help answer fellow student queries on the discussion boards.

GENERAL COURSE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Will be made on the course home page on Canvas. Please check the “announcements” section often. You should choose to have canvas “notify” you immediately for course announcements. Further, make sure to check your Canvas and official “Colorado.edu” email accounts regularly.

EXPECTATIONS OF INSTRUCTOR

I take my role as your instructor very seriously. I care about how well you do in this course and that you have a satisfying, rewarding experience. To that end, it is my commitment to respond individually to the work you submit in this class and to return your work in a timely manner. **I typically take a week to grade discussion boards and essays on quizzes/exams. I will not grade before the deadline. During grading time, I DO NOT entertain questions on grades.** IF the grading of your work takes longer than

the times I have listed here, I will keep you informed of my progress and make every effort to return your work with feedback as soon as I can.

I also believe in protecting Student privacy ([Family Education Rights and Privacy Act](#)). I refrain from publicly posting grades and do NOT give out grades on email. You will have to check your grades in the grade book area of Canvas. Often, I will leave comments in the comment box or rubric of the assignment. You must check these comments before you ask me to review your grade.

COMMUNICATION

If any material is ever unclear, or even if everything is perfectly clear, please feel free to chat with me about economics or anything for that matter, Yes, anything. If you have a short question, please feel free to call or email me. For longer and better explanations atop by office hours or schedule an online appointment at your convenience. If you are having any problems in the course or are encountering personal problems that may affect your grade, please contact me, when the problem occurs. **It is up to each student to be sure to address questions, comments and concerns to me in a timely manner. Likewise, I will work to quickly answer your questions and ensure you have the information you need to be successful in this course!**

Office Hours: I have Office hours online and on campus. I am also happy to meet or Chat with you by appointment. Simply get in touch with me or log into or [Zoom](#) to schedule.

E-mail: Email is absolutely the best way to get in touch with me, except in case of emergencies. I try to be prompt about replying to e-mail. However, you should give me about **24-48** hours to respond depending on the nature of the question. All email correspondence must take place using your **COLORADO.EDU** email address (in which case your email must include your name, and your course number) or your **CANVAS** account. **Sometimes email gets lost, or slips my notice, so if you have not heard back from me in 2 days, do not hesitate to send another email.**

Mobile: (720) 609-7071. This is my cell phone number. Call, text or WhatsApp me anytime between 8am – 7pm MST. IF I don't answer, leave a message or send a text regarding when it is a good time to get a hold of you and I will call you back. Realize that all questions cannot be answered over the phone and I may ask to meet with you anyways.

COURSE POLICIES

CLASS ATTENDANCE POLICY

This course meets once a week for 14 weeks and class attendance is expected. You can miss a maximum of 2 class sessions (excluding exam days) without penalty. **For each additional class session missed, your final grade will be reduced by one full letter grade.**

POLICY ON DUE DATES

Each week you will complete a series of critical thinking questions that reflect material from the various delivery formats and required readings. It is your responsibility to turn in each assignment on the required date. Late assignments are not accepted for pre-class work, in-class work, quizzes or exams. If the paper is turned in late, it will be reduced by one full letter grade for each 24-hours it is late.

The exceptions I may consider are sickness, university excused function, military service or circumstances beyond the students' control. You will need to submit relevant documentation. I reserve the sole right to determine what grounds constitutes a reasonable excuse for missing or submitting a late work assignment, the right to require the student to submit proper verification of such excuse.

If you are having any problems in the course, are encountering personal problems that may affect your grade, or are called for military duty please contact me as early as possible. I will make appropriate accommodations of extensions or grade combining. Do not wait until the end of the semester when it is difficult, if not impossible, to correct any difficulties. **I cannot retroactively make any allowances.** If I fall sick, I hope you all equally understanding

ACCOMMODATION FOR DISABILITIES

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit your accommodation letter from Disability Services to your faculty member in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities in the academic environment. Information on requesting accommodations is located on the [Disability Services website](#). Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or dsinfo@colorado.edu for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see [Temporary Medical Conditions](#) under the Students tab on the Disability Services website.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's 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 appropriate changes to my records. For more information, see the policies on [classroom behavior](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

It is important, to me, that an atmosphere which always facilitates the maximum opportunity for learning be present, in class and online. In class forums it is important that you respect and value the contributions each person makes to class, even if you are not in agreement with their statement. You should remember that your written comments to others, whether in private emails or public discussion groups, should reflect the same sort of courtesy you would use in spoken communication. This includes strict avoidance of sexist, racist or other derogatory language. Also, keep in mind that in written communication it is very difficult at times to determine tone. A playful jab verbally can be read as a harsh criticism in an email. **You are responsible for the content of your writing.** Please be aware that you have the responsibility to keep your communication civil, friendly and professional.

HONOR CODE

All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the Honor Code. Violations of the policy may include: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access to academic materials, clicker fraud, submitting the same or similar work in more than one course without permission from all course instructors involved, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code (honor@colorado.edu); 303-492-5550). Students who are found responsible for violating the academic integrity policy will be subject to nonacademic sanctions from the Honor Code as well as academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the Honor Code academic integrity policy can be found at the [Honor Code Office website](#).

Keep in mind that plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty. Plagiarism is defined as the use of another's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgment. Examples of plagiarism include: failing to use quotation marks when directly quoting from a source; failing to document distinctive ideas from a source; fabricating or inventing sources; and copying information from computer-based sources, i.e., the Internet.

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT, DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT AND/OR RELATED RETALIATION

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) is committed to fostering a positive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct (including sexual assault, exploitation, harassment, dating or domestic violence, and stalking), discrimination, and harassment by members of our community. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct or retaliatory actions for reporting a concern should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127 or cureport@colorado.edu. Information about the OIEC, university policies, [anonymous reporting](#), and the campus resources can be found on the [OIEC website](#). Please know that faculty and instructors have a responsibility to inform OIEC when made aware of incidents of sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment and/or related retaliation, to ensure that individuals impacted receive information about options for reporting and support resources.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. Because of the flexibility of timing of completion of assignments in this class, you must contact me at least two weeks in advance if you anticipate a religious holiday may impact your completion of coursework.

PREFERRED STUDENT NAMES AND PRONOUNS

CU Boulder recognizes that students' legal information doesn't always align with how they identify. Students may update their preferred names and pronouns via the student portal; those preferred names and pronouns are listed on instructors' class rosters. In the absence of such updates, the name that appears on the class roster is the student's legal name.

INCOMPLETE POLICY

Incomplete grades (IW or IF) are NOT granted for low academic performance. Requests for incomplete grades must be initiated by the student and only when, for reasons beyond their control, the student is unable to complete the class requirements within the semester of enrollment. A substantial amount of work must have been satisfactorily completed before approval for such an incomplete grade is given. If an instructor grants a request for an incomplete, the instructor sets the conditions under which the coursework can be completed and the time limit for its completion or if the class should be retaken.

For more information please look up: <https://catalog.colorado.edu/undergraduate/credits-grading/>

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

A variety of instructional support services, such as writing center, guidance on personal or educational issues, tutoring questions and library resources are available to the students. For more information about their services, visit their websites linked under "additional resources" on Canvas.

TECHNICAL HELP

Students are responsible for maintaining or accessing a computer system capable of participating in all aspects of this course. This includes, but is not limited to, running the Canvas software. If for any reason you are having technical difficulties that are limiting or preventing your full participation in the class, **please contact the appropriate Help desk immediately, and then notify the instructor!** I will work with you to ensure that your online learning experience is not hampered by technical issues. However, I can only help you if you bring the matter to my attention right away.

- Canvas technical support: Click the “help” (?) icon on the left side of Canvas, once logged in.
- Mindtap Help: Click the “help” (?) icon on the right side of your webpage, once logged in.
- CU Boulder OIT - 303-735-4357 (5-HELP) or help@colorado.edu

SOME SUCCESS TIPS FROM DR B:

- Recognize that most students find economics to be challenging and time consuming. You are not alone!
- This is a reading and writing intensive course. You should expect to spend between **8-10** hours per week on this course.
- Don't plan to read everything for the module in one go - I recommend budgeting smaller chunks of time spread over the week.
- Budget time to dialogue with the class and complete the readings, as well as any quiz or discussion work that module.
- Realize that this is NOT a self-paced course. You will need to have internet access and do the work EVERY week.
- Use multiple modes to learn the material, including the textbook, my "lecture notes", Web resources, you tube, and other media outlets.
 - Take notes as you read. Ask yourself questions.
 - Ask “specific” questions by e-mail and in class discussion.
- Read the book chapters but pay more attention to what I say/post in class.
- Make sure you pencil in the deadlines or sync to the Canvas calendar for reminders.
- Timely completion of work and participation on the discussion boards is critical to success in the class.
- Do not wait until the end of the semester when it is difficult, if not impossible, to correct any difficulties. As one of my favorite professors used to say, “if you wait too long- you will cry, and then I will cry, and we will end up crying together but your grade will not change.” Good grades in this class depends on your hard work.
- **E-mail me whenever you need help. I look forward in helping you any way that I can.** *Remember that email is absolutely the best way to get in touch with me, except in case of emergencies. You should give me about 24-48 hours to respond depending on the nature of the question.*

Principles of Microeconomics, ECON 2010.301E, Spring 2020 Dr Bhatia						
Week start date	Chap	Topic	Assignments Due Date by 11:59pm MST/MDT			
1 21-Jan	1	Ten Principles of Economics	Pre-Class: Quiz	1	Mon	20-Jan
		Thinking Like an Economist	Start Weekly Writing	1	Mon	20-Jan
	2	Interdependence & Gains from Trade (half)	In Class: Intro & Activity	1	Tues	21-Jan
			Post-Class: Problem set	1	Fri	24-Jan
		Finish Weekly Writing	1	Fri	24-Jan	
2 28-Jan	4	Demand and Supply	Pre-Class: Quiz	2	Mon	27-Jan
			Start Weekly Writing	2	Mon	27-Jan
			In Class: Intro & Activity	2	Tues	28-Jan
			Post Class: Problem set	2	Fri	31-Jan
		Finish Weekly Writing	2	Fri	31-Jan	
3 4-Feb	5	Elasticity	Pre-Class: Quiz	3	Mon	3-Feb
			Start Weekly Writing	3	Mon	3-Feb
			In Class: Intro & Activity	3	Tues	4-Feb
			Post Class: Problem set	3	Fri	7-Feb
		Finish Weekly Writing	3	Fri	7-Feb	
4 11-Feb	6	Supply, Demand, and Government Policies	Pre-Class: Quiz	4	Mon	10-Feb
			Start Weekly Writing	4	Mon	10-Feb
	7	Surplus and Efficiency	In Class: Intro & Activity	4	Tues	11-Feb
			Post Class: Problem set	4	Fri	14-Feb
		Finish Weekly Writing	4	Fri	14-Feb	
5 18-Feb	8	Market Outcomes: Taxes	Pre-Class: Quiz	5	Mon	17-Feb
			Start Weekly Writing	5	Mon	17-Feb
			In Class: Intro & Activity	5	Tues	18-Feb
			Post Class: Problem set	5	Fri	21-Feb
		Finish Weekly Writing	5	Fri	21-Feb	
6 12-Jan	11	Public Goods And Common Resources	Pre-Class: Quiz	6	Mon	24-Feb
			Start Weekly Writing	6	Mon	24-Feb
			In Class: Intro & Activity	6	Tues	25-Feb
			Post Class: Problem set	6	Fri	28-Feb
		Finish Weekly Writing	6	Fri	28-Feb	
7 3-Mar		Proctored Midterm Exam	In Class:		Tues	3-Mar

Week	Chap	Topic	Assignments Due Date by 11:59pm MST/MDT			
8 10-Mar	13	Costs of Production	Pre-Class: Quiz	7	Mon	9-Mar
			Start Weekly Writing	7	Mon	9-Mar
			In Class: Intro & Activity	7	Tues	10-Mar
			Post Class Problem set	7	Fri	13-Mar
			Finish Weekly Writing	7	Fri	13-Mar
9 17-Mar	14	Firms in Competitive Markets	Pre-Class: Quiz	8	Mon	16-Mar
			Start Weekly Writing	8	Mon	16-Mar
			In Class: Intro & Activity	8	Tues	17-Mar
			Post Class Problem set	8	Fri	20-Mar
			Finish Weekly Writing	8	Fri	20-Mar
10 31-Mar	15	Monopoly	Pre-Class: Quiz	9	Mon	30-Mar
			Start Weekly Writing	9	Mon	30-Mar
			In Class: Intro & Activity	9	Tues	31-Mar
			Post Class Problem set	9	Fri	3-Apr
			Finish Weekly Writing	9	Fri	3-Apr
11 7-Apr	16	Oligopoly	Pre-Class: Quiz	10	Mon	6-Apr
			Start Weekly Writing	10	Mon	6-Apr
			In Class: Intro & Activity	10	Tues	7-Apr
			Post Class Problem set	10	Fri	10-Apr
			Finish Weekly Writing	10	Fri	10-Apr
12 14-Apr	17	Monopolistic Competition	Pre-Class: Quiz	11	Mon	13-Apr
			Start Weekly Writing	11	Mon	13-Apr
			In Class: Intro & Activity	11	Tues	14-Apr
			Post Class Problem set	11	Fri	17-Apr
			Finish Weekly Writing	11	Fri	17-Apr
13 21-Apr	18	Markets for Factors of Production OR Topic of Interest	Pre-Class: Quiz	12	Mon	20-Apr
			Start Weekly Writing	12	Mon	20-Apr
			In Class: Intro & Activity	12	Tues	21-Apr
			Post Class Problem set	12	Fri	24-Apr
			Finish Weekly Writing	12	Fri	24-Apr
14 28-Apr		Proctored Final Exam	In Class:		Tues	28-Apr