
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

ECON 2020.300E SYLLABUS, SPRING 2020

INSTRUCTOR: DR. KAREN GEBHARDT

Email: karen.gebhardt@colorado.edu

Office Hours

- Online Office Hours: Thursdays 12-2 pm using Zoom (<https://cuboulder.zoom.us/j/3034922493>)
- On campus Office Hours: Wednesdays 4-5:30 in Economics 04D, UCB, Boulder CO 80309

INSTRUCTOR BIO

Dr. Karen Gebhardt is the Director of the Online Economics Program at CU Boulder. Her research focuses on using learning analytics to improve student learning outcomes in economics education with an emphasis on improving grades and completion rates in online courses. She is an early adopter of technology in the classroom and advocates strongly for it because she sees the difference it makes in student engagement and learning. In her free time, Dr. Gebhardt enjoys rock climbing and traveling in the Colorado Rockies and beyond.

TERM START: January 21, 2019

TERM END: April 27, 2019

CLASS TIME AND LOCATION: Wednesdays, 6-8 pm in Economics 205

COURSE WEBSITE

Canvas is our class website:

- Login using your University of Colorado Boulder identikey and password <https://canvas.colorado.edu/>
- Under Course List, click "ECON 2020-2020E: Principles of Macroeconomics Hybrid"
- Note: all email correspondence will be through your CU Boulder email address.
 - Do not use the Canvas email or messages, it is not checked.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed as an introductory survey of economy-wide issues such as inflation, unemployment, national output, employment, and government deficits and debt. The basic aggregate demand/supply model will be introduced and used to model historical events. Monetary and fiscal policies will be surveyed where both their benefits and shortcomings will be discussed.

HYBRID COURSE STRUCTURE

"Hybrid" is used to describe courses in which some traditional face-to-face "seat time" has been replaced by online learning activities. The purpose of a hybrid course is to take advantage of the best features of both face-to-face and online learning. A hybrid course is designed to integrate face-to-face and online activities so that they reinforce, complement, and elaborate one another. Expect to complete weekly online pre-class and post-class activities. The weekly class session will be no longer than 2-hours.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

ECON 2010 (Principles of Microeconomics) with a C- or better course grade.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of the course, students should:

- identify the data and tools of macroeconomic policy;

- describe the costs and benefits of economy-wide phenomena such as inflation, unemployment, government debt;
- evaluate public policies in an informed and objective manner;
- recognize the institutional surroundings that impact macroeconomic phenomena;
- describe the role of international trade in the macroeconomy; and
- further their analytical, research and writing skills.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

Textbook (required): Schiller and Gebhardt: The Macro Economy Today, 15th edition with access to Connect. Connect is where you will read your textbook and complete some graded assignments. You will access Connect through our course website, Canvas.

iClickers (required): We will use iClickers for in-class clicker questions.

Course Website: <https://canvas.colorado.edu/> (Canvas) Grades and any further additional readings will be posted on Canvas. Please check Canvas frequently for any relevant notifications/changes that may occur throughout the course.

SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS

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

COURSE OUTLINE

Review the separate weekly class schedule titled “Course Outline” found on Canvas under “Syllabus” link.

EVALUATION AND GRADING

Course grades will be determined by the completion of assignments, exams, and discussions, as shown below:

Assignment*	Points per Assignment	Frequency	GRADE POINTS	GRADE PERCENTAGE
LearnSmart (pre-class)	(3.82)	* (11)	= 42	4.2%
Homework (pre-class)	(8)	* (11)	= 88	8.8%
Clickers (in-class)	(4)	* (10)	= 40	4%
Class Activities (in-class and/or after-class)	Varies	varies	= 100	10%
Quizzes (after-class)	(30)	* (11)	= 330	33%
Midterm Exam	(150)	* (1)	= 150	15%
Cumulative Final Exam	(250)	* (1)	= 250	25%
TOTAL			= 1000	= 100%

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

COURSE GRADING CRITERIA

Grade	Percentage Grade	Equivalent Points	Indicates
A	93-100	930 – 1000	Excellent
A-	90-92.99	900 – 929	
B+	87-89.99	870 – 899	
B	83-86.99	830 – 869	Above Average
B-	80-82.99	800 – 829	
C+	77-79.99	770 – 799	
C	73-77.99	730 – 769	Average
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>

There is +/- grading in this class.

Pre-class work (13% of course grade) – There will be assignments (LearnSmart and Homework) due in preparation for each week’s class session. Your lowest one (1) of each of these assignments is dropped from your final grade calculation. All of 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 Tuesday at 11:59pm.

Class Activities (14% of course grade) – You will earn points in class through answering Clicker questions each class session except for the exams (= 4% of course grade). Your lowest two (2) clicker assignments are dropped from your final grade calculation. You will also earn points by participating in class activities and completing assignments associated with in-class work (e.g., news analysis, discussion posting, group work, class presentation, etc.) (=10% of course grade). The in-class activities vary week-by-week and may not be assigned each week depending on course topic. The in-class activities will be announced in class and typically due in class or on Canvas.

Quizzes (33% of course grade) – There will be quizzes associated with for each week’s class session each worth 30 points. The format of the quizzes will be multiple choice, calculations, and short answers and will be open book and open notes. Your lowest one (1) quiz is dropped from your final grade calculation. Quizzes will be submitted through Connect. Quizzes are always due after class on Fridays at 11:59pm. You have two attempts at each quiz and the attempt with the highest score counts.

Exams (40% of course grade) – There will be two (2) exams. The midterm exam is worth 150 points and the proctored cumulative final exam is worth 250 points. The format of the exam will be multiple choice and calculations and will be closed book. You are allowed to use a calculator. The exams are completed in class in week 7 and 14.

EXTRA CREDIT

Up to 25 points of extra credit may be available (= maximum 2.5% of the course grade).

1. Up to 25 points extra credit may be available during the semester for completing certain activities, such as listening and commenting on a podcast, completing special in-class activities, etc. These extra credit opportunities will be determined by the instructor and announced in class.

EXPECTATIONS OF INSTRUCTOR

I take my role as your instructors very seriously, and, in fact, I care about how well you do in this course and that you have a satisfying, rewarding experience. To that end, it is our commitment to you to respond individually to the work you submit in this class and to return your work in a timely manner. If, however, due to unforeseeable circumstances, 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.

Communication – I am nice and I want you to succeed. Do not hesitate to contact me about anything. Yes, anything.

E-mail

Instructor Karen Gebhardt karen.gebhardt@colorado.edu

- All e-mail sent to me should contain the following: Course Name and Number (i.e., ECON 2020), Your Name, Short Description of your question. I will respond to email within 12-24 hours, but usually within 4-6 hours. ↓

always respond to email. If you have not had a response within 24 hours I did not receive the email. Be sure to use your CU email address because sometimes gmail and yahoo email accounts are filtered into my spam folder.

Mobile (970) 231-1287

- This is my cell phone number. Call or text anytime between 8am – 8pm MTN. I sometimes have my phone turned off during the middle of the day, but leave a message when it is a good time to get a hold of you and I will call you back.

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General Course Announcements

- Announcements: Please check the “announcements” section on Canvas often.

COURSE POLICIES

CLASS ATTENDANCE POLICY

This course meets once a week for 14 weeks and class attendance is expected. You are allowed to miss a maximum of 2 class sessions (excluding exam days) without penalty. **For each additional class session missed, your final grade will be reduced to the next grade step.** For example, if you had earned a B+ on your coursework but missed 3 days, your grade will be lowered to B. If you missed 4 days, your grade will be lowered to a B-.

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. The exceptions that may be considered is due to sickness, university excused function, or circumstances beyond the students’ control. The instructor reserves 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.

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](#).

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](#).

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 intimate partner abuse (including dating or domestic violence), stalking, protected-class discrimination or 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 the instructor in at least two weeks in advance if you anticipate a religious holiday may impact your completion of coursework.

For more information on the religious holidays most commonly observed by CU Boulder students consult the [online interfaith calendar](#).

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.

COURSE WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Any student who wishes to withdraw from the course must submit a request directly to [Continuing Education](#). For complete information, please visit their website at <https://ce.colorado.edu/resources/topics/dates-and-deadlines-general-info/>

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 modules on Canvas.

Technical Support

- Canvas technical support. If you are experiencing issues with Canvas please contact:
 - CU Boulder's Help desk at 303-735-4357 (5-HELP) or help@colorado.edu. 5-Help will answer your call: Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from noon to 6:00 p.m., Closed during [University Holidays](#)
 - On your computer, click the “help” (?) icon on the left side of Canvas, once logged in
 - Within the Canvas App, you can search the Canvas support guides, Report a Problem or chat with Canvas Support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Connect tech support:
 - <http://mpss.mhhe.com/> or <http://bit.ly/StudentRegistration>

Week (start date)	Chapter Number and Topic	Graded Assignments	Due Date by 11:59pm MST/MDT
1 (1/20)	1 Economics: The Core Issues (p. 1-12) 2 The U.S. Economy: A Global View	LearnSmart week 1 Homework week 1 Class session week 1 Quiz week 1	Tuesday 1/21 Tuesday 1/21 Wednesday 1/22 Sunday 1/26
2 (1/27)	5 National Income Accounting	LearnSmart week 2 Homework week 2 Class session week 2 Quiz week 2	Tuesday 1/28 Tuesday 1/28 Wednesday 1/29 Sunday 2/2
3 (2/3)	6 Unemployment	LearnSmart week 3 Homework week 3 Class session week 3 Quiz week 3	Tuesday 2/4 Tuesday 2/4 Wednesday 2/5 Sunday 2/9
4 (2/10)	7 Inflation	LearnSmart week 4 Homework week 4 Class session week 4 Quiz week 4	Tuesday 2/11 Tuesday 2/11 Wednesday 2/12 Sunday 2/16
5 (2/17)	8 The Business Cycle	LearnSmart week 5 Homework week 5 Class session week 5 Quiz week 5	Tuesday 2/18 Tuesday 2/18 Wednesday 2/19 Sunday 2/23
6 (2/24)	9 Aggregate Demand	LearnSmart week 6 Homework week 6 Class session week 6 Quiz week 6	Tuesday 2/25 Tuesday 2/25 Wednesday 2/26 Sunday 3/1
7 (3/2)	Midterm Exam	Midterm Exam	Wednesday 3/4
8 (3/9)	10 Self-Adjustment or Instability?	LearnSmart week 8 Homework week 8 Class session week 8 Quiz week 8	Tuesday 3/10 Tuesday 3/10 Wednesday 3/11 Sunday 3/15
9 (3/16)	11 Fiscal Policy	LearnSmart week 9 Homework week 9 Class session week 9 Quiz week 9	Tuesday 3/17 Tuesday 3/17 Wednesday 3/18 Sunday 3/29
10 (3/30)	12 Deficits and Debt	LearnSmart week 10 Homework week 10 Class session week 10 Quiz week 10	Tuesday 3/31 Tuesday 3/31 Wednesday 4/1 Sunday 4/5
11 (4/6)	13 Money and Banks	LearnSmart week 11 Homework week 11 Class session week 11 Quiz week 11	Tuesday 4/7 Tuesday 4/7 Wednesday 4/8 Sunday 4/12
12 (4/13)	14 The Federal Reserve System 15 Monetary Policy	LearnSmart week 12 Homework week 12 Class session week 12 Quiz week 12	Tuesday 4/14 Tuesday 4/14 Wednesday 4/15 Sunday 4/19
13 (4/20)	17 Growth and Productivity: Long-Run Possibilities or 20 International Finance	LearnSmart week 13 Homework week 13 Class session week 13 Quiz week 13	Tuesday 4/21 Tuesday 4/21 Wednesday 4/22 Sunday 4/26
14 (4/27)	Final Exam	Final Exam	Wednesday 4/29