



# SYLLABUS

## PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS, ECON 2010

October 21 – December 15, 2024

University of Colorado Boulder

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### INSTRUCTOR: DR. KAREN GEBHARDT

Email [karen.gebhardt@colorado.edu](mailto:karen.gebhardt@colorado.edu)

Mobile (970 231-1287)

- This is my cell phone number. Call or text anytime between 9am – 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.

#### Office Hours

- Office Hours: Wednesdays 10am-12pm using Zoom and by appointment (<https://cuboulder.zoom.us/my/kareengebhardt>)
- On-Campus Office Location: 203 Economics ([link to map](#))

### INSTRUCTOR BIO

Dr. Karen Gebhardt is the Director of the Online Economics Program with the Department of Economics and Division of Continuing Education 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.

### COURSE WEBSITE AND CLASSROOM LOCATION/MEETING TIMES

Canvas is our class website:

- Login using your University of Colorado Boulder identikey and password <https://canvas.colorado.edu/>
- Under Course List, click "ECON 2010-200E: Principles of Microeconomics Evening Hybrid Fall 2024"
- Note: all email correspondence will be through your CU Boulder email address.
  - *Do not use the Canvas email or messages, it is not checked.*

Classroom location and meeting times:

- Tuesdays and Thursdays 6:45-8pm
- Continuing Education Building, room 140 ([link to map](#))
- Occasionally we will have our face-to-face meeting on Zoom (please see course schedule and Canvas for those days).
  - Zoom room: <https://cuboulder.zoom.us/my/kareengebhardt>

### COURSE PREREQUISITES

None

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

*From General Catalog: This course 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.*

Principles of Microeconomics is an introduction to decision making by households, firms, and government, and the resulting allocation of resources through markets. This course is designed to introduce you to the subject of economics as it pertains to the behavior of consumers, firms, industries and society, and to their desires to get the most from the limited available resources.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course you should be able to:

- Identify the basic issues of microeconomics, and state key economic facts and examples from around the world
- Explain the basic methods of microeconomics, including basic microeconomic principles and interpret how they are used to build theories and models of economic behavior
- Apply these principles, theories and models to critically analyze and explain economic situations encountered in the real world
- Evaluate how economics can help you as a local and global citizen contribute to the making of appropriate public policy

## ACCELERATED HYBRID COURSE STRUCTURE

"Accelerated" means that you will complete this 4-credit course in just 7 weeks, which is half the time as a full-length semester course. This means that you will be expected to spend double the amount of time per week on this class as compared to a full-length semester course. This will feel hard and uncomfortable, but it is doable! To be successful in this class, you must commit approximately 4 hours per day 5 days per week.

"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.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

Review the separate weekly class schedule found on Canvas under "Syllabus" link.

## REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

**Course Website (Canvas):** <https://canvas.colorado.edu/> Grades, most assignments, access to the textbook and McGraw Hill Connect, and any additional readings or activities are on Canvas. Please check Canvas frequently for any relevant notifications/changes that may occur throughout the course. (Note that you will access McGraw Hill Connect through Canvas.)

**Textbook (required):** Schiller and Gebhardt: The Macro Economy Today, 17th edition with access to McGraw Hill Connect. Connect is where you will read your textbook and complete some graded assignments. You will access Connect through our course website, Canvas. You need Connect access for

a minimum of 8 weeks. You can purchase access through the CU Bookstore. 14-day free temporary access is available.

**CU Book Access:** <https://www.cubookstore.com/bookaccess>

CU Book Access, CU Boulder's equitable access course materials program, provides degree-seeking undergraduate students access to all of their required course materials before the first day of class for a flat-rate price. **The cost of the program for the 2023-24 academic year will be \$269 (plus tax) per semester, fall and spring.**

Materials in this program are provided in a digital first format on or before the first day of class via Canvas, CU Boulder's online learning platform. Should a particular class require print materials, students will receive an email letting them know they have a pick up at the CU Book Store or this information can be found on their My Course Materials tab in Canvas.

**If you are not a degree-seeking student, you are not eligible for this program.**

Use rational decision-making:

- If you are a degree-seeking student taking at least one course through Boulder Main Campus or Continuing Education, then you need to decide what is best for you. You might want to opt-out and pay the regular price for your textbooks OR you might want to stay in the program and pay \$269 + tax for the books and digital resources included in the program. It will depend on how many courses you are taking and if your textbooks are expensive or not. You need to be a good economist and compare the marginal benefits and the marginal costs of participating in the Book Access program.
- If you are taking a single on-campus class, it is likely that the cost of this program (= \$269 + tax) is greater than the course text cost for that single course. If you do not opt out by the deadline (Wednesday, September 13), you will be charged for this program.

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

## EVALUATION AND GRADING

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

<b>Assignment*</b>	<b>Points per Assignment</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Number of assignments dropped</b>	<b>GRADE POINTS</b>	<b>GRADE PERCENTAGE</b>
Smartbook	10	13	1	120	12%
Problem Set	10	13	1	120	12%
Online Activities	15	14	2	180	18%
Proctored Weekly Quiz	50	6	1	250	25%
Face-to-face class participation	10	14	1	130	13%
Proctored Cumulative Final Exam	200	1	0	200	20%
Total				1000	100%

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

## COURSE GRADING CRITERIA, *THERE IS +/- GRADING IN THIS CLASS.*

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

### ASSIGNMENTS

**Smartbook** (120 POINTS) – There will be 13 10-point Smartbook activities (due 2x per week). Smartbook is an adaptive and interactive quizzing activity that is integrated with the book (so it is open book and open note). You will receive full credit upon completion of the Smartbook activity. Your lowest of these activities is dropped from your final grade calculation. Smartbook is submitted through Connect.

**Problem sets** (120 POINTS) – There will be 13 10-point problem sets (due 2x per week). The format of these problem sets will be multiple choice, calculations, and short answers and are open book and open notes. Your lowest of these problem sets is dropped from your final grade calculation. You have one attempt at the problem set. These problem sets are submitted through Canvas or Connect.

**Online Activities** (180 POINTS) – There will be 14 15-point online activities (due 2x per week). The format of these online activities will be varied, from discussion postings to data exercises to role-playing activities, and will often be comprised of 2 or more activities. Online activities are open book and open notes. Your lowest of these online activities is dropped from your final grade calculation. You typically have one attempt at the online activities. These online activities are submitted through Canvas or Connect.

**Proctored Weekly Quiz** (250 POINTS) – There will be 6 50-point quizzes corresponding to the first 6 weeks of the course (due 1x per week). The format of quizzes will be multiple choice, calculations, and short answers and will be closed-book and closed-note. Your lowest quiz is dropped from your final grade calculation. These quizzes are designed to check your level of understanding for the week's topics and help you prepare for the cumulative final exam. You have one attempt at the quiz. Quizzes are submitted through Canvas or Connect in a proctored setting.

**Face-to-face class participation** (130 POINTS) – There will be 14 class sessions, each of which you will earn a maximum of 10 points (due 2x per week). You will complete participation activities in the class

sessions and will earn a grade of full/active participation (10 points), partial/limited participation (5 points), or absent (0 points). Your lowest class session is dropped from your final grade calculation.

**Proctored Cumulative Final Exam** (200 POINTS) – There will be one final exam. The proctored cumulative final exam is worth 200 points. The format of the exam will be multiple choice, calculations, and short answer and will be closed book and closed note. The exam is submitted through Canvas or Connect in a proctored setting.

**This course requires proctored quizzes and examinations.** Proctoring requires planning on your part. Proctors are individuals who administer the exam process following the guidelines provided by University of Colorado Boulder to ensure academic integrity.

### Who can be my proctor?

If you are in Boulder or nearby, you can take your exam:

1. **With me** at the Department of Economics. There is no cost for using this proctor. This option is only on selected days during the quiz or exam period.
2. **With Proctorio or a comparable online proctoring service as determined by your instructor.** Online proctoring is a service that uses a webcam and microphone to ensure academic integrity. To use this service, you must have access to a computer with a webcam and a microphone. There is no cost for using this proctor.

If you outside of Boulder, you can take your exam:

1. At an **accredited college or university testing center** in your town or nearby. There may be a cost for using this testing center.
2. **With Proctorio or a comparable online proctoring service as determined by your instructor.** Online proctoring is a service that uses a webcam and microphone to ensure academic integrity. To use this service, you must have access to a computer with a webcam and a microphone. There is no cost for using this proctor.

Please see Canvas for detailed information about proctoring, Proctorio, and a nationwide list of accredited college or university testing centers. If you are in a rural area or on a military base, you may need to be approved to use a person as a proctor and information is provided on Canvas for this approval process.

### EXTRA CREDIT

Up to 30 points of extra may be available (= maximum 3% of the course grade).

- Up to 30 points extra may be available during the semester for completing certain activities, such as listening and commenting on a podcast, completing special activities, etc. These extra credit opportunities will be determined by the instructor and announced in class or on Canvas.

### POLICY ON DUE DATES

Each week you will complete a series of activities 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 face-to-face class sessions or the final exam. Most other graded assignments can be turned in up to two days late. The grade penalty is 10%.*** 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 and the right to require the student to submit proper verification of such excuse.

## 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](mailto:karen.gebhardt@colorado.edu)

- All e-mail sent to me should contain the following: Course Name and Number (i.e., “ECON 2010” or “Micro”), Your Name, Short Description of your question. I will respond to email within 12-24 hours, but usually within 4-6 hours. I always respond to email if the email necessitates a response. If you have not had a response within 36 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 9am – 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.

### Office Hours

- Office Hours: Wednesdays 10am-12pm using Zoom  
(<https://cuboulder.zoom.us/my/kareengebhardt>)

### General Course Announcements

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

## COURSE POLICIES

### NETIQUETTE

All students should be aware that their behavior impacts other people, even online. I hope that we will all strive to develop a positive and supportive environment and will be courteous to fellow students and your instructor. Due to the nature of the online environment, there are some things to remember.

1. Always think before you write. In other words, without the use of nonverbals with your message, your message can be misinterpreted. So please think twice before you hit submit.
2. Keep it relevant. There are places to chat and post for fun everyday stuff. Do not stray from the discussion in the assigned questions.
3. Never use all caps. This is the equivalent of yelling in the online world. It is not fun to read. Only use capital letters when appropriate.
4. Make sure that you are using appropriate grammar and structure. In other words, I don't want to see anyone writing “R U” instead of “are you”. There are people in the class that may not understand this type of abbreviation, not to mention it does nothing to help expand your

writing and vocabulary skills. Emoticons are fine as long as they are appropriate. A smile 😊 is welcome, anything offensive is not.

5. Treat people the same as you would face-to-face. In other words, it is easy to hide behind the computer. In some cases, it empowers people to treat others in ways they would not in person. Remember there is a person behind the name on your screen. Treat all with dignity and respect and you can expect that in return.
6. Respect the time of others. This class is going to require you to work in groups. Learn to respect the time of others in your group and your experience will be much better. Always remember that you are not the only person with a busy schedule, be flexible. Do not procrastinate! You may be one that works best with the pressures of the deadline looming on you, but others may not be that way. The same is true for the reverse. The key to a successful group is organization, communication and a willingness to do what it takes to get it done.

Website: <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

*Compiled by Melissa Landin, Instructor, Dept. of Communication, Inver Hills Community College, mlandin@inverhills.edu*

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

What are the basic computer specifications for Canvas?

- Visit the official [Canvas Computer Specifications Page](#) for the latest list of recommended system requirements.

Which browsers does Canvas support?

- Visit the [Supported Browsers Page](#) for the detailed list of internet browsers in Windows, MacOS, iOS and Android.

Skill Requirements

- Students also need to possess basic computer skills, such as:
  - How to use a web browser and word processor
  - How to send and receive email
  - How to locate a file and attach it to an email or upload a file into a course
  - How to copy and paste
  - Must know basic typing skills and keyboard commands
  - Must know basic computer terminology

## 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](mailto: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.
- McGraw Hill Connect tech support: <https://mh.my.site.com/CXG/s/>

## ACCOMMODATION FOR DISABILITIES, TEMPORARY MEDICAL CONDITIONS, AND MEDICAL ISOLATION

[Disability Services](#) determines accommodations based on documented disabilities in the academic environment. If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, submit your accommodation letter from Disability Services to your faculty member in a timely manner so your needs can be addressed. Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or [dsinfo@colorado.edu](mailto:dsinfo@colorado.edu) for further assistance.

If you have a temporary medical condition or required medical isolation for which you require accommodation, please contact me through email, text, or phone call as soon as possible. Also see [Temporary Medical Conditions](#) on the Disability Services website. If you have a temporary illness, injury or required medical isolation for which you require adjustment, contact the professor immediately to request accommodation.

## CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

Students and faculty are responsible for maintaining an appropriate learning environment in all instructional settings, whether in person, remote, or online. Failure 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.

For more information, see the [classroom behavior policy](#), the [Student Code of Conduct](#), and the [Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance](#).

## HONOR CODE

"ON MY HONOR, AS A UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER STUDENT  
I HAVE NEITHER GIVEN NOR RECEIVED UNAUTHORIZED ASSISTANCE."

All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the [Honor Code](#). Violations of the Honor Code may include, but are not limited to: 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 Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution ([honor@colorado.edu](mailto:honor@colorado.edu)); 303-492-5550). Students found responsible for violating the [Honor Code](#) will be assigned resolution outcomes from the Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution as well as be subject to academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the Honor Code academic integrity policy can be found on the [Honor Code website](#).

## SEXUAL MISCONDUCT, DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT AND/OR RELATED RETALIATION

CU Boulder is committed to fostering an inclusive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. University policy prohibits [protected-class](#) discrimination and harassment, sexual misconduct (harassment, exploitation, and assault), intimate partner violence (dating or domestic violence), stalking, and related retaliation by or against members of our community on- and off-campus. These behaviors harm individuals and our community. The Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) addresses these concerns, and individuals who believe they have been subjected to misconduct



can contact OIEC at 303-492-2127 or email [cureport@colorado.edu](mailto:cureport@colorado.edu). Information about university policies, [reporting options](#), and support resources can be found on the [OIEC website](#).

Please know that faculty and graduate instructors have a responsibility to inform OIEC when they are made aware of incidents related to these policies regardless of when or where something occurred. This is to ensure that individuals impacted receive an outreach from OIEC about their options for addressing a concern and the support resources available. To learn more about reporting and support resources for a variety of issues, visit [Don't Ignore It](#).

## 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 one week 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.

## MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

The University of Colorado Boulder is committed to the well-being of all students. If you are struggling with personal stressors, mental health or substance use concerns that are impacting academic or daily life, please contact [Counseling and Psychiatric Services \(CAPS\)](#) located in C4C or call (303) 492-2277, 24/7.

Free and unlimited telehealth is also available through [Academic Live Care](#). The Academic Live Care site also provides information about additional wellness services on campus that are available to students.

## COURSE WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Any student who wishes to withdraw from the course must do so by November 20. For complete information, please visit [https://ce.colorado.edu/student-information/dates-deadlines/ce-evening-credit#session\\_2\\_7\\_weeks\\_-537](https://ce.colorado.edu/student-information/dates-deadlines/ce-evening-credit#session_2_7_weeks_-537)

## 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.