



**PRINCIPLES OF MACROECONOMICS  
ECON 2020-581**

---

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

INSTRUCTOR: DR. ALPNA BHATIA

SPRING 2021: JAN 25<sup>TH</sup> – MAY 9<sup>TH</sup> 2021

CLASS WEBSITE ACCESS VIA [CANVAS](#).

OFFICE HOURS: Tues, Wed, Thur: 9:30-11:30 pm and via appointment  
[ZOOM \(HTTPS://CUBOULDER.ZOOM.US/MY/ALPNABHATIA\)](https://cuboulder.zoom.us/j/9101111111)

EMAIL: [alpna.bhatia@colorado.edu](mailto:alpna.bhatia@colorado.edu)

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

**INSTRUCTOR**

Dr Alpna Bhatia (Dr B) has a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Colorado at Boulder and has taught for 15+ years. Her areas of academic research and interest include (but are not limited too) gender issues, sustainable development, and teaching methodology. Outside of class, Dr B is the chief experimenter in her kitchen, master list maker, and occasional killer of plants. She loves to read and travel – and is big believer in “remote learning.”

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

*From General Catalog:* Provides an overview of the economy, examining the flows of resources and outputs and the factors determining the levels of income and prices. Explores policy problems of inflation, unemployment, and economic growth.

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 is introduced and used to model historical events. Alternative economic models and theories are included throughout the course.

**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.
- explain fiscal, monetary, and supply-side policy, and
- further their analytical, research and writing skills.

**COURSE PREREQUISITE**

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

**COURSE WEBSITE**

Our course is on [Canvas](#). You will access your textbook (Connections, 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 CU-Boulder identikey and password at <https://canvas.colorado.edu>
- Under Course List, click “Econ 2020: Principles of Macroeconomics”

### 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.

Purchase options: An e-text is included with Connect. Purchase access to Connect through:

1. McGraw Hill: **\$107** for the digital ebook+connect Access.
2. Directly in the Canvas course: To keep the cost of your course materials as low as possible and access to those materials as convenient as possible, we have collaborated with the CU Book Store and the publisher to deliver those materials through a program called “Day 1 Digital Access”, which will appear on your tuition and fee bill as “Day 1 Digital Access”.

What does this mean for you?

- i. You will receive access to all your course materials, digitally, on the first day of classes, through the course Canvas page.
  - ii. You will see a “Day 1 Digital Access” charge on your tuition and fee bill for: **\$82.35**
    - a. This is a guaranteed lowest price, discounted by the publisher, and not available outside this course
    - b. You have the option to opt out. This means you will not pay for anything, but you lose all access to the course materials, including homework managers like Connect or Mindtap
    - c. You can opt out by using a link in a reminder email you will receive with the subject heading “Day 1 Digital Access”.
    - d. You must opt out no later than February 11th, otherwise you will be charged for the materials.
  - iii. Please keep in mind that “opting out” means that your access to these materials will be turned **OFF**, and you will have no way to complete assignments. You will then need to buy the e-book and connect access from McGraw Hill
  - iv. If you have questions about **billing**, email: [digital@cubookstore.com](mailto:digital@cubookstore.com)
3. **There is grace access to Connect till February 11th.** This means if you are waiting for financial aid or want to delay payment for any reason, choose the free trial/courtesy access option when registering. Connect will alert you when the free trial has expired and will prompt you to pay. Your coursework and grades will then continue seamlessly.
    - You will also create an account and do some data exercises at [Econlowdown.org](http://Econlowdown.org) and [FRED](http://FRED). I will send the relevant information as the course progresses.
    - You may purchase or rent a used paper text if you prefer but you must have access to Connect.

**SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS**

Supplemental readings and other materials will be provided in Canvas system. Unless marked as optional these are REQUIRED readings. You will be tested on these. You will need to activate the University provided subscription to [Wall Street Journal](#) and [New York Times](#).

**INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY AND DELIVERY**

This course is completely delivered, **asynchronously**, via distance education format using the CU Canvas system. You will interact with the instructor and other students using Canvas. You will submit assignments in accordance with the course outline using Canvas. This format will use a combination of readings, online discussion, and other web-based resources. This is a 100% online course.

**GENERAL COURSE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Will be made on the course home page on Canvas or via Email. Please check the “announcements” section, Canvas inbox and official “Colorado.edu” email account in a timely fashion. You should choose to have canvas “[notify](#)” you immediately for course announcements.

**COURSE OUTLINE**

The course content is broken into 14 lecture modules. We will cover a module per week. In general, 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 weekly class schedule titled “Course Outline” found on Canvas under the “Syllabus” link

**EVALUATION AND GRADING**

Multiple techniques and performance measures will be used throughout the course to assess student mastery of the content, competencies, and learning outcomes. Course grades will be determined by the completion of assignments, exams, and discussions, as shown below:

Type of Assessment	Times offered	Number counted towards grade	Points per Assignment	Grade Points	Grade Percentage
Module Prep	12	11	10	110	11
Learn Smart	15	12	10	120	12
Assignments	12	11	30	330	33
Midterm	1	1	200	200	200
Final	1	1	200	200	200
Practice Exams		2	20	40	4
<b>GRADE TOTAL</b>				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:

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Percentage Grade</i>	<i>Equivalent Points</i>	<i>Indicates</i>
<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	

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Percentage Grade</i>	<i>Equivalent Points</i>	<i>Indicates</i>
<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>Fail</i>

**TYPE OF ASSESSMENTS**

- MODULE PREP:** There will be a weekly (Econ) Module Prep activity that will revolve around math or writing about economics being used that week or concepts necessary to be successful in that module. Each Module Prep Assignment is worth 10 points. These are open book and open note. There will be twelve (12) Model Prep activities, in total, and the lowest of these model prep assignments will be dropped from your final grade calculation. These are due by **Friday** midnight of each module, but I highly encourage you to start them earlier in the week. Credit is awarded only when completed by the due date. Budget about 30 minutes per module prep.
- LEARNSMART:** Each chapter has an associated LearnSmart activity on Connect, worth 10 points. Students complete this activity by answering questions until they reach the target score. Once students reach the target score, they receive full credit (a grade of 100%) for completing the activity. Students may continue answering questions to review even after they have completed the activity or after the due date has passed BUT credit is awarded only when completed by the due date. I will count your 12 best Learn Smarts scores. Learn Smarts are due by **Friday** midnight of each module, but I highly encourage you to start them earlier in the week. Budget about 30-60 minutes per model prep. You can do a LearnSmart over multiple days as well.
- MODULE ASSIGNMENTS:** Each module there is a 30-point problem set, discussion, or data exercise (or a combination thereof) assignment. There will be twelve (12) Assignment activities, in total, and the lowest of these will be dropped from your final grade calculation. Budget around 2 hours per module assessment.

**PROBLEM SETS:** Problem sets will include a combination of multiple choice, calculations, and short answer questions and will be open book and open notes. Take these seriously

to prepare for exams. Problem Sets are due **Sunday** midnight and credit is awarded only when completed by the due date.

**Data exercises** will require you to manipulate and interpret data related to the macro-economic issues. These data exercises will be accessed through Canvas, Econ Low Down or FRED. The exercises are due by **Sunday** midnight.

**Discussions** will occur asynchronously; I will post a discussion question and you will respond to the questions at your convenience prior to the due date. The discussion post (20 points) will need to be completed by **Friday** midnight and peer evaluation (10 points) will be due by **Sunday** midnight. ***A reply that simply agrees or likes the original post will not be considered for full credit.***

A grading rubric is available with each discussion and exercise. More detailed information will be provided with each assignment.

#### EXAMS

- **PRACTICE EXAMS** – There will be two (2) practice exams, one before each exam that you can take multiple times. Each practice exam is worth 20 points.
- **EXAMS**- There are two (2) exams. The midterm and final exams are each worth 200 points. The exams will be multiple choice, calculations, and short answer questions and will be closed book.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SCHEDULED TIMES FOR EXAMS:</b> Midterm: Thursday Mar 11<sup>th</sup> – Sunday Mar 15<sup>th</sup> Final: Thursday April 29<sup>th</sup> – Sunday May 2<sup>nd</sup>.</p>
--

**PROCTORING- This course requires proctored examinations.** CU-Boulder recommends **Proctorio**. To use this service, you must have access to a computer with a webcam and a microphone to ensure academic integrity. There is no cost for using this service. The course on Canvas will have detailed information about proctoring.

Please review [Proctorio Minimum System Requirements](#) to ensure you have the correct hardware and software to use this tool. You can also take your exam at an accredited college or university testing center in your town or nearby if they are open. There may be a cost for using this testing center, if not at CU.

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 50 points of extra credit may be available (= maximum 5% of the course grade) during the semester for completing certain activities. These extra credit opportunities will be available to all and announced on Canvas.

**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 learn. 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 assignments. IF the grading of your work takes longer, 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 do not publicly post 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**

- **E-OFFICE HOURS:** Tues, Wed, Thur: 9:30-11:30 pm or by appointment [on Zoom](#) (<https://cuboulder.zoom.us/my/alpnabhatia>). Simply get in touch with me to schedule.
- **EMAIL:** 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 (goes into spam), or slips my notice, so if you have not heard back from me in 2 days, do not hesitate to send another email.**
- **PHONE:** +1 (720) 609-7071. This is my cell phone number. Call, or text me anytime between 10 am – 7 pm MST. IF I do not 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 (on zoom) anyways.

**COURSE POLICIES**

**LATE WORK:** It is your responsibility to turn in each assignment on the required date. In general, there are NO EXTENSIONS but most work for the module can be turned in up to three days late. The grade penalty for this late work is a reduction by one full letter grade for each 24-hours the assignment is late.

Realize that I will drop the lowest of your grades: 1 model prep, 1 Learn Smart, 1 problem set/exercise/discussion. So, you can miss a whole module and still be ok. The exceptions I may consider are sickness, university excused function, military service, or circumstances beyond the students' control. I reserve the sole right to determine what grounds constitutes a reasonable excuse for missing or submitting a late work assignment.

Late assignments are not accepted for Exams.

**CLASS BEHAVIOR**

Both students and faculty are responsible for maintaining an appropriate learning environment in all instructional settings, whether in person, remote or online. 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. For more information, see the policies on [classroom behavior](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

#### **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](mailto:dsinfo@colorado.edu) for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition, see [Temporary Medical Conditions](#) on the Disability Services website.

#### **PREFERRED STUDENT NAMES AND PRONOUNS**

CU Boulder recognizes that students' legal information does not 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.

#### **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](mailto:honor@colorado.edu)); 303-492-5550).

Students 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](#).

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 the Internet.

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

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) is committed to fostering an inclusive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct (harassment, exploitation, and assault), intimate partner violence (dating or domestic violence), stalking, or 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](mailto: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, dating and domestic violence, stalking, 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. See the [campus policy regarding religious observances](#) for full details.

### 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/>

### COURSE WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Any student who wishes to withdraw from the course must submit a request directly to [Continuing Education](#): <https://ce.colorado.edu/resources/topics/dates-and-deadlines-general-info/> For spring 2021, the last day to request a term withdraw is April 23, 2021.

### REQUIREMENTS FOR COVID-19

If you are unable to complete work while quarantining or sick, please alert me as soon as possible so that arrangements can be made for you to complete the course. If you can complete work while quarantining or sick, stay in touch in case this situation changes. Because of FERPA student privacy laws, you may, but are not required to, state the nature of your illness when notifying me.

- If sick and you live off campus, **do not come onto campus** (unless instructed by a CU Healthcare professional), or if you live on-campus, please alert [CU Boulder Medical Services](#).
- IF a student discloses to me that they have tested positive for COVID-19 or are having symptoms of COVID-19 or have had close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, I will need to submit that information to the Medical Services Public Health Office for the purposes of contact tracing ([contacttracing@colorado.edu](mailto:contacttracing@colorado.edu) and/or 303-492-2937).



Students who refuse to comply with these requirements will be referred to [Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution](#). For more information, see the policies on [COVID-19 Health and Safety](#) and [classroom behavior](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#). If you require accommodation because a disability prevents you from fulfilling these safety measures, please see the “Accommodation for Disabilities” statement on this syllabus.

Before returning to campus, all students must complete the [COVID-19 Student Health and Expectations Course](#). Before coming on to campus each day, all students are required to complete a [Daily Health Form](#).

Students who have tested positive for COVID-19, have symptoms of COVID-19, or have had close contact with someone who has tested positive for or had symptoms of COVID-19 must stay home and complete the [Health Questionnaire and Illness Reporting Form](#) remotely.

### NETIQUETTE

I hope that we will all strive to develop a positive and supportive environment for each other. Due to the nature of the online environment, there are some things to remember regarding one’s online behavior and how it may impact others:

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 do not 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 if 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](mailto:mlandin@inverhills.edu)

**TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT**

- Visit the official [Canvas Computer Specifications Page](#) for the latest list of recommended system requirements.
- Visit the [Supported Browsers Page](#) for the detailed list of internet browsers in Windows, MacOS, iOS and Android.

**TECHNICAL HELP**

- Canvas technical support: Click the “help” (?) icon on the left side of Canvas, once logged in.
- Connect: 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](mailto:help@colorado.edu)
- 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.

**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.

**SOME TIPS FROM DR B**

- Recognize that most students find economics to be challenging and time consuming.
- Budget smaller chunks of time spread over the week to dialogue with the class and complete the readings, as well as any work that module.
- Ask “specific” questions by e-mail and in class discussion.
- Make sure you pencil in due dates or sync [Canvas calendar](#) to your main calendar for reminders.
- Create virtual study groups : [Zoom](#) and [Google Hangouts](#) are great resources.
- Show up for office hours.
- Do not wait until the end of the semester when it is difficult, if not impossible, to correct any difficulties or makeup any missing work. **I look forward in helping you succeed.**