

ECON 202: Principles of Microeconomics, Section 001

Course Section and Location

Lecture meets twice a week on Tuesday and Thursday, 9-9:50am in Eddy 212.

Recitation meets once a week on either Friday or Monday. Please review your class schedule from ramweb.colostate.edu for your recitation day and time.

Teaching Team

Instructor: Nicholas Kacher

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Office: Clark C322

Office Hours: Mon 10am-noon, Thurs 12:30pm-1:30pm, or by appointment

Teaching Assistants (TA):

Levi Altringer

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Office:

Office Hours:

Jorgen Rasmussen

Email: Jorgen.Rasmussen@rams.colostate.edu

Office:

Office Hours:

Study Group Leader (SGL): Lauren Burr

Study Group Times and rooms:

This course has been coordinated across sections in an effort to make each course consistent. Your main points of contact are your instructor and TA for the section you are registered and the Monday – Thursday group study sessions led by TAs supporting this course. The most current study session schedule is available on Canvas.

Course Materials

Required:

1. **The Micro Economy Today with Connect**, 14th Edition, by Bradley Schiller and Karen Gebhardt

Purchase options (*note that an eText is included with Connect*):

- Purchase access to Connect through McGraw-Hill (\$99.50) or from the [CSU bookstore](http://CSUbookstore) (\$100) ISBN 978-1259957567



- CSU bundle through [CSU bookstore](#) (bundle includes paper text and access to Connect, \$160) ISBN 978-1259961106
- Purchase used paper text or rent paper text (\$26+) and purchase access to Connect (\$99.50-\$100)

You are, at a minimum, required to have access to Connect which includes an eText. You can choose to purchase a paper text as well.

2. **Real World Micro**, 24th Edition, by Dollars + Sense

Purchase options: [CSU bookstore](#) new (\$39.50), used (\$29.75), or rent (\$24.50+) ISBN 978-1939402318

Class Websites

Canvas (<http://canvas.colostate.edu/>)

- Canvas will serve as our primary website. Here, you will find course material and announcements of important information.

Connect (<http://connect.mheducation.com/>)

- Connect will host the online quizzes due each week and provide ample practice problems for course material. Purchasing access to Connect is absolutely necessary.
- **Please use the link through Canvas to register and access Connect**

Prerequisites

Algebra [MATH 117 (College Algebra in Context I) or MATH 118 (College Algebra in Context II) or MATH 141 (Calculus in Management Sciences) or MATH 155 (Calculus for Biological Scientists I) or MATH 160 (Calculus for Physical Scientists I)]

Credit not allowed for both ECON 202 and AREC 202 (Agricultural and Resource Economics)

This course meets the [All-University Core Curriculum \(AUCC\)](#) requirements for Social/Behavioral Sciences (Category 3C) and is approved under [gtPathways](#) in the content area of Economic or Political Systems (GT-SS1).

Course Description

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

Upon completion of the course, students should:

- 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

Total Course Time Estimates

The expectations for homework or other work outside of instructional time equivalent to the federal credit hour definition of 2 hours of outside work for each contact hour

Attend lecture and recitation	3 hours
Complete LearnSmart and Quiz	2 hours
Work on writing assignments	1 hour
Prepare for Exams	1 hour
<u>Personal reading/study</u>	<u>2 hours</u>
Total Hours per week:	9 hours

Course Weekly Structure

Each week, you will have two lectures with the lead instructor and one recitation with one of the TAs.

- If you have lecture on Tuesday and Thursday, you will attend a recitation on Friday or Monday (see your course schedule for day and time). Note: treat *Tuesday* as the start of the week. You will attend lecture on Tuesdays and Thursdays with recitations the subsequent Friday and Monday corresponding to material covered in those lectures.

Teaching Assistant (TA) Roles and Responsibilities

Every Monday – Thursday 2-hour group study sessions are scheduled staffed by two TAs. These are structured as drop in so you can come and go as needed. Additionally, your TA also holds an individual office hour each week.

Recitations

Recitations will be led by your TA. In recitation, you will briefly review the previous week's material, discuss one reading from Real World Micro, apply concepts learned to an activity or discussion, and engage in practice with the goal of preparing you for the Connect quizzes and multiple choice and short answer questions on the exams. In addition, recitations will have smaller class sizes, thus present a better opportunity for you to participate and ask questions.

By noon on the day of your second lecture, you will complete the associated LearnSmart for participation credit. LearnSmart is available on Connect and is designed to make sure that you understand key concepts from each chapter. To incentivize completion of the LearnSmart activities and reading the Real World Micro reading, there will be iClicker question(s) that directly corresponds to the these in recitation. You will get points for answering these questions correctly and they will also count towards your participation grade. These points will require that you bring a working iClicker to recitation and cannot be made up under any circumstances.



Coursework

There are 525 points available in the course with final grades calculated out of 500 points. This will allow you some leeway should some assignments not go as planned; **there will be no extra credit in this course**. All coursework can be divided into four categories: Quizzes, Papers, Exams and Participation.

Quizzes (100 points possible)

Twelve quizzes are assigned and are due at 11:59pm Monday night. Quizzes will cover material covered the previous week in lecture and recitation and are designed to give you practice for the exams. For each quiz, you are restricted to 30 minutes and you get two attempts—the highest of which will count towards your grade. Each quiz will be worth 10 points and only the highest ten scores (of twelve) will count towards your final grade.

Quizzes will be held on an external site called Connect; use the link on Canvas to register.

Things to note about Connect:

- You must use the Connect link in Canvas each time you complete an assignment for your scores to enter the gradebook correctly.
- You must utilize their technical support if you are having any technical issues with site functionality. <http://mpss.mhhe.com/>
- You may take an unlimited number of Practice Homework Assignments. These do not have a time limit and randomly pull questions from the Chapters covered that week from a bank of test questions.

Papers (100 points possible)

Two papers are assigned. Written assignments require students to respond to a provided topic centered on critical thinking, interpretation and good argument support. More details will be given for these paper prompts and students will be given time to complete these assignments with a minimum of three class periods before each due date. The first paper will be graded out of 40 points and the second paper will be graded out of 60 points with the expectation that the arguments and writing will improve from the first writing assignment to the second.

GT Pathways Writing Requirement

This course is an approved GT Pathways course which allows students to transfer the credit of this course to another institution. To help eliminate the guesswork of transferring general education course credits, Colorado has developed a statewide guaranteed transfer (GT) program. To satisfy this requirement, 25% of students' grades (125 pts) must be attributed to written work. This course satisfies this requirement through the papers (100 points) as well as the short answer sections of the first two exams. To qualify for GT Pathways:

- *At least one writing assignment must be an out-of-class piece of written work.*
- *In-class written work, such as on exams, must be in the form of essays.*

In addition, expectations of written work include students demonstrating:

- *The ability to convey a theme or argument clearly and coherently.*



- *The ability to analyze critically and to synthesize the work of others.*
- *The ability to acquire and apply information from appropriate sources, and reference sources appropriately.*
- *Competence in standard written English.*

Exams (300 points possible)

There are three exams. Each exam will cover material for the most recent section alone. These exams will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer. Basic calculators (no graphing or financial) are allowed on exams. If someone has finished the exam on exam day and you come in after they have left, you will not be allowed to take the exam.

Participation (25 points possible)

Participation grade will be determined through your completion of LearnSmart and iClicker questions (in both lecture and recitation).

- Of the 25 points available in this category, 13 will be devoted to completing LearnSmart. You will receive full credit upon completion of the LearnSmart activity. Please note: Some weeks have two LearnSmart activities because two chapters we cover span multiple weeks. In those weeks, the participation point you can earn will be divided between the two available LearnSmart activities. LearnSmart is always due at 11:59pm on Thursday night.
- The remaining 12 participation points will come from in-class iClicker questions (in lecture and recitation). Each in-class question asked will be worth a point—you will receive half credit for attempting the question and full credit for attempting the question *and* getting it right. Because there will be more than 12 questions asked in class over the course of the semester, the total number of points earned will be scaled to the 12 points possible.

Grading Schedule

Assignment	Frequency/points per assignment	Points
Weekly Quizzes	10 @ 10 pts (<i>Note: Drop 2 lowest</i>)	= 100 pts
Papers	2 for 100 pts total	= 100 pts
Exams	3 @ 100 pts	= 300 pts
Participation	25 pts (13 points for LearnSmart and 12 scaled points for in-class iClicker questions)	= 25 pts
Total		= 525 pts

Letter Grades

Each number below represents the minimum point threshold necessary to achieve the following letter grade:

490 pts. – 500 pts.

A+

460 pts. – 489.99 pts.

A



450 pts. – 459.99 pts.	A-	390 pts. – 399.99 pts.	C+
440 pts. – 449.99 pts.	B+	350 pts. – 389.99 pts.	C
410 pts. – 439.99 pts.	B	300 pts. – 349.99 pts.	D
400 pts. – 409.99 pts.	B-	000 pts. – 299.99 pts.	F

This class does use +/- grading.

These point thresholds are non-negotiable and no “bumps” will be awarded. With 525 points available, but the class being graded out of 500 points, there will be no curving, extra credit, rounding, or similar grade changes at the end of the semester, even if you are a fraction of a point away.

Make-ups, Missing Assignments, and Regrades

No makeup exams, quizzes, papers, or participation point activities will be allowed. The only exceptions are for exams and papers in cases of documented medical emergencies or conflicts with University sanctioned activities. Generally these need to be made up prior to the actual deadline, with rare exception. Any regrade requests must be made within one week of receiving the grade. We reserve the right to regrade the entire assignment when requests are made. All grades (with the exception of the final) will be finalized and no regrade requests will be honored after December 10th.

Academic Integrity

We take academic integrity seriously. At minimum, academic integrity means that no one will use another’s work as their own. The CSU writing center defines plagiarism this way:

“Plagiarism is the unauthorized or unacknowledged use of another person's academic or scholarly work. Done on purpose, it is cheating. Done accidentally, it is no less serious. Regardless of how it occurs, plagiarism is a theft of intellectual property and a violation of an ironclad rule demanding credit be given where credit is due.”

—Writing Guides: Understanding Plagiarism.

<http://writing.colostate.edu/guides/researchsources/understandingplagiarism>

Academic Dishonesty could result in expulsion from the university. This course will adhere to the CSU Academic Integrity [Policies and Guiding Principles](#) as found in the General Catalog and the [Student Conduct Code](#). At a minimum, violations will result in a grading penalty in this course and a report to the Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct Services.

Of course, academic integrity means more than just avoiding plagiarism and cheating. It also involves doing your own reading and studying. It includes class attendance, careful consideration of all class materials, and engagement with the class and your fellow students. Academic integrity lies at the core of our common goal: to create an intellectually honest and rigorous community. Each exam and assignment you submit will require signing the CSU student honor pledge:

"I have not given, received, or used any unauthorized assistance."

Department Statement on Copyright

Please do not share material from this course in online, print or other media. Course material is the property of the instructor who developed the course. Materials authored by third parties and used in the



course are also subject to copyright protections. Posting course materials on external sites (commercial or not) violates both copyright law and the CSU Student Conduct Code. Students who share course content without the instructor's express permission, including with online sites that post materials to sell to other students, could face disciplinary or legal action.

Classroom Conduct

Students are required to act respectfully in the classroom at all times, any disruptive behavior that inhibits fellow-student learning will not be permitted and will constitute a one day removal from lecture/recitation; a second offense will require a formal meeting with the student, instructor, and TA. Such behavior includes holding conversations during lecture/recitation, any unauthorized cell phone, laptop, or tablet use, or other behavior which detracts from the class.

Accommodations and Tutoring Options

All students are *highly* encouraged to take advantage of these extremely beneficial and costless resources.

- **Resources for Disabled Students:** Students with disabilities may be eligible for accommodations in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. It is the student's responsibility to disclose any learning disabilities. Please contact the instructor if a special accommodation is required. To request accommodations, students should contact Resources for Disabled Students at (970) 491-6385 or go to <http://rds.colostate.edu>. Documentation of disability is required and the RDS office will assist in this process.
- **Study Group:** Attending this **FREE** program will help you improve your understanding of course material while learning effective study techniques. All study groups are drop-in, so students can come as many times as they want. For more information and study group schedule, see Canvas or visit: <http://tilt.colostate.edu/learning/tutoring/studyGroups/index.cfm>
- **Writing Center:** Help with written assignments can be found at the Writing Center (<http://writingcenter.colostate.edu>).