



Revised by: A. Bledsoe  
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C & GE approved: September 26, 2025  
Board approved: November 12, 2025  
Semester Effective: Fall 2026

Economics (ECON) C2001 Principles of Microeconomics (3 Units) CSU: UC  
[formerly ECON 2120]

Prerequisite: Placement as determined by the college's multiple measures assessment process or completion of a course taught at or above the level of elementary algebra.

Total Hours: 48 hours lecture, 96 Outside of Class hours (144 Total Student Learning Hours)

Catalog Description:

An introductory course using microeconomic models to understand individual decisions by consumers and firms, market outcomes including market failure, elasticity, market structures, labor markets, inequality, and the impact of government policies. C-ID: ECON 201

Type of Class/Course: Degree Credit

Part I (Identical and Required):

These are representative texts. Texts used by individual institutions and even individual sections will vary.

These are two-semester textbooks covering both Macroeconomics and Microeconomics. The one-semester edition covering only Microeconomics is acceptable as is any other equivalent textbook, including an OER textbook.

- Arnold, R., Arnold, D., & Arnold, D. (2023) Economics. Mason, OH: Cengage Learning.
- Colander, D. (2019) Economics. New York: McGraw-Hill Irwin.
- Coppock, L. & Mateer. (2023) Principles of Economics, Norton.
- The CORE Econ Team. The Economy 2.0, CORE Econ.
- Cowen, T., & Tabarrok, A. (2021) Modern Principles of Economics. New York: Worth.
- Frank, R. H., & Bernanke, B. S. (2024) Principles of Economics. New York: McGraw-Hill Irwin.
- Greenlaw, S., Shapiro, D., & MacDonald, D. Principles of Economics 3e. Houston, TX: OpenStax.
- Hubbard, R. G., & O'Brien, A. P. (2024) Economics. Boston: Pearson.
- Krugman, P. & Wells, R. (2024) Economics. New York: Worth.
- Mankiw, N. G. (2024) Principles of economics. Mason, OH: Cengage Learning.
- McConnell, C. R., Brue, S. L., & Flynn, S. M. Economics: Principles, problems and policies. New York: McGraw-Hill Irwin.
- Parkin, M., (2023) Economics, New York: Pearson
- Rittenberg, L., & Tregarthen, T. (2021) Principles of economics. Flat World Knowledge.
- Schneider, G., (2024) Microeconomic Principles and Problems: A Pluralist Introduction. New York: Routledge.
- Stevenson, B. & Wolfers, J. (2023) Principles of Economics, New York: Worth.
- Tucker, I. B. (2023) Economics for today. Mason, OH: Cengage Learning.

Text:

OpenStax College, Principles of Macroeconomics 3e. OpenStax CNX. Dec 14, 2022



Additional Required Materials: None

Course Objectives:

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Perform and interpret microeconomic calculations.
2. Apply microeconomic models to analyze market outcomes, including market failures and government policies.
3. Model how consumers and firms make decisions under a variety of market structures.

Course Level Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will be able to analyze models to explore economic behavior, social issues, and policy problems.
2. Students will develop an economic project in response to a microeconomic question.
3. Students will show an appreciation for using economic concepts, skills and ways of thinking to answer questions about the world.

Local General Education Learning Outcomes

1. Analyze the influence of major social, cultural, economic, and political forces on human behavior and institutions using the major concepts, models, and concerns developed through the social sciences in contemporary as well as historical settings and in a variety of cultural contexts.
2. Apply research methodologies employed in social scientific inquiry.
3. Demonstrate the principles, concepts, models of value systems, and ethics framework employed in social scientific inquiry.

Course Scope and Content:

1. Fundamentals of economic thinking
  - a. Scarcity / opportunity costs
  - b. Factors of production / production possibilities
  - c. Specialization and gains from trade
  - d. Marginal analysis
  - e. Rational behavior
  - f. Economic models and research methodology
2. How markets operate
  - a. Definition of a market
  - b. Supply and demand model
  - c. Producer / consumer surplus and efficiency
  - d. Government intervention
3. Elasticity
4. Consumer theory / demand
5. Producer theory
  - a. Production and costs
  - b. Accounting / economic profit
  - c. Short- and long-run production decisions

- d. Industry structure
- 6. Market structures
  - a. Perfect competition
  - b. Monopoly
  - c. Monopolistic competition
  - d. Oligopoly and game theory
- 7. Labor markets
- 8. Market failure and public policy
  - a. Externalities
  - b. Public goods
  - c. Imperfect competition
  - d. Efficiency vs. equity

#### Representative Activities

##### Writing

- 1. Students will have free response questions on their exams.
- 2. Students will write a research paper that proposes alternative solutions to a microeconomic problem in a local community.

##### Reading

- 1. Students will read chapters from the textbook.
- 2. Students will use the library database to read articles related to solutions to microeconomic problems in local communities.

#### Learning Activities Required Outside of Class:

The students in this class will spend a minimum of 6 hours per week outside of the regular class time doing the following:

- 1. Studying class notes
- 2. Answering questions
- 3. Completing required reading
- 4. Performing problem-solving activities or exercises
- 5. Doing written work
- 6. Participating in group projects

#### Methods of Instructions:

- 1. Lectures
- 2. Demonstrations of sample problems on blackboard
- 3. Assigned problems from the text
- 4. Multimedia presentations
- 5. Group explorations
- 6. Case studies and scenarios

#### Method of Evaluation:

Assessments for this course will include both formative and summative assignments that may include some or all of the following:



Exams and Quizzes containing one or more:

- Multiple Choice questions
- Short answers
- Problem Solving
- True/False
- Essays

Other Assessments:

- Problem sets
- Online or in-class discussions
- Presentations
- Group projects
- Experiments
- Current event analysis
- Term papers

Assessed written work may include any of the following (colleges are encouraged to work with local CSU and UC departments to determine writing requirements):

- Current event analysis
- Discussion boards
- Essay questions on exams
- Term papers

Methods of evaluation are at the discretion of local faculty.

Supplemental Data:

TOP Code:	220400: Economics
SAM Priority Code:	E: Non-Occupational
Distance Education:	Online; Offline
Funding Agency:	Y: Not Applicable(funds not used)
Program Status:	1: Program Applicable
Noncredit Category:	Y: Not Applicable, Credit Course
Special Class Status:	N: Course is not a special class

Basic Skills Status:	N: Course is not a basic skills course
Prior to College Level:	Y: Not applicable
Cooperative Work Experience:	N: Is not part of a cooperative work experience education program
Eligible for Credit by Exam:	NO
Eligible for Pass/No Pass:	C: Pass/No Pass
Taft College General Education:	CSD: CSU Area D IG4B: IGETC Area 4B LSBS: Local GE Social/Behavioral Sci