
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

PUBLIC ECONOMICS: THE ECONOMICS OF THE GOVERNMENT SECTOR

ECON 4211 ONLINE SYLLABUS, SUMMER 2021

INSTRUCTOR: DR. JOE CRAIG

Email jcraig2@uccs.edu

Mobile (614) 406-4079

- This is my cell phone number. Call or text anytime between 8am – 7pm 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

- Online Office Hours: Tuesday 2-4 PM, Wednesday 3-5 PM and Thursdays 11AM-1 PM, and by appointment using Zoom (<https://cuboulder.zoom.us/j/7634020232>)

INSTRUCTOR BIO

Joe Craig is a tenured Associate Professor at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs. He received his PhD from the

COURSE OBJECTIVES

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

- explain and apply the theoretical and empirical tools of Public Finance;
- analyze and describe the consequences and impacts on fairness of non-rivalry and non-excludability in the form of public goods and of positive and negative externalities;
- identify the various approaches of defining equity in the context of income distribution and describe the various programs in place in the US to address inequity in income distribution; and
- discuss the efficiency and equity impacts for optimal taxation and apply these concepts to common US taxes.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

- Problem sets will be a combination of calculations, graphical analysis, and short answer questions.
- Discussion postings will occur asynchronously; the instructor will post a discussion question and the student will (1) complete and initial post in response to the discussion question and (2) engage in discussion with classmates.
- Excel spreadsheet exercises will require students to manipulate and interpret data related to the microeconomics of managerial decisions.

Exams (340 POINTS) – There will be two (2) proctored exams. The midterm exam is worth 140 points and the cumulative final exam is worth 200 points. The exams will a combination multiple choice, calculation, graphical analysis, short answer, data interpretation, news analysis, and Excel spreadsheet questions.

This course requires proctored examinations. Exams are proctored which will require 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 **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.

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 Joe Craig jcraig2@uccs.edu

- All e-mail sent to me should contain the following: Course Name and Number (i.e., ECON 4111), 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 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 (614) 406-4079

- This is my cell phone number. Call or text anytime between 8am

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](#).

