

University of Colorado - Boulder
Fall 2023 Syllabus
ECON4211 – Public Economics: Economics of the Government Sector

Instructor: Dr. Shawn Swanson
Office: ECON 14b
Office Hours:

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Zoom: <https://cuboulder.zoom.us/my/ask.shawn>

Office Hours

Office hours are the best way to get extra help if needed. I would be happy to schedule a time outside of office hours if a scheduling conflict prevents you from coming during the assigned hours. Note that my MWF office hours are held in-person in my office, while I hold the Tuesday hours remotely off-campus.

Cheating

Don't do it. You will get caught, fail the course, and be reported to the Honor Code Council. This includes faking attendance on Clicker questions.

Electronic Device Policy

There will be 11 problem sets. It is strongly suggested you attempt additional problems from the text. Problem sets will be completed in groups of 3-4 students. Each group will submit a single copy of each of their problem sets with all the group members' names. Students will be given a group grade for each problem set and a combined contribution grade at the end of the semester determined anonymously by your group members. _____

There are 2 midterm exams, and while they are not explicitly cumulative, material does naturally build upon itself. The final exam will be _____ and must be held per university policy. The University's final exam policy can be found [here](#). Unsubstantiated or illegible answers will receive partial credit at most. Exams will be closed book, closed notes. Only basic scientific calculators will be permitted, no computers, cell phone, or graphing calculators. All exams will take place in the regular classroom unless otherwise noted.

Office Hours: This is an excellent opportunity to get additional clarification and get one-on-one instruction. I love working with students during office hours. It is among the most rewarding things I get to do as an instructor, so please take advantage. If a scheduling conflict prevents you from attending my office hours, I will be happy to schedule a time with you.

Private Tutors: Private tutors are available for a fee. Information can be found on the department's website: <https://www.colorado.edu/economics/undergraduate-program>

There is a strong correlation between attendance and homework with a student's overall grade. The correlation coefficients are greater than 0.60. I would be remiss if I did not note that correlation does not imply causation. Nonetheless, imitating the approach of successful students is not a bad strategy. Take this course seriously. Use the available resources. Keep up with the course and do not fall behind.

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](#).

Requirements for Infectious Disease

Members of the CU Boulder community and visitors to campus must follow university, department, and building health and safety requirements and all public health orders to reduce the risk of spreading infectious diseases.

your needs can be addressed. Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or dsinfo@colorado.edu for further assistance.

Religious Holidays

Tentative Course Schedule

Week	Topics	Due
Week 1 (8/28-9/1)	•	