## Hybrid Online Structure to Improve Engagement in Principles of Economics

### Context

Principles of Economics is a required core course for all CSM students.

The redesign is motivated by the following:

- Students aren’t engaged in large class setting
- Students know the content but don’t use the economic tools
- Students don’t connect economics to engineering and applied science

### What We Are Changing

**Hybrid online structure:**

- Replace 1 weekly class meeting with online activities
- Cut the class size in half to 75-100 students
- Focus on interactive learning in class and recitation

**Focus on competencies:**

- More opportunities to do real-world analysis
- Group research projects with real data
- Less reliance on exams for assessment

### Intended Outcomes

Success will be shown by improvements in:

- Reported student satisfaction with the course
- Observed student engagement
- Ability to apply economics to professional and personal decisions
- Recognition of the value of the course in senior and alumni surveys

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This intensive course revision program was transformational. After 20 years of university teaching, I will go back into the classroom with a renewed focus on designing student learning opportunities.

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I joined the Mines faculty in 2007 after positions at Fresno State and CSU. I am currently thinking a lot about how to teach economics to engineers. Prior to my academic career, I helped start Posada, a homeless shelter and service center in Pueblo, Colorado.

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June 2016 Cohort

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Trefny Innovative Instruction Center

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