Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory
Economics 3080-005

Professor Michael J. Greenwood
Office: ECON 106
Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 3:30–4.45; and by appointment
E-mail: michael.greenwood@colorado.edu

COURSE OUTLINE


Part I: The Basics

1. Background on Concepts and Data: Chapters 1, 2, 6

2. National Income Identities and the Demand for Goods and Services: Chapter 3; Lecture Notes

Part II: Growth, Inflation, and Trade

3. Economic Growth: Chapters 4, 5; Lecture Notes

4. Money, Prices, and Inflation: Chapter 7

5. The Open Economy: Chapter 8; Lecture Notes

Part III: Aggregate Demand, Aggregate Supply, and Macroeconomic Policy

6. Aggregate Demand and Macroeconomic Policy: Chapters 9, 10, 11, 12; Lecture Notes

7. Aggregate Supply: Chapter 13

8. More on Macroeconomic Policy: Chapters 14, 15
COMMENTS ABOUT THE COURSE

*Intermediate Microeconomic Theory* focuses on individual economic units, such as the consumer (or demanders), the producer (or business firms, or suppliers), and how markets work. Although many policy implications flow from the material covered in this course, the course may easily be taught with little or no attention to policy. *Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory* is concerned with broad, economy-wide aggregates, such as the level of production, employment, unemployment, the general level of prices, and the distribution of income. Although the course may be taught with great emphasis on theoretical constructs, its core objective at this level of instruction is *policy*. That is, we want to consider theoretical constructs, or models, that yield policy implications. Moreover, we wish to place great emphasis on these policy implications, whether they be fiscal policies, monetary policies, or policies of other types. As I see it, we are concerned with understanding how policy makers can make society a better place for us to live and work. Thus, without neglecting theory, I plan to place great emphasis on policy with the goal of having you leave this course as a much better-informed citizen.

Although I will not do so extensively, I plan to use some calculus in this course. Moreover, in part because the material of this course, or at least its emphasis, has changed considerably over the years, which is not true of intermediate microeconomic theory, I will try to bring out the history of various concepts, beginning with Keynes, but in some instances even with Adam Smith.

I do not enforce attendance, but from over 36 years of teaching experience, I can say with some confidence that I have never met a student who could do well without attending class regularly. Please come to class. Although I will follow the text book more closely than is common with me, I expect to deviate from text at many points (but not contradict it).

EXAMINATION SCHEDULE / GRADING POLICY

Four major (hour) examinations will be given. Each exam will cover one-quarter of the course material. Each exam will count for 100 points. Your grade will be based on 400 points. No make-up exams will be given. Each examination will consist of three parts: (1) multiple choice; (2) short answers; and (3) diagrams and/or problems. The examination schedule is as follows:

Examination 1: February 9, 2001
Examination 2: March 9, 2001
Examination 3: April 6, 2001
Examination 4: May 8, 2001, 1:30–4:00 pm