Instructor: Nikolay Dobrinov
Economics Building
Room #414
(303) 492-7709 (almost never pick up or listen to messages)
nikolay.dobrinov@gmail.com (the best way to contact me)

URL: http://ucsub.colorado.edu/~dobrinov/
Class website: http://econ.aplia.com, (see instructions on how to register on last page)

Class Schedule: MWF / 9 a.m. – 9:50 a.m. / HLMS 201
Office Hours: MW / 11:30 – 12:15 a.m.;
R / 12:30 – 1:30 p.m., and by appointment

Class Materials:
2. Aplia – online resource.

Please note:
1. Though we are going to use the Brief Principles of Macroeconomics there is another book which is more detailed in the sense that it contains some chapters that are not included in the Brief Principles of Macroeconomics and it is called "Principles of macroeconomics" by G.M., ISBN:0324171897. So whichever you find cheaper, get it. When we start the class I will make a spreadsheet with the corresponding chapters between the two books, so that those of you that purchased the more detailed one do no get confused. I would not suggest to jump on new books...get something used for as cheap as you can. Basically look for 3rd edition but even if its an older one I do not believe there will be any important differences. Besides this, buying the textbook is not exactly necessary. If you think you feel comfortable with economics in general, you might just use the notes from class, which I will also post online. So I suggest those of you that feel they grasp the concepts easily do not rush on buying a book and wait while we start the semester.

Here is a useful link if you want to buy staff online: www.campusi.com, just type the ISBN…

2. I will require that everyone in the class purchase the online resource APLIA ($21.00).

Course Objectives: In this course we will introduce some topics on how society makes decisions to use their scarce resources. We will be concerned with: What determines the standards of living across countries; Why trade is beneficial for each country; What is a business cycle and what are the sources of economic booms and recessions; How different economic phenomena like inflation and unemployment vary with the business cycle; Why is there inflation, why is there unemployment; How can the government intervene in the economy to regulate output, inflation and unemployment; and, many other topics.

Assignments: Will be given on regular weekly basis:
- Graded assignments will be given through ‘aplia’ for almost all chapters. The assignments in aphia will have strict due dates. You will be given ample time, but after the due date there will be no way to complete an assignment if you are late. Working through the assignments is essential effort towards your successful completion of the course. The exercises are two types: multiple choice questions on the chapters and, multiple choice questions referring an article that you need to read to be able to answer them. I will let you drop the two lowest grades from all assignments.
- Non-graded practice problem sets will be posted online and you work on them by yourselves and in recitations. It will be very important for you to work on the practice problems as your exams will follow the same format of questions with comparable difficulty. Problems within the practice problem sets not only test your skills but also teach you nuances of what we’ll talk about in class. Not going over these problem sets will, in most of the cases, result in bad grades on the exams.
- I strongly encourage you to use your TA and me throughout the semester to make sure you understand well all the concepts before you go to an exam.

Recitations: Recitations start second week of classes. You will not have recitations the week after Midterm I and the week of Midterm II (the week before Spring Break). Your TA will determine the contents and the rules for the recitation, including recitation grade. Anyway, a great portion of your grade
for the recitations will be based on the scores from the four quizzes you will have to take throughout the semesters. The goal of these quizzes is to prepare you for the exams and give you a better idea what to expect. The quizzes will only cover material that has been covered in class no later than the last Friday before the quiz. Quizzes will contain no more than 20 questions and you will have 20 minutes to answer all questions. The quizzes will be designed so that they also serve as sample exams. Me and your TA will make sure we answer all the questions you do not understand either in recitations before the exam or in class during ‘preparation for exam’ classes. I will let you drop your lowest score from the four quizzes so only three of the scores will affect your recitation grade. Quizzes and the related answer keys will be posted online on Fri the week of the quiz.

Prep for exams days

For these classes my plan is to go over questions from the quiz you did not feel comfortable with. I will also write and go over sample questions from the last material we took before the exam that was not covered on the quiz. Also, this is the time when you have to ask lots of questions. There will be no formal “review” of material. To perform well on the exams you need to know the material pretty well and work on as many problems as you can. The way to really understand the material is by solving problems and going over application of the theory you’ve already learned. For the final it’s a different story as we will have more time to do something like a review. Before the final I will reserve a room where we can meet for two hours or more and discuss the staff you do not understand. We need to decide together when the most appropriate time is for all of us.

Exams:

You will have two midterms and a final examination. You will not have the option to drop a grade from an exam, so all exams count towards your final grade. Second midterm and final will not be cumulative. The format of all exams is multiple choice questions: Midterm I and Midterm II – 40 questions, Final – 50 questions. There will be no make ups for the exams. If you have serious reasons to not be able to come to the exam on the assigned date you need to contact me well in advance. You can take the exam in my office before the assigned date, but not after. I will not give exams after the assigned date for no reason.

Grading:

| Midterm Exam I | 20% | (Feb 11, Fri, HLMS201, 9 - 9:50 a.m.) |
| Midterm Exam II | 25% | (Mar 14, Mon, HLMS201, 9 - 9:50 a.m.) |
| Final Exam | 30% | (May 5, Thu, HLMS201, 7 – 10:30 a.m.) |
| Graded Assignments | 15% | (Aplia) |
| Recitations | 10% | (Quizzes + TA decides) |

Graded Assignments:

| Aplia |

For the recitations will be based on the scores from the four quizzes you will have to take throughout the semesters. The goal of these quizzes is to prepare you for the exams and give you a better idea what to expect. The quizzes will only cover material that has been covered in class no later than the last Friday before the quiz. Quizzes will contain no more than 20 questions and you will have 20 minutes to answer all questions. The quizzes will be designed so that they also serve as sample exams. Me and your TA will make sure we answer all the questions you do not understand either in recitations before the exam or in class during ‘preparation for exam’ classes. I will let you drop your lowest score from the four quizzes so only three of the scores will affect your recitation grade. Quizzes and the related answer keys will be posted online on Fri the week of the quiz.
University of Colorado Policies (please read carefully):

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, and www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, {{insert your procedures here}} Students can see full details at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty have the professional responsibility to treat students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which students express opinions. See polices at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html and at http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-725-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Other information on the Honor Code can be found at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html and at http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/

The University of Colorado Policy on Sexual Harassment applies to all students, staff and faculty. Sexual harassment is unwelcome sexual attention. It can involve intimidation, threats, coercion, or promises or create an environment that is hostile or offensive. Harassment may occur between members of the same or opposite gender and between any combination of members in the campus community: students, faculty, staff, and administrators. Harassment can occur anywhere on campus, including the classroom, the workplace, or a residence hall. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been sexually harassed should contact the Office of Sexual Harassment (OSH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the OSH and the campus resources available to assist individuals who believe they have been sexually harassed can be obtained at: http://www.colorado.edu/sexualharassment/
Your course key is: 9489-33KS-MWMP

Course Fee: $21.00 USD.

To get started in Professor Dobrinov's class, please do the following:

**First Time Aplia Users:**

2. Complete the Configuration Test. You **must have JavaScript and Flash 6 or later** to use the site. If you don't, the configuration test will tell you and instructions will follow.
3. Return to the Sign In page and click "Register here."
4. You will be prompted to enter your e-mail address and select a password.
5. You will then be asked to enter your course key (above).
6. You only need to register once. After the registration process is complete, you will not need to enter the course key again.
7. Before entering your course, you will be prompted for payment. There is a 21 day grace period for this course. If your payment has not been received by 01.31.05, you will not be able to access the site until Aplia receives your payment.
8. You may have an Aplia Payment Code for this course. You will have the option to use this code (which you may have received bundled with a textbook or purchased at the bookstore) when you are prompted for payment. Please remember that once opened, payment codes are not refundable.

**Returning Aplia Users:**

2. Sign in using your usual e-mail address and password.
3. On your home page click the button "Enroll in a New Course."
4. You will be asked to enter your course key (above).
5. Before entering your course, you will be prompted for payment. There is a 21 day grace period for this course. If your payment has not been received by 01.31.05, you will not be able to access the site until Aplia receives your payment.
6. You may have an Aplia Payment Code for this course. You will have the option to use this code (which you may have received bundled with a textbook or purchased at the bookstore) when you are prompted for payment. Please remember that once opened, payment codes are not refundable.
7. If you want to switch between courses, use the [Switch Course] link at the top of the screen, or use the "My Account" tab, then click on "My Courses."

If you have questions about registering or using the Aplia website, please contact Aplia by clicking the Aplia Support link at the bottom of any Aplia page or by e-mailing support@aplia.com. You will receive a response in one business day.