

ECONOMICS 3080 – 004
Intermediate Macroeconomics
Department of Economics
University of Colorado at Boulder
Fall 2003

Instructor: J. Ulyses Balderas

Lecture: MWF 12:00 – 12:50 pm in DUAN G125

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Office hours: MTW 10:40 –11:40 am, and by appointment

CLASS WEBSITE

<http://ucsub.colorado.edu/~balderaj/econ3080/index3080.html>

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Macroeconomics is the study of the economy as a whole. It focuses on the aggregate behavior of consumers and firms, the behavior of governments, and the effects of fiscal and monetary policy.

The goal of this course is to understand how an economy performs and how the role of the government alters that performance. By using different economic models you will be able to learn how an economy works, which in turn, will help you interpreting the past and think intelligently about the future.

Topics will include the following:

- Measuring economic variables (GDP, CPI, inflation rate, unemployment rate, exchange rate.)
- The economy in the long run – national income, economic growth, unemployment, and inflation.
- The economy in the short run – economic fluctuations, aggregate demand and aggregate supply.

PREREQUISITES

The prerequisites for this class are: Introduction to Economics (ECON 1000) or Principles of Macroeconomics (ECON 2020); AND Math Tools for Economists I & II (ECON 1078 & ECON 1088), OR MATH 1300. Even though this is not a math class, I expect some knowledge and comfort with calculus and algebra.

TEXTBOOK

There is one required textbook: Gregory Mankiw, *Macroeconomics – Fifth Edition*, Worth Publishers, 2002.

A copy of the textbook is available on reserve at Norlin Library.

GRADING

The following criteria will be used to assign your grades,

Midterm	33%
Final exam	33%
2 Quizzes	34% (17% each)

EXAMS

The quizzes will be administered during regular class hours. The midterm will be administered outside regular class hours. The final exam will be administered during the final exam time and will not be comprehensive (see attached tentative schedule for exam dates).

If you have a conflict between religious observance dates and course examinations, you must notify me two weeks in advance so that your needs may be addressed.

EXAMS/ QUIZZES POLICY

There will be no make-up exams/quizzes. To miss an exam/quiz, you must have a note from some acceptable authority figure explaining your absence. Without an acceptable excuse, missed exam/quizzes will be given 0 (zero). If you have an acceptable excuse, I will give extra weight and additional material from the missed exam/quiz to the final examination. You cannot miss the final examination. If you miss the final, you will automatically receive an F.

TIPS ON TAKING THE EXAMS/QUIZZES:

- If you are given numbers in a problem, then you should give numbers in the answer.
- **SHOW WORK!** It will help you get partial credit.
- Write formulas. Even if you use them incorrectly, you will probably get partial credit.
- Label graphs clearly, especially the axes, prices, and quantities.
- Never answer a short answer question simply with a “yes” or “no.”
- Use pencil/rulers and write legibly.

HOMEWORK

Problem Sets will be assigned on a regular basis. Even though problem sets will not be collected I highly recommend you to start working on them as soon as they are available. Answer keys will be posted on the web the weekend before the exam/quiz.

SOME ADDITIONAL TIPS

You should read the assigned material before coming to class. It is not expected that you will understand everything you read the first time. However, reading before class and having a good sense of the material will make the lectures a lot easier to understand. After attending lecture, you should go over your notes and reread any material that is confusing. Take class notes thoroughly. Course material not in the textbook will be

presented in class so attending lecture is both helpful in getting a good grade and maximizing your learning experience.

HONOR CODE

I believe strongly in the Honor Code. It is expected that you understand it and will abide by it. Any violation to this code including the following infractions is potentially punishable by receiving an F in the class.

- Copying the work of another student during an examination.
- Permitting another student to copy one's work during an examination.
- Possessing unauthorized notes, crib sheets, additional sources of information, or other material during an examination.
- Writing an answer to an exam question outside of class and submitting that answer as part of an in-class exam.
- Taking an examination for another student.
- Having an examination taken by a second party.
- Altering or falsifying examination results after they have been evaluated by the instructor and returned to the student.

For more information about the CU Honor Code, go to <http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/>

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR POLICY

It is especially important that an atmosphere which facilitates the maximum opportunity for learning be present at all times. It is expected that all students present on a given day be attentive, polite and not a source of distraction to the instructor or any other student. Arriving late or departing early disrupts the class. Please refrain from both.

For more information about the Classroom Behavior Policy, go to <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html/>

STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The Economics Department will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students must notify me no later than the end of the first week of term, and provide documentation of the disability obtained from the Disabilities Services office located in Willard Hall, Room 322.

IMPORTANT DATES

August 25 (M)	1 st day of instruction
September 10 (W)	Drop Deadline ¹
September 22 (M)	Quiz 1
October 2, 3 (Th, F)	Fall Break
October 8 (W)	Drop Deadline ²
October 20 (M)	Midterm (6:00 – 8:30 pm)
Nov 17 (M)	Quiz 2
Nov 27, 28 (Th, F)	Thanksgiving Break
Dec 10 (W)	Last day of instruction
Dec 15 (M)	Final Exam (1:30 – 4:00pm)

Note: Quiz and midterm dates are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

DO's and DON'Ts

DO

- DO** come to class.
- DO** take notes thoroughly.
- DO** study in advance (I recommend you to form study groups.)
- DO** the homework without looking at the answer key.
- DO** come to office hours if you have questions or any concerns.

DO NOT

- DO NOT** miss class.
- DO NOT** arrive late to class.
- DO NOT** come to me after the drop deadline asking me to sign a late drop form.
- DO NOT** tell me stories like:
 - If I do not pass this class I won't graduate.
 - I did not have enough time to study because I work full time.
 - I hired a tutor and he/she can not solve the homework.
 - I am studying hard and still getting bad grades.
 - How should I study?

¹ Deadline to drop w/o instructor's signature.

² Deadline to drop w/o petitioning your Dean.