

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, do not use the "...@CU.edu" address, I will not reply)

Class website: <http://econ.aplia.com> , (see instructions on how to register on last page) All resources, all problem sets, quizzes, exams, answer keys and scores will be posted on our web-site in Aplia. There (once you register) you will find a folder called "Course Materials" where I will post all the stuff we need. So this is the only place you look for everything. Our web-site will also contain an "Announcements" sub-page where I will post all the announcements. You have to check those very often.

Class Schedule:

ECON 2020-200 Principles of Macroeconomics				
DOBRINOV	LECTURE	12:30-1:45	TR	MCDB A2B70
Samuel Raisanen	211	4:00-4:50	T	GUGG 206
Kelsey Wittingberen	212	8:00-8:50	R	GUGG 2
Kelsey Wittingberen	213	4:00-4:50	R	GUGG 3
Samuel Raisanen	214	12:00-12:50	W	HLMS 255
Kelsey Wittingberen	215	12:00-12:50	M	MCOL E158
Samuel Raisanen	216	8:00-8:50	T	ECON 119
Kelsey Wittingberen	217	5:00-5:50	M	MCOL E155
Samuel Raisanen	218	5:00-5:50	W	MCOL E186

Unofficially I was told that instead of Samuel Raisanen a Ta for this class will be Maryia Burdina. When I am 100% positive on this I will update the syllabus.

Office Hours: T/ 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. / ECON 414;
 R/ after class. – 3:30 p.m. / ECON 414;

Class

Materials:

1. Krugman and Wells, *Macroeconomics*, "Pre-edition" 2005
 ISBN:0716745712 (Worth Publishers)
2. Aplia – online resource. Comes bundled with the paper version of the book. Please refer to the last page of the syllabus, where there is a detailed description on how to register for Aplia after you buy the first volume of the book.

Please note:

1. The book that we are going to use is in publication at the moment and will officially be on the market in December 2005. What we will use for our Fall class is a preliminary print of the book, which comes in three volumes. The first volume is already printed so this is what you are actually going to purchase. This volume you can only find in CU bookstore. The first volume comes bundled with a payment code for you to use to register for Aplia. The price of this bundle should be about \$54. This is what they assured me from the bookstore. Once you pay that price you do not have to pay anything for the Aplia. When you register for Aplia you just use your payment code which you will find in the book.

The rest of the book will come in two volumes and will be free for those of you that purchase the first volume. So, the total cost for the whole course will be \$54. The reason the price is so low this semester is that we are actually not using the official first edition, but a preliminary version of it. The text in this preliminary version though should be exactly the same as in the future first edition.

The Aplia software beautifully integrates a digital form of the book with the homeworks. It will be very easy for you to follow. So it means that the book will also be accessible through Aplia. You can actually print the chapters from there, and not buy the print version. If you decide to do this you have to pay for the bundle through Aplia and the cost will be about \$40 for the whole course. Right now you will be able to see only the first nine chapters of the book integrated within Aplia. The rest of the chapters will also become available along the course.

Course

Objectives: In this course we will continue the discussion (started in the 2010 course) on how society makes decisions to use their scarce resources. Now on a more aggregate level 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 are interrelated within 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.

Teaching style: For this class the book will be a “must-read”. I find the book very well written in all dimensions. It will be very easy for you to follow the material. I will expect from you to read each chapter and submit graded homeworks through APLIA before we start the discussion for this chapter in class. This means you will have a huge contribution to your own learning. I know this scheme will be difficult for some of you but it will also help us save some time from explaining the details in class. So what are we going to do in class, then? In class we will go back to the graded assignments and re-explain the material that it seems you could not understand well just by reading the book. I will answer all your questions and go back to the chapter to re-emphasize the most important issues. So in a way I will just be guiding you through the core of the material, which you can read from the book. I will very rarely stand in front of the class and talk over the chapter word by word.

The rest of the time in class we will spend in discussing interesting issues and applications that were not discussed in the book, but are related to the basic concepts. Sometimes this will come directly through my experience, sometimes through discussing articles that you (and me) will have to read before you come to class.

Assignments: Your graded homeworks will be submitted and automatically graded within APLIA. APLIA contains two types of problem sets for each chapter. The first type is a non-graded problem set, where you can see an explanation once you submit your answer to each problem within a problem set. These non-graded assignments will guide you through the material with very detailed explanations. My experience shows that many students learn the material just by going over the non-graded APLIA problem sets. The second type of problem sets (attached to each chapter) of course are graded problem sets. These problem sets follow the format of the non-graded ones. This is also why it will be very helpful for you to first do the non-graded problem sets. The assignments in APLIA will have strict due dates. You will be given ample time, but after the due date there will be no way to complete a graded assignment and receive credit for it if you are late. Assignments will usually be due before we start discussing the related chapter in class. Working through the assignments is essential effort towards your successful completion of the course.

There is a second type of graded assignments in APLIA, which are very short problem sets related to articles that I will assign for you to read.

Graded assignments will start the first week of classes. For this reason you need to register for APLIA soon after we meet for the first time. I will let you drop the two lowest grades from all assignments. **I WILL NOT GIVE MAKE UPS FOR THE APLIA ASSIGNMENTS. IF YOU ARE LATE, YOU ARE LATE...** This is a 240 students class. I will have no chance to do anything about it...At the end of the semester when I aggregate your results for the APLIA assignments I will curve them. So do not get stressed that homeworks will be due before we discuss the relevant chapters. But of course do not forget that you compete for grades with your peers all the time.

Non-graded *additional practice* problem sets will be posted online (APLIA/Course Materials) for you to 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 might result in bad grades on the exams. I basically think that the APLIA graded and non-graded psets will be a good enough preparation for you to go to the exam, but more practice always gives better results. Answer keys will be posted regularly.

You can also look at the questions at the end of each chapter. I will not post answers to these questions, but if you feel you can answer most of them than this is a good sign you understand the concepts from this chapter.

Experiments: Throughout the semester the whole class will conduct a total of three online experiments. Those experiments will happen during class time, as this is the only time of the week you will have no excuses to not participate. As those are online experiments, each of us should find a computer with internet and be ready to start the experiment 15 min, before the start time. Experiments will not be run in the class room. An experiment runs simultaneously for all of us and we are all part of it, and playing pretty much against each other. I will explain the grading policy when we get close to the first experiment, but if you do not participate you get no credit for a given experiment for sure.

Recitations: Recitations start second week of classes. Your TA will determine the contents and the rules for the recitation, including recitation grade. The recitations will mainly serve as times for you to practice and ask questions. I will require that the TAs discuss the *additional practice* non-graded problem sets in class, but in addition to this you might want to ask questions on the problems at the end of each chapter in the book.

Take home

Quizzes: Before each exam I will post take home quizzes which will contain about 20-25 multiple choice questions. The goal of these quizzes is to prepare you for the exams and give you a better idea of what to expect. The quizzes will be designed so that they also serve as sample exams. The quizzes will only cover material that has been covered in class before the day of the quiz. I usually post the quizzes in the afternoon and collect them in class, the next morning. So let's say we have a class on Tue. I will post the quiz on Mon at about 5p.m. and will expect you to submit your answers before or during the lecture on Tue. Related answer keys will be posted online before the exams. I 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 'review sessions'. At the end of the semester I will form an average quiz grade and will use it. For more information on this refer to the "Grading" section below.

Additional

Articles: Some of the articles will be posted and graded on aPLIA as described in "Assignments" section above. Not many will be on aPLIA. The rest of the articles will be accessible online from the library resources. I am still working on this so I will come back to you with all the details how to find the articles we'll need. I will not have the right to post these articles on our web-site, but I will be able to post links which you can follow. More on this later on. There is one important issue that I am ready to discuss as of now. To access the library resources you need to either work from campus (be in a PC lab or use the wireless with your laptop) or you have to install software on your computer if you want to access the library resources from OFF-Campus. I do this all the time so it is not difficult at all. You need to download a software called VPN and use it any time you are off-campus and you want to access the library resources. I hope some of you have already used this software, but I also prepared a file called "VPN client usage" where I describe in detail all the steps in downloading and usage.

Review

Sessions: Before each exam we will have a review session. I find those very helpful. Together we will decide on when exactly to meet for these sessions. For these sessions my plan is to go over questions from the quiz you did not feel comfortable with, if your TA did not have time to do this. I will also post *sample exams* from previous semesters and we will go over those too. Also, this is the time when you have to ask lots of questions. There will be no formal "review" of material, except if you want me to do it. I see that students find it very helpful if I go over the chapters again and point the most important issues I will stress on the exam. But, in general you will determine the format of these review sessions. Anyway, to perform well on the exams you need to practice a lot. This is why I provide you with lots of sample questions to go with each chapter. The way to really understand the material is by solving problems and going over application of the theory you've already learned.

Exams:

You will have two midterms and a final examination. Second midterm and final will not be cumulative. The format of all exams is multiple choice questions + one or two short answer questions: Midterm I and Midterm II – 30 multiple choice questions + short answer, Final – 40 multiple choice questions + short answer. Exams may include questions on the articles we discuss in class. 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 in the schedule date, but **not after**. I WILL NOT GIVE EXAMS AFTER THE ASSIGNED DAY FOR NO REASON.

Grading:

Midterm Exam I:	21%	(Sep 20, Tue, in class, usual place and time)
Midterm Exam II:	21%	(Oct 20, Thu, in class, usual place and time)
Final Exam:	30%	(Dec 10, Sat, MCDB A2B70, 7:30 a.m. – 10 a.m.)
Graded Assignments:	20%	(Aplia)
Take home quizzes:	21%	(average from the three quizzes)
Recitations	2%	(extra credit coming from TA)
Experiments:	6%	(participation + results)

42% of your grade for the class will be formed by using the highest two of the following three grades: midterm I, midterm II, Take home quizzes. The rest 58% of your grade will be formed by the grades from the final exam, the aPLIA homeworks, the aPLIA experiments and extra credit from your TAs..

I will also give you the option to not go to the final. This is a rare privilege and very few of you will be exempt from the final exam. To be one of them you will not be able to substitute midterm exam grades with the recitation grade. I will look at all the information I have for you by the last week. So roughly your grade formed by all the components above with their weights should be above 95%. I will also look at your progress through time. Students that start well and show progressively lower results through time will not be eligible for final exempt even if they amass more than 95%. What I prefer to see is stable level of effort or gradual improvement through out the semester.

Tentative schedule up to Midterm II:

Date	We do:	Date	We do:
22-Aug Mon		17-Oct Mon	Quiz II, take home
23-Aug Tue	Syllabus, Aplia	18-Oct Tue	ch.11
24-Aug Wed		19-Oct Wed	
25-Aug Thu	ch.1, ch.2	20-Oct Thu	Exam II, covers, ch.8, 9, 10, 11, in class, usual time
26-Aug Fri		21-Oct Fri	
27-Aug Sat		22-Oct Sat	
28-Aug Sun		23-Oct Sun	
29-Aug Mon		24-Oct Mon	
30-Aug Tue	ch.2, ch.3	25-Oct Tue	
31-Aug Wed		26-Oct Wed	
1-Sep Thu	ch.3, ch.6	27-Oct Thu	
2-Sep Fri		28-Oct Fri	
3-Sep Sat		29-Oct Sat	
4-Sep Sun		30-Oct Sun	
5-Sep Mon	Labor day	31-Oct Mon	
6-Sep Tue	Experiment I, Selling Books	1-Nov Tue	
7-Sep Wed		2-Nov Wed	
8-Sep Thu	ch.6, ch.7	3-Nov Thu	
9-Sep Fri		4-Nov Fri	
10-Sep Sat		5-Nov Sat	
11-Sep Sun		6-Nov Sun	
12-Sep Mon		7-Nov Mon	
13-Sep Tue	ch.7	8-Nov Tue	
14-Sep Wed	Quiz I, take home	9-Nov Wed	
15-Sep Thu	ch.8	10-Nov Thu	
16-Sep Fri		11-Nov Fri	
17-Sep Sat		12-Nov Sat	
18-Sep Sun		13-Nov Sun	
19-Sep Mon		14-Nov Mon	
20-Sep Tue	Exam I, covers ch.1, 2, 3, 6, 7, in class, usual time	15-Nov Tue	
21-Sep Wed		16-Nov Wed	
22-Sep Thu	ch.8, ch.9	17-Nov Thu	
23-Sep Fri		18-Nov Fri	
24-Sep Sat		19-Nov Sat	
25-Sep Sun		20-Nov Sun	
26-Sep Mon		21-Nov Mon	
27-Sep Tue	Experiment II, Labor Market and Productivity	22-Nov Tue	
28-Sep Wed		23-Nov Wed	
29-Sep Thu	ch.9	24-Nov Thu	Thanks Giving
30-Sep Fri		25-Nov Fri	Thanks Giving
1-Oct Sat		26-Nov Sat	
2-Oct Sun		27-Nov Sun	
3-Oct Mon		28-Nov Mon	
4-Oct Tue	ch.9, ch.10	29-Nov Tue	
5-Oct Wed		30-Nov Wed	
6-Oct Thu	ch.10	1-Dec Thu	
7-Oct Fri		2-Dec Fri	
8-Oct Sat		3-Dec Sat	
9-Oct Sun		4-Dec Sun	
10-Oct Mon		5-Dec Mon	
11-Oct Tue	ch.10, ch.11	6-Dec Tue	
12-Oct Wed		7-Dec Wed	
13-Oct Thu	Fall break	8-Dec Thu	Last day of classes
14-Oct Fri	Fall break	9-Dec Fri	
15-Oct Sat		10-Dec Sat	Final: 7:30 am.
16-Oct Sun			

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/>

REGISTERING FOR APLIA:

You will read below that aperia offers a grace period of about 20 days. This means that those of you that are not sure whether they will stay in the class or drop it, should first register for aperia with the option to pay later. In this case you do not have to buy the book from the store as you will be able to access it on aperia. If you finally decide to drop you just drop and do not pay for any supplements for this class. If you decide to stay you go to the bookstore, get your book with the aperia payment code inside, and use this payment code to pay for aperia before the end of the grace period. Once again, when you pay for the book in the bookstore you do not have to pay anything else for aperia. If someone is confused what to do please ask me. Here is the official explanation on registration coming from aperia:



Krugman Macroeconomics, Fall 2005, Dobrinov

You will be using Aplia for this course. Aplia is an online product that contains both a digital version of the textbook and online homework.

Your course key is: **EGTZ -RGGN -5YNF**

How to Use Aplia

Step 1: Register for Your Aplia Course

First Time Aplia Users:

1. Connect to <http://econ.aplia.com>
2. On the Sign In page, click the Go button next to "Test Your System Configuration"; this takes just a few seconds and provides detailed information on how to update your system if necessary
3. Head back to the Sign In page and click the "Register Here" link
4. Fill out the form and click Continue
5. Enter Your Course Key (above).
6. Once prompted for payment, Select "Go to My Course, I'll Pay Later" **or** Enter Your Payment Code if you have already visited the bookstore.

Returning Aplia Users:

1. Connect to <http://econ.aplia.com> and sign in using your usual e-mail and password.
2. Enter your course key (above).

Problems with registration or sign in? You can always e-mail Aplia by clicking on the "Help" link in the upper-right corner of any page or by e-mailing support@aplia.com.

Step 2: Purchase the Textbook from the Bookstore

1. Pay for your Aplia course using the Payment Code contained in the book

- Your course includes a digital edition (online version) of the textbook as well as interactive assignments.
- Go to the bookstore and purchase the Krugman/Wells Macroeconomics Preliminary Edition – Volume 1. You will pay for Aplia online using the "Aplia Payment Code" located inside this textbook. Instructions on how to do so are below.
- You should have an Aplia Payment Code that is found inside of text that you get from the bookstore. You will have the option to input this code when you are prompted for payment in Aplia.
- You can view Aplia's refund policy on textbooks in Aplia's Terms and Conditions of Use: <http://econ.aplia.com/af/support/terms.jsp?>

*The bookstore has a physical copy of the Krugman/Wells Macroeconomics textbook. The book is being released in sections; the first of which will be Chapters 1-9. See your professor for details.

Grace Period for Payment: You may register and use the website until **09/12/2005** without paying the fee. If you are considering dropping this course during the drop/add period, do not make a payment until you decide to stay in the course. You need to pay the full amount before the end of the grace period to continue using the site.

Aplia assignments: Most assignments come in pairs of practice problem sets and graded problem sets. Practice problem sets give you immediate feedback and an explanation of the correct answer. They do not count toward your homework grade. Use them to check your understanding of the material. If you feel confident about the material, you can go directly to the graded set and refer to the practice set only if you want some help.

The graded problem sets have a firm due date. You can change your answers as many times as you like before the due date passes. Once the due date passes, Aplia records your grade and you can no longer change your answers or complete the assignment. In other words, Aplia assignments must be done by the due date. The software does not understand excuses. Do your assignments early to keep last minute emergencies from getting in your way. After the due date, Aplia displays the correct answers and explanations for graded problems.

Student benefits of Aplia: Cramming is an ineffective learning method. Aplia lets you learn by doing - you can apply what you hear and see in the classroom and what you read in the text. Think of the regular assignments on Aplia as a weekly Economics workout. Regular work in Aplia will better prepare you for lectures and exams.