

Econ 2020 – 200: Principles of Macroeconomics
Spring 2014
T-TH HUMN 1B50 2:00-3:15

Instructor: Kristina Sargent

Email: kristina.sargent@colorado.edu

Office: Econ 309C

Office Hours: Monday 11:00-11:50, Thursday 12:30-1:30, and by appointment

Website: Aplia- see below for details

Course Description

“Economics is a study of mankind in the ordinary business of life.”

- Alfred Marshall, Principles of Economics

This is an introductory course to the concepts of macroeconomics. The course serves to introduce you to the basics of economic theory which tries to model features of the economy. Broadly, these concepts include output, supply and demand, unemployment, and inflation. The class will prepare students for future study of economics at the intermediate level, as well as serve as a good foundation for future study in business, law, political science, sociology, and life in general. Understanding economics goes a long way toward understanding why things are the way they are. As this is an introductory course, you will spend a lot of your time learning the language of the field, as well as learning how to ‘think like an economist.’

Textbook

N. Gregory Mankiw \Principle of Macroeconomics", 6th edition, South Western College Publishers.

ISBN numbers: 9781133806844(with book) and 9781111959333 (no book)

Aplia is the learning environment associated with our text book. We will discuss this in detail on the second day of class. There are a number of purchasing options, ranging from purchasing the book, which will come with an access code, to only purchasing the lab, to purchasing the lab with associated eText. Aplia will have a number of practice problems and explanations in addition to homework, experiments, and articles. Instructions for accessing Aplia can be found at the end of this syllabus.

Prerequisites

This is an introductory class with only Principles of Microeconomics as a prerequisite; however you will also be expected to have an understanding of algebra and graphical analysis. I will spend a couple of days covering key math and Principles of Microeconomics materials to refresh your brain, but this will not be sufficient if you are hearing the material for the first time.

TAs

Scot Beattie scot.beattie@colorado.edu Office: 309A Office Hours: on recitation syllabus
Sihong Xie sihong.xie@colorado.edu Office: 12A Office Hours: on recitation syllabus

Grading:

- 3 Midterms – 40% (20% each, lowest dropped)
- Recitation – 20%
- Final – 30%
- Clickers/Homework – 10%

I will drop the lowest of your Midterms. Because of this, **make-up exams will not be given for any reason. The Final will not be dropped.**

I cannot discuss grades through email – you must discuss them with me in person; this is due to federal law (FERPA), not a personal policy. **I will not, for any reason, discuss your grade over email.**

Midterms

Each midterm is worth 20% of your grade, and the lowest one will be dropped.

Midterm 1 – Tuesday, February 11th

Midterm 2 – Tuesday, March 11th

Midterm 3 – Tuesday, April 15th

Midterm 1 will cover topics until February 6th

Midterm 2 will cover topics from the first midterm until March 6th

Midterm 3 will cover topics from the second midterm until April 10th

Calculators will not be necessary (or allowed).

Recitations

These meet weekly starting the second week of school (Week of Jan 20 th). Your TA will decide how the recitation grade will be determined and will tell you at your first recitation. As this is a 4 credit course, 1 of those credits is your recitation, and I expect you to take it seriously. In recitation, you will have the opportunity to ask questions on topics covered in lectures, review important concepts, do exercises and generally become more comfortable with the material. Your TA is a valuable resource that you should utilize.

Clickers/Homework

Your clicker and homework are worth 5.5% each. This means that you only need 10% from a possible 11% for full credit. If you forget your clicker, your internet is out and you couldn't complete that week's homework assignment, you have to go out of town, you are sick, or have to miss for any other reason, that's why you have an extra one percent. Clicker questions will start the second week of class.

You need to get and register your CU Clicker for this course. Clickers will be used in class in addition to homework to gauge your understanding of the material. I will try to have questions during every class meeting, although one or two days may be missed. Incorrectly answered clicker questions will receive half credit. You should only be using your own clicker in class. Students caught answering with more than one will, at minimum, lose all clicker points for that day. Tell your friends to go to class themselves if they want the points.

Homework is done online through Aplia, the online learning environment for the text book. There will be more information regarding this later, and the first macroeconomic assignment won't be until the second week of class. The first week will have an assignment which is used to make you comfortable with Aplia's learning environment, and will make completing homework assignments easier.

Final

The final is **Saturday, May 3rd from 1:30 pm to 4pm**. It will be comprehensive, and will therefore cover the entire course.

If you have three or more final examinations on the same day, you can arrange to have the last one taken at an alternative time (Which means this final is unlikely to be the last). It is your responsibility to notify me no later than six weeks into the semester. If you request to reschedule your final after **February 21st**, I will say no.

Email

Please be considerate with your use of email. If you email me a substantive question about lectures, exams, or assignments I will most likely encourage you to come to talk to me about it during my office hours. I reserve the right not to answer emails lacking appropriate salutation, grammar and punctuation. Emails asking for administrative information contained within this syllabus or available on the course website will not be answered.

Laptop/Tablet and Cell Phone Policy

Laptops in class are a negative externality. Besides this, much of the notes you will be taking will involve graphs and/or math, which you can do much easier with pen and paper than on a computer. If you want to use your laptop/tablet you may do so, but must sit in the last three rows of the classroom.

Regarding cell phones – do not have them out and put them on silent. I reserve the right to kick anybody out of class for inconsiderate use of cell phones or laptops, as well as penalize points if necessary.

Grades

The percentages below will guarantee the corresponding letter grade (at the least – there may be additional curving; however I will not round grades up or down).

Percentage Grade

94.00 - 100% A	73.00 – 76.99% C
90.00 – 93.99% A-	70.00 – 72.99% C-
87.00 – 89.99% B+	67.00 – 69.99% D+
83.00 – 86.99% B	63.00 – 66.99% D
80.00 – 82.99% B-	60.00 – 62.99% D-
77.00 – 79.99% C+	< 60% F

Tentative Course Schedule

Note this is a tentative schedule and topics may change according to the progress of class.
Midterms dates will not change.

Week	Chapter(s)
1	1, 2
2	4, 5
3	3
4	10, 11
5	MT1, 12
6	13, 14
7	15, 16
8	17, catch-up/review
9	MT2, 18
10	18, 19
11	Spring Break
12	recap, 20
13	21
14	MT3, 22
15	23
16	catch-up, review

Additional Policies

Students with Disabilities

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 be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Center for Community N200, and <http://www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices>.

If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see guidelines at <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/go.cgi?select=temporary.html>.

Disability Services' letters for students with disabilities indicate legally mandated reasonable accommodations. The syllabus statements and answers to Frequently Asked Questions can be found at <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices>.

Religious Observance Policy

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, if you have a conflict, please contact me at the beginning of the term so we can make proper arrangements (no later than 2 weeks into the semester). See full details at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html.

Classroom Behavior Policy

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, color, culture, religion, creed, politics, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, and gender expression, age, disability, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. See policies at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html> and at http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code.

Discrimination and Harassment Policy

The University of Colorado at Boulder Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures, the University of Colorado Sexual Harassment Policy and Procedures, and the University of Colorado Conflict of Interest in Cases of Amorous Relationships Policy apply to all students, staff, and faculty. Any student, staff, or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of sexual harassment or discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127, or the Office of Student Conduct (OSC) at 303- 492-5550. Information about the ODH, the above referenced policies, and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at <http://www.colorado.edu/odh>.

Honor 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; 303-735-2273). 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/>.

How to access your Aplia course

Instructor: Kristina A Sargent

Start Date: 01/13/2014

Course Key: CJPE-ZLXU-LPWT

Registration

Aplia is part of CengageBrain, which allows you to sign in to a single site to access your Cengage materials and courses.

1. Connect to <http://login.cengagebrain.com/>
2. **If you already have an account, sign in.** From your Dashboard, enter your course key in the box provided, and click the *Register* button.

If you don't have an account, click the *Create a New Account* button, and enter your course key when prompted. Continue to follow the on-screen instructions.

Payment

Online: After registering, you can buy access to Aplia from myhome.cengagebrain.com.

Bookstore: Purchase access to Aplia from the bookstore. Check with the bookstore to find out what they offer for your course.

If you choose to pay later, you can use Aplia without paying until 11:59 PM on 02/02/2014. After paying, you will have the option to purchase a physical book at a discounted price.

For more information on registering for Aplia, please visit <http://www.cengagebrain.com/aplia/>.