

Economics 3080  
Intermediate Macroeconomics

University of Colorado Boulder  
Department of Economics  
Econ 109

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Spring 2018  
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**Office Hours:** MW right after class + MW 2:00-3:00 and by appointment. Email me a previous day or tell me after class if you plan to come in the 2:00-3:00 block of time.

**NOTE: YOU WILL AUTOMATICALLY GET AN F IF YOU MISS MORE THAN 7 DAYS OF CLASS**

**No use of electronics is allowed during class. Our TA, Minghui Li, will help enforce this policy.**

**THERE WILL BE NO CLASS ON JANUARY, 26.** However, online assignments are due then.

**Description**

Macroeconomics is the study of how all the different aspects of the economy interact to determine outcomes for the economy as a whole. Studying macroeconomics is essential for understanding economic events in the newspaper and for understanding and going beyond the usual economic policy debates.

**Prerequisites**

Economics 3080 builds on the understanding you gained 2010 and 2020, Principles of Micro and Macro. There is no official recommendation on this, but I personally recommend that you take Economics 3070 before taking Economics 3080.

**Course Readings and Course Squarespace Website**

**Handouts, Exercises and Blog Posts** on <https://blog.supplysideliberal.com/intermediate-macro>

**Wall Street Journal** (15 weeks for \$15): google "wall street journal student digital pack"

**Textbook:** Mankiw, N. Gregory, *Macroeconomics* (9<sup>th</sup> edition, 2016).

**Launchpad Online Pre-Class and Post-Class Homework for the Mankiw textbook is open for student registration.**

For Launchpad, if you need help, consult the [support site](#), especially the system requirements and recommended browsers. Go to <http://www.macmillanhighered.com/launchpad/mankiw9e/7420496>

Bookmark the page to make it easy to return to (but note the URL will look different due to security measures).

Enroll in this course using one of the following options:

If you have an access code, select "I have a student access code", enter the code exactly as it appears on the card, and click Submit.

If you don't have an access code, either purchase a text package that includes one OR click "I want to purchase access" and follow the instructions.

If you need to start working but can't purchase right away, select "I want temporary access" and follow the instructions. Please note: Your grades are linked to your Launchpad account username

(email address). If you use temporary access, make sure you purchase or register your code using the same email address for your paid access.

If you have problems registering, purchasing, or logging in, please [contact Customer Support](#). You can reach a representative 7 days a week:

- through the online form
- by chat
- by phone at (800) 936-6899

For the benefit of students who join the class late, the official due date for the first 4 assignments has been delayed until 11:50 AM on Friday, January 26, but you should do the 3 “Learning Curve” assignments as soon as possible and the Chapter 1 homework as soon as we have finished covering Chapter 1 in class.

### **Course Requirements and Grading**

Learning Curve & Homework on Launchpad:	15%
i-clicker:	10%
weekly blog posts	15%
1 <sup>st</sup> Midterm:	15%
2d Midterm:	15%
Final exam:	30%

The course will be graded on a curve, following departmental guidelines. So don't worry if an exam seems hard—it probably seems hard to your classmates as well.

**ALSO: IF YOU MISS MORE THAN 7 CLASSES, YOU GET AN AUTOMATIC FAILING GRADE**

**+ Honor Code Policy: A determination of cheating will result in an automatic failing grade.**

Your first blog post will be due at the end of Sunday, January 28: midnight. Don't wait until the last minute! I'll give more instructions on this in the Wednesday, January 24 class. Any topic related to economics is fine. 400-600 words.

### **Exam Schedule**

Midterm exams will be held in class on Wed., February 21, and Wed., April 4. The final exam for this class is on Tues. May 8, from 1:30 PM to 4:00 PM, in our regular room.

***Attendance at all the exams is required—there will be no make-up exams.***

**TA—Minghui Li:** [minghui.li@colorado.edu](mailto:minghui.li@colorado.edu)

Please address administrative questions (such as the need to alternative exam arrangements) first to Minghui.

**Course Outline:** I will focus on the first ten chapters of Mankiw's textbook, supplementing the ideas in Mankiw's textbook with other key ideas, such as (a) the use of logarithms in macroeconomics, (b) the combination of increasing returns and imperfect competition as a foundation for macroeconomics, (c) the 3 wedges that make more output better than less, and (d) macroeconomic stabilization vs. closing Okun gaps. Additional readings will be posted on the external website for this class, <https://blog.supplysideliberal.com/intermediate-macro> which is attached to my blog. Some additional readings are handouts, some are exercises, and some are blog posts.