

INTERMEDIATE MACROECONOMIC THEORY (ECON 3080-006)

Fall 2019

Instructor:	Danny Kurban	Email:	danny.kurban@colorado.edu
Lecture Time:	MWF 9:00am – 9:50am	Room:	MUEN E431
Office Hours:	M 12:00pm – 1:30pm W 1:00pm – 2:30pm	Office:	ECON 309A

1 Course Information

Course Websites: <https://cuboulder.instructure.com/courses/55776>

Required Materials: N. Gregory Mankiw's *Macroeconomics* is the required textbook for this course. My class material is based on the 9th edition published in 2016, but using the 8th edition (from 2012) will be fine as well. You can buy used versions of both for very reasonable prices online. You might get away with using even older editions, but I do not recommend it, and it is your responsibility to make sure that the material aligns.

Prerequisites: On the mathematical side, you should have completed ECON 1078 and 1088, or MATH 1300, or an equivalent course. Models and problems in this class will require some working knowledge of calculus. Students should also feel comfortable with algebraic concepts including fractions, graphing, and solving basic linear equations. On the economics side, I expect you to have taken ECON 2020 (Principles of Macroeconomics) or equivalent. There will be no formal review for any of those topics, so please let me know immediately if you do not meet those requirements.

Course Description: In this course, we will expand on topics discussed in principles of macroeconomics using a more mathematical approach. We will discuss various models for considering important macroeconomic topics such as unemployment, productivity, and long run economic growth. We will additionally discuss short run shocks to the Macro economy and how policymakers might address those.

2 Course Policies

General policies

- *No makeup homework assignments or exams will be given.*
- No late homework assignments will be accepted under any circumstances.
- It is the student's responsibility to inform me of any accommodations needed two weeks before an exam.

- I will conduct all course communications in class and through your CU email. Please do not email me from your personal/non-university email as it may get sent to my spam folder. If you have a question after I have sent out an email to the class, please send me a separate email so that your question does not get buried in a long email chain (and DO NOT use "reply all"). I may not respond to any emails that can be answered by reading the syllabus.
- Please allow 24 hours for me to respond to emails (on weekdays), although I will usually reply much faster. However, I can not discuss grades over email per FERPA guidelines.
- **Even though attendance is not required in general, you MUST attend at least one of the first three classes (not counting the very first meeting), or there is a chance that you will be administratively dropped, in order to make room for attending students on the waitlist.**

Grades

- **Distribution:** Below is the weight given to each of the assignments you are expected to complete:

Midterm 1	25%	Final Exam	30%
Midterm 2	25%	Homework	20%

- **Curving:** Midterms *may* be curved individually, and a curve *may* be applied to the overall course grade to conform to departmental standards. The highest overall average the department allows is a B-.
- **Letter Grade Cutoffs:** Below is the letter grade you will receive for the final score given in the class:

≥ 93	A	87-89.9	B+	77-79.9	C+	67-69.9	D+	≤ 59.9	F
90-92.9	A-	83-86.9	B	73-76.9	C	63-66.9	D		
		80-82.9	B-	70-72.9	C-	60-62.9	D-		

Assignments

- **Homework:** There will be 6 graded homework assignments throughout the semester, but your lowest homework score will not count towards your final grade. You are allowed and encouraged to work on the homework assignments in groups (4 students per group max). Please turn in only one assignment per group, clearly marked with the names of all group members. The homeworks are an integral part of the course and will be extremely helpful for checking, and improving your understanding of the material.
- **Attendance:** Attendance is not mandatory, but strongly recommended.

Exams

- **Midterms:** Midterms will be part multiple choice and part short answer question, and they will take place during lecture time in the lecture hall, at the dates written below.
- **Final Exam:** The final exam will be cumulative, and it is tentatively scheduled for **Wednesday, Dec 18 from 1:30pm – 4:00pm**. You have to attend the final exam, and missing it will automatically lead to failing the course.

Cheating

If you are caught cheating in any fashion on any assignment, you will be given an F for the assignment, and your case will be reported to the Honor Code Council for review.

3 University Policies

- **DISABILITY POLICY:** I am committed to providing everyone the support and services needed to participate in this course. If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to your instructor a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or by e-mail at dsinfo@colorado.edu.
- **HONOR CODE:** 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. Incidents of academic misconduct will 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 myself and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion).
- **RELIGIOUS OBSERVATION POLICY:** 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. If you have a conflict, please make arrangements with me no later than the first week of the semester.
- **CODE OF BEHAVIOR POLICY:** Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty has the professional responsibility to treat all students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which we express opinions. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences or race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender variance and nationalities.
- **DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT POLICY:** CU Boulders policy on Discrimination and Harassment can be found on the university website. The policy on Sexual Harassment and on Amorous Relationships applies to all students, staff and faculty. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH and the campus discrimination and harassment resources can be obtained at <http://www.colorado.edu/odh>.

4 Tentative Schedule

Week	Dates	Content
1	Aug 26-30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Science of Macroeconomics and The Data of Macroeconomics (Ch 1,2)
2	Sep 2-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Income: Where it comes from and where it goes (Ch 3) • No class on Labor Day, Sep 2
3	Sep 9 - Sep 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Monetary System (Ch 4) & Inflation (Ch 5)
4	Sep 16-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Open Economy (Ch 6)
5	Sep 23-27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unemployment and the Labor Market (Ch 7) & Midterm 1 • Midterm 1, Fri, Sep 27
6	Sep 30 - Oct 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Growth 1: Capital Accumulation and Population Growth (Ch 8)
7	Oct 7-11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Growth 2: Technology, Empirics, and Policy (Ch 9)
8	Oct 14-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Economic Fluctuations (Ch 10)
9	Oct 21-25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aggregate Demand 1: Building the IS-LM Model (Ch 11)
10	Oct 28 - Nov 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aggregate Demand 2: Applying the IS-LM Model (Ch 12)
11	Nov 4-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catch-up & Midterm 2 • Midterm 2, Fri, Nov 8
12	Nov 11-15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Open Economy Revisited: The Mundell-Fleming Model and Exchange Rates (Ch 13)
13	Nov 18-22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aggregate Supply and the Tradeoff between Inflation and Unemployment (Ch 14)
	Nov 25-29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall break and Thanksgiving, no classes
14	Dec 2-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topics in Macroeconomic Theory and Policy
15	Dec 9-11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topics in Macroeconomic Theory and Policy & Final review
	Dec 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Exam: Wed, Dec 18 1:30pm – 4:00pm (PRELIMINARY)