

Syllabus
Econ 3080
Fall 2012
MWF 1-1:50 MUEN E131

Instructor: Scott Hiller

Office: Econ 313

Email: randall.hiller@colorado.edu

Office Hours: T 10-11, W 2-3 and by appointment

URL: <http://rintintin.colorado.edu/~hillerr/>

Textbook: Mankiw (2012). Macroeconomics, Worth Publishers, 8th edition (6th and 7th editions fine as well)

Description

Macroeconomics is the study of the aggregate economy. We will explore the determinants of both long term trends and short term fluctuations (business cycles) and explore the roles that consumers, firms, and governments play in the economy. Over the course of the semester we will cover long run growth, aggregate demand and supply, unemployment and wages, inflation, monetary and fiscal policy, as well as applying the tools of analysis to the recent recession. We will intersperse current events with our modeling to better understand what we are studying, and what happens in the world's economy. In the end you will have the technical tools necessary to intelligently read about and discuss current and past macroeconomic events.

Prerequisites

1. ECON 1000 or ECON 2020 or equivalent from another institution.
2. ECON 1078 and 1088, or MATH 1300, or MATH 1310, or MATH 1081, or MATH 1080, 1090 and 1100, or APPM 1350, or equivalent from another institution.

This course requires basic calculus and algebra tools. It will be assumed that students possess these and there will be no formal math review.

Attendance

Attendance will not be taken as it is your responsibility to come to class. I strongly recommend that you come to class, engage, and ask questions. However, I may occasionally give bonus points for attendance on random dates. My notes will NOT be available online so if you miss a lecture you must get notes from a classmate. Additionally, I reserve the right to test on anything covered in class, regardless of whether it is in the book.

Grading

Grade Breakdown:

Two Midterms 25% each

Final Exam (cumulative) 30%

Homework 20%

If you miss any one of your midterms **there will be no makeups for any reason** and the weight of the first midterm will be placed as 15% added to your final, and 10% added to your other midterm. If you miss the second midterm the entire 25% will be applied to your final. If you miss two midterms, the second will count as a zero on your final grade. You cannot reschedule or miss your final exam unless you have three finals on the same day. If this is the case you must bring me evidence of the three exams within the first four weeks of the semester.

Homework

As we progress through the semester I will post problem sets on my website. A hard copy is due at the beginning of class on the given date. They are intended to apply the theory and concepts from the textbook and lecture and help prepare you for the exams. I encourage you to work in small groups on these assignments, though I require everyone to turn in their own copy.

Tentative Schedule of Topics

(Subject to Change)

Chapter	Topic
1-2	Intro to Macro
3-5	The Long Run
7	Unemployment
8-9	The Very Long Run
10-12	Short Run Demand
14	Aggregate Supply
16	Understanding Consumer Behavior
17	Investment
18-20	Topics in Macro Policy

Important Dates

Midterm 1 - Wed, Oct 3

Midterm 2 - Wed, Nov 7

Final - Sat Dec 15, 7:30-10:00

University Policy

Harassment Policy: The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on Discrimination and Harassment (<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/discrimination.html>) applies to all students, staff and faculty. Any stu-

dent, staff member or faculty member who believes (s)he has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based on 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.

Disability Policy: If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit a letter from Disability Services to me 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.

Religious Observance 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 contact me at the beginning of the semester so we can make proper arrangements.

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; 303-725-2273). 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).