

Principles of Macroeconomics
Econ 2020-100
Spring 2009

University of Colorado at Boulder
Department of Economics

Instructor: Stephen Nicar
Office: Econ 304
email: nicar [at] colorado.edu
Office hours: Mon and Wed from 9:00 - 10:30 am

Class time: M, W, F from 11:00 - 11:50 am
Classroom: MCDB A2B70
Course website: <https://webfiles.colorado.edu/nicar/econ2020/spring2009.html>

Final exam: Tuesday, May 5 from 7:30 - 10:00 pm

Required Text:

Hubbard and O'Brien, Macroeconomics, Updated 2d edition, Prentice Hall.

Course Description and Objectives:

This course will provide an overview of macroeconomic issues: the determination of output, employment, unemployment, interest rates, and inflation. Monetary and fiscal policies are discussed, as are public debt and international economic issues. It introduces basic models of macroeconomics and illustrates principles with the experience of the United States and other economies.

Course Level & Prerequisites:

Macroeconomics cannot be well understood without some grounding in microeconomics. You should have completed and successfully passed Principles of Microeconomics (Econ 2010). If you have not yet done so, you must see me during the first week of classes. You should also be comfortable with high school level algebra (i.e., solve simple simultaneous equations graphically and algebraically) and geometry (i.e., drawing and manipulating graphs). I will not spend any class time on review of microeconomic concepts or basic math skills.

Recitation:

Attending recitation is required. Recitation serves to bridge the gap between the theory presented in class and problems you will see on exams. It also provides you with an opportunity to ask questions in a smaller setting to facilitate the understanding of challenging concepts/problems. Your TA will describe his/her grading policy and what is expected of you during your first recitation.

Grading:

Your grade will consist of three exams, a cumulative final exam, recitation and homework assignments. Each portion of your grade will be weighted as follows:

Midterm 1:	20%	Friday, Feb 13
Midterm 2:	20%	Friday, Mar 20
Midterm 3:	20%	Friday, Apr 24
Final Exam:	30%	Tuesday May 5
Homework Assignments:	10%	
Recitation:	20%	

To make your total grade add up to 100%, I will automatically drop the lowest of the three midterm scores or your recitation grade. **Your grade on the final exam will not be dropped for any reason.**

Tentative Schedule:

We will cover the following topics during the semester. Reading the relevant chapters before the lecture will help with understanding the material. You are responsible for all material covered in the chapters listed, even if not covered in the lecture, unless I specifically say otherwise. As the semester progresses, I may make changes to the following or change the order in which it is covered. If I do I will let you know in advance.

- *Macro Foundations and Long-Run Growth*
Chapters 7, 8, 9 and 10
- *Short-Run Fluctuations*
Chapters 11 and 12
- *Monetary and Fiscal Policy*
Chapters 13, 14, 15 and 16
- *The International Economy*
Chapters 17 and 18

Important Dates:

Mon	Jan 19	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - No Class
Fri	Feb 13	Midterm 1
Fri	Mar 20	Midterm 2
Mon	Mar 23 - Fri Mar 27	Spring Break - No Class
Fri	Apr 24	Midterm 3
Tue	May 5	Final Exam - 7:30 - 10:00 pm

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, and <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices>.

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.

Classroom 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 have 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 they and their students express opinions. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender variance, 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.

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). 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/>.

Discrimination & Harassment Policy:

The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on Discrimination and Harassment, the University of Colorado policy on Sexual Harassment and the University of Colorado policy 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 resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at <http://www.colorado.edu/odh>.