

University of Colorado
Course Syllabus
ECON 2020: Principles of Macroeconomics
Spring 2011

Instructor: Chris McMahan
Office: ECON 313
Email: mcmahanc@colorado.edu
Office Hours: T 11:00 PM – 12:00 PM, W 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM, and by appointment
Class Time: MWF 12:00 PM – 12:50 PM
Classroom: CHEM 142

Required Textbook:

Paul Krugman and Robin Wells, Macroeconomics, 2nd edition, 2010.

Prerequisites:

ECON 2010 – Principles of Microeconomics. You must also be competent in basic algebra and graphing skills in order to pass this class.

Course Overview:

This course is intended to give an introductory look at macroeconomic topics. It will provide you with the tools necessary to be able to converse intelligently on economic events, derive and solve basic economic models, and continue your economic studies at intermediate and advanced levels.

Course Components:

Recitation – 25%

- Your TA's will provide a syllabus that outlines how this portion of your grade will be determined. Recitations begin the week of **January 17**.

3 Midterms – 25% each

- Midterms will be held on **February 16, March 16, and April 20**. Midterms will be predominantly multiple choice but may also contain some short answer and true/false questions.

Final – 25%:

- The final will be on **Monday, May 2 at 4:30PM**. It is cumulative. The final will be predominantly multiple choice but may also contain some short answer and true/false questions.

*****The lowest of your 3 midterms and your recitation grade will be dropped. Your final will not be dropped under any circumstances.**

Tentative Course Outline:

Unless otherwise specified, we will cover topics in the order below.

<u>Chapter:</u>	<u>Topic:</u>
Ch. 6	Introduction to Macroeconomics
Ch. 7	Tracking the Macroeconomy
Ch. 8	Unemployment and Inflation
Ch. 9	Savings and Investment and the Financial System
Ch. 11	Income and Expenditure
Ch. 12	Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply

Ch. 13	Fiscal Policy
Ch. 14	Money, Banking, and the Federal Reserve System
Ch. 15	Monetary Policy
Ch. 16	Inflation, Disinflation, Deflation
Ch. 10	Long-Run Economic Growth
Ch. 18	Open-Economy Macroeconomics

Grading Scale:

<u>Your Score</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Your Score</u>	<u>Grade</u>
93-100%	A	73-76%	C
90-92%	A-	70-72%	C-
87-89%	B+	67-69%	D+
83-86%	B	63-66%	D
80-82%	B-	60-62%	D-
77-79%	C+	≤59%	F

Attendance Policy

You are responsible for all material covered in class. I will lecture on material that is not covered in the text. If (okay, when) I mention in class that my favorite singer-songwriter is Kelly Clarkson, that may be on an exam. ALL MATERIAL COVERED IN LECTURES, RECITATION, AND ASSIGNED READINGS IS FAIR GAME FOR EXAMS.

Will there be make-up exams?

No.

I do not make exceptions for jobs, birthdays, dates with celebrities, etc. If you have a conflict, you should talk to me the first day of class; however, I will most likely suggest that you drop the course or find a way to reschedule your outside conflict.

Office hours:

My office hours will be Tuesdays from 12PM to 1PM, Wednesdays from 12PM to 12:30PM, and by appointment. Office hours are for your benefit. Please use them. If you have a conflict and cannot make office hours, email me and we will set up another time to meet.

Email:

Please be considerate with your use of email. If you email me a question about lectures or homework assignments, I will most likely encourage you to talk to me about it during my office hours. If it is not urgent and I feel the whole class can benefit from the answer, I will address it in the following class or in a mass email. If you want a response, YOU SHOULD USE PROPER EMAIL ETIQUETTE, although I may not ☺.

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).