

ECON 3080-001
Intermediate Macroeconomics
Summer Term M, 2010
ECON 117
9:00am-12:15pm MTWRF

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Overview

This course introduces the theoretical framework for analyzing the economic behavior of individual decision makers, primarily consumers, workers, managers and firms. The techniques presented in this course are fundamental to the study of economics and can be used in several fields within economics including international economics, environmental economics, labor economics and industrial organization.

This course is divided into four sections. First, we will review concepts of supply and demand. Section two provides an examination of consumer behavior by constructing a model of consumer choice, which is used to derive individual and market demands. In the section following, we turn to the production side of markets to analyze firm behavior and market dynamics. We will construct models to determine optimal output and use of inputs and then use it to derive market supply. The fourth section will combine consumer and firm sides of the market to show how price and output are determined within various market structures.

Prerequisites

Economics prerequisites: ECON 1000 or 2020 or equivalent
Math prerequisites: ECON 1078 and 1088, or MATH 1300, or MATH 1310 or MATH 1081 or MATH 1080, 1090 and 1100, or APPM 1350 or equivalent.

Textbook

The textbook for the class will be Charles Jones' *Macroeconomics*. Either edition is acceptable, with or without the Economic Crisis Update. The text is intended to be supplementary to lectures and is required. Additional readings are listed below and web links or full text will be posted on CULearn.

Class Attendance

Attendance at all class meetings is strongly encouraged. We will cover a significant amount of material each day. Participation in class discussions and questions are encouraged. I do not post or give out my notes. If you miss class, you should obtain course material and get notes from one your classmates. Please only come to see me about missed material once you have reviewed a peer's notes.

Grading

Due to FERPA, grades cannot be discussed over email. Please see me in office hours if you have a question or concern about your grade.

Your grade will be determined as follows:

Midterm	30%
Problem Sets	20%
Article Analyses	10%
Final	40%

Exams

No exams will be given early or dropped. Midterms and exams will be given on the days listed below in the classroom. If you miss a midterm exam, the weight will be transferred to the final. The midterm exam will focus on the material covered up to that point. I will give a list of topics before the midterm that will be covered on the midterms. The final exam is cumulative. Exams will be part multiple choice, part short answer.

You are responsible for bringing pens/pencils and a calculator to exam. Graphing calculators and cell phone calculators are NOT allowed under any circumstances. I will provide paper for the exams; blue books are not necessary.

Homework

There will be six homework assignments for the class consisting of four problem sets and two article analyses. Homework assignments will be graded primary on completion. Not attempting every problem will result in a deduction of at least 50%. Solutions to Homework assignments will be posted on the website and answers will be posted the day after they are due. Homework assignments are your best indicator outside of class notes as to the format of exams and types of questions that will be asked. I suggest you do them carefully and seek help if needed.

Four Problem Sets: Four assignments will be problem sets applying theory and concepts from the textbook and lecture. They will be posted on the course website.

Article Analysis: Two assignments will be in the form of one-page article analyses. I will provide an article for each assignment with guiding questions. You do not need to answer all of the questions, just write a one-page reaction and analysis based on your experience reading the article. If you would like to analyze an alternate article, please include a copy of the article with your assignment.

Tentative Course Outline

Date	Topic	Chapters	Due
Monday, May 10	Intro to Macro	1 & 2	
Tuesday, May 11	Growth Basics	3 & 4	
Wednesday, May 12	Solow Growth Model	5	PS 1
Thursday, May 13	Growth and Ideas	6	
Friday, May 14	Labor Market & Inflation	7 & 8	Article Analysis 1
Monday, May 17	Wrap Up & Review		PS 2
Tuesday, May 18	Midterm Exam		
Wednesday, May 19	Short Run & IS Curve	9 & 10	

Thursday, May 20	MP & Phillips Curve	11	
Friday, May 21	AD-AS Model	12	PS 3
Monday, May 24	Government	13	Article Analysis 2
Tuesday, May 25	Trade & Exchange Rates	14 & 15	
Wednesday, May 26	Wrap Up & Review		PS 4
Thursday, May 27	Final Exam		

Additional Readings

I highly encourage you to read the newspaper and articles about economics in other publications. Good places to look are *The Economist*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, *The New Republic*, *The New Yorker*, *Slate* and various blogs and other magazines that are listed on the web links portion of CULearn. You are also welcome to add to that list. If you find something good, please share it! Most, if not all, such content is available online and free to you as students. If you are not on campus, you might have to use the VPN for some content. Listed here are additional, older readings that I hope to discuss in class. This list may change as the semester goes on. I will announce additional readings that are not listed here in class. I do not endorse the content of any of these articles or the opinions expressed in them or in the publications listed above or on the website. They are intended to foster debate and critical examination of how macroeconomics is viewed and studied. You are responsible for the content of these articles. If a weblink is not provided below, the article will be available in course content on CULearn

Office hours

Office hours are for your benefit. They provide an excellent opportunity to get individual or small group help to clarify topics. If you have a conflict and cannot make office hours, please feel free to 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, exams, or assignments I will most likely encourage you to come 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 period or email the entire class a response. I will answer emails between 9am and 7pm and will do my best to return emails within 24 hours. Emails must come from and be returned to university (@colorado.edu) addresses. I reserve the right not to answer emails lacking appropriate salutation, grammar and punctuation.

Students With Disabilities

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact Willard 322, (303) 492-8671.

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 term 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 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 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 (<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/discrimination.html>, 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>.