

**University of Colorado at Boulder  
Department of Economics**

**Prof. Jeffrey S. Zax**  
zax@colorado.edu  
303-492-8268  
<http://www.colorado.edu/Economics/Zax>

**Economics 2020-200  
Syllabus and Schedule  
20 June 2019**

Welcome. I am Prof. Jeffrey S. Zax. This is Economics 2020, Principles of Macroeconomics.

**Course description:**

The purpose of this course is to acquire an introductory understanding of macroeconomics. Macroeconomics is the study of the structure and performance of the entire economy. We examine the determinants of long-run trends in the size of the economy and of short-run fluctuations in economic activity. As part of this examination, we explore the causes and consequences of inflation and unemployment. Throughout, the effects of government policy on macroeconomic behavior are a prominent concern.

This course requires previous completion of Economics 2010, Principles of Microeconomics, or its equivalent. Anyone uncertain with regard to their preparation should consult with me immediately.

This course will meet for lectures on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, starting on 9 July and ending on 9 August. Lectures will take place from 9:15 a.m. until 10:50 a.m. in Ramaley Biology (RAMY) N1B23. This course will meet for recitations from 11:00a.m. to 12:20p.m. on either Mondays and Wednesdays or on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 July through 9 August in Ekeley Science (EKLC) E1B50. In order to ensure that both recitations meet ten times during the course, the recitation that ordinarily meets on Monday and Wednesday will have a special meeting from 11:00a.m. to 12:20p.m. on Tuesday, 9 July, in Humanities 125.

I will hold regular office hours from 12:45 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays. I will hold an additional regular office hour from 12:30p.m to 1:30p.m. on Thursdays. All office hours will take place in my office, Economics 111. Course information will be posted regularly on Canvas. Notifications will be posted there as well, and occasionally sent via campus email. It is your responsibility to monitor both.

Performance in this course will be judged on the basis of three types of instruments. Two midterm examinations will take place on Friday, 19 July and Wednesday, 31 July, during class.

The final examination will take place on Friday, 9 August, during class. Examinations will be computer-based. They will ordinarily consist of short problems. These examinations will be cumulative to the extent that the material is cumulative. Each examination will take 90 minutes. They will each be worth 90 points. They will contribute a total of 270 points to the final grade.

Graded questions will take place in all ten recitations. These questions will be analyzed collectively during the recitation. Answers will be due at the end of the recitation period. The questions for each recitation will be worth 10 points. In total, recitation questions will contribute 100 points to the final grade.

Homework assignments will be due at 6p.m. on every Tuesday and Thursday beginning on Thursday, 11 July. The first homework assignment will be worth ten points. The remaining eight homework assignments will be worth 15 points each, for a total of 130 points. These assignments will require the use of MindTap. Instructions on accessing MindTap are available in the course Canvas website.

Excuses for the course requirements will be granted only under extraordinary circumstances and with appropriate documentation. If granted, the excused points will be reallocated to subsequent requirements. The course as a whole is valued at 500 points. The score attained by each student, evaluated relative to the score that would be attained by proficient students of economics at this level, will determine final letter grades.

Computers are permitted in lectures and recitations. However, they must be used only for course-related purposes. Uses for any other purpose impose negative externalities on others and are inappropriate during class time. For these reasons, anyone who uses computers for purposes that are not related to the course must leave the class room.

The material to be mastered in this class is contained in the lectures and assigned readings. All currently assigned readings are in Principles of Macroeconomics, 8<sup>th</sup> edition by N. Gregory Mankiw. The textbook and access to MindTap may be purchased at the CU Boulder bookstore. It may also be available for purchase online through the Canvas website for this course.

The detailed course schedule and all assignments are contained within MindTap. To access, logon to Canvas, and enter into this course.

### Tentative schedule:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Readings, assignments</u>
9 July	Introduction, chapters 1-9
10 July	Chapters 1-9 Chapter 10 "Measuring a nation's income"
11 July	Chapter 11 "Measuring the cost of living"
12 July	Chapter 12 "Production and growth"
15 July	Chapter 12 "Production and growth" Chapter 13 "Saving, investment, and the financial system"
16 July	Chapter 13 "Saving, investment, and the financial system"
17 July	Chapter 14 "The basic tools of finance"
18 July	Chapter 15 "Unemployment"
19 July	Midterm examination
22 July	Chapter 16 "The monetary system"
23 July	Chapter 16 "The monetary system" Chapter 17 "Money growth and inflation"
24 July	Chapter 17 "Money growth and inflation"
25 July	Chapter 18 "Open economy macroeconomics: Basic concepts"
26 July	Chapter 18 "Open economy macroeconomics: Basic concepts"
29 July	Chapter 19 "A macroeconomic theory of the open economy"
30 July	Chapter 19 "A macroeconomic theory of the open economy"
31 July	Midterm examination
1 August	Chapter 20 "Aggregate demand and aggregate supply"
2 August	Chapter 20 "Aggregate demand and aggregate supply"

5 August	Chapter 21 "The influence of monetary and fiscal policy on aggregate demand"
6 August	Chapter 21 "The influence of monetary and fiscal policy on aggregate demand" Chapter 22 "The short-run trade-off between inflation and unemployment"
7 August	Chapter 22 "The short-run trade-off between inflation and unemployment"
8 August	Chapter 23 "Six debates over macroeconomic policy"
9 August	Final examination

### Required statement of University policies

**Accommodation for Disabilities:** If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit your accommodation letter from Disability Services to your faculty member in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities in the academic environment. Information on requesting accommodations is located on the [Disability Services website](#). Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or [dsinfo@colorado.edu](mailto:dsinfo@colorado.edu) for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see [Temporary Medical Conditions](#) under the Students tab on the Disability Services website.

**Classroom Behavior:** Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. 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. For more information, see the policies on [classroom behavior](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

**Honor Code:** All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the Honor Code. Violations of the policy may include: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access to academic materials, clicker fraud, submitting the same or similar work in more than one course without permission from

all course instructors involved, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code ([honor@colorado.edu](mailto:honor@colorado.edu)); 303-492-5550). Students who are found responsible for violating the academic integrity policy will be subject to nonacademic sanctions from the Honor Code as well as academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the Honor Code academic integrity policy can be found at the [Honor Code Office website](#).

**Sexual Misconduct, Discrimination, Harassment and/or Related Retaliation:** The University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) is committed to fostering a positive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct (including sexual assault, exploitation, harassment, dating or domestic violence, and stalking), discrimination, and harassment by members of our community. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct or retaliatory actions for reporting a concern should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127 or [cureport@colorado.edu](mailto:cureport@colorado.edu). Information about the OIEC, university policies, [anonymous reporting](#), and the campus resources can be found on the [OIEC website](#).

Please know that faculty and instructors have a responsibility to inform OIEC when made aware of incidents of sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment and/or related retaliation, to ensure that individuals impacted receive information about options for reporting and support resources.

**Religious Holidays:** Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, meet with me as soon as possible to discuss any appropriate accommodations. See the [campus policy regarding religious observances](#) for full details.

### Additional policy statements

- The University adheres to the standards for student privacy rights and requirements as stipulated in the Federal Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974.<sup>1</sup>
- I am happy to discuss any issues of individual or group treatment in office hours or by appointment.
- Ordinarily, a student engaged in any act of academic dishonesty will receive a failing grade for the course.

---

<sup>1</sup> A description is available at <http://www.colorado.edu/registrar/resources/family-educational-rights-and-privacy-act-ferpa>.