

University of Colorado Boulder
Econ 2020-100: Principles of Macroeconomics
Syllabus, Fall 2020

** All time mentioned in this syllabus is Mountain Time, unless stated otherwise*

Introduction

Instructor: Aolin Li

Email: Aolin.Li@colorado.edu

Online Office Hours on Zoom: Monday 3:30pm-5:45pm

Please sign up for a time slot through this link: https://calendly.com/aolin_li

You will get a confirmation email with a Zoom link in it. You can cancel or reschedule the meeting through links in this confirmation email.

You are always welcome to contact me through email or come to office hours!

However, if the questions have been addressed in this syllabus, I will refer you back to this file, or if questions are about technical problems, I will refer you to the module “Course Information” in our Canvas course page. **I really appreciate if you check this syllabus and our Canvas course page before emailing me.**

I check my emails regularly and will usually respond within 24 hours. **If you have not received a response to your email within 48 hours, please email me again.** Always be sure to use your university email address because sometimes gmail and yahoo email accounts are filtered into the spam folder.

TAs: TBD

Email:

Office hour:

Recitation: Refer to TAs’ syllabus

You need to sign up for one of the standard in-person recitation sessions. If you do not want to attend or cannot attend in-person recitations, we have another TA providing online recitation content. The online TA will transmit whatever recitation grades there may be back to the in-person TA whose recitation you have signed up for.

Recitations start from the second week of the semester. More information about recitations will be sent out in the first week of the semester, through class emails and Announcement on Canvas course page. To properly set them up, read “Class Emails and Announcement” below.

Course Description

Macroeconomics is concerned with the behavior of the economy as a whole: understanding it is a necessary condition for households, firms, and policymakers to make more informed decisions. This course is a first step in this direction: during this semester, you will be introduced to the main building blocks of the modern macroeconomic theory.

By the end of the course you will learn how to think as a macroeconomist:

1. how to isolate the main forces behind market outcomes,
2. how to measure them,
3. and how to assess the impact of monetary/fiscal policies and changes in the economic environment on macroeconomic aggregates in the short and long run

In the process you will learn how to boil down complex macroeconomic problems to their essential features, making use of a powerful tool: assumptions.

Required Materials

Textbook and MindTap

Principles of Macroeconomics by N. Gregory Mankiw, 9th edition through MindTap Inclusive Access. Note that MindTap is required for this course. The link for registration to MindTap is on our Canvas course page, under module "Course Information".

To keep the cost of your course materials as low as possible and access to those materials as convenient as possible, we have collaborated with the CU Book Store and the publisher to deliver those materials through a program called "Inclusive Access", which will appear on your tuition and fee bill as "Day 1 Digital Access".

What does this mean for you?

1. You will receive access to all your course materials, digitally, on the first day of classes, through the course Canvas page.
2. You will see a "Day 1 Digital Access" charge on your tuition and fee bill for: \$93.66; This is a guaranteed lowest price, discounted by the publisher, and not available outside this course.
3. You have the option to opt out. This means: you won't pay for anything, but you lose all access to the course materials, including homework managers like Connect or MindTap.
 - a. You can opt out by: using a link in a reminder email you will receive with the subject heading "Day 1 Digital Access".
 - b. You must opt out no later than **September 9th**, otherwise you will be charged for these materials.
4. Please keep in mind that "opting out" means that your access to these materials will be turned OFF, and you will have no way to complete assignments. Although you must have these materials to pass the course, federal law mandates that you have the option of declining these materials. To do so, please visit: www.cubookstore.com/optout.

This course requires the use of MindTap, which either is not fully accessible to users using assistive technology or has not yet been reviewed fully for accessibility. If you use assistive technology to access the course material, please contact your faculty member and Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or by e-mail at dsinfo@colorado.edu as soon as possible to discuss other effective means for providing equal alternate access.

Proctorio

To take the midterm exams and the final exam, you will be required to use Proctorio, an online proctoring tool. Proctorio allows students to complete an assessment at a remote location, such as their home, while helping to ensure the integrity of the exam. There is no cost to use this tool.

Please read "Proctoring Information" to set up Proctorio and finish "Proctorio Practice Exam (Remotely Proctored)" under module "Course Information". **This is one of the practice exams and it is due on September 6th**. Read "Assignments and grading" below for more information.

If you have technical difficulties with this practice exam, email me **immediately**. If you do not complete the practice exam by **September 13th** (two weeks prior to the first exam week) and have technical difficulties that prevent you from completing the midterms or final, **you will receive a zero** for that exam.

Note that you are required to have a computer with a functioning webcam and microphone or have access to a computer with a functioning webcam microphone to complete your exams.

Class Emails and Announcements

To make sure you receive class emails and announcements:

1. Update Canvas email address: Use the "account" link on the left tool bar to update your email and notification settings. Make sure you have all announcements notify you "immediately" because important course information is shared through announcements.
2. Update University email: <https://oit.colorado.edu/identikey-accounts/students> to make sure that the address is the one you regularly check.

Course Structure

Each Monday we will unlock one module on Canvas.

A typical module (that is, a module not for an exam week) is structured to simulate what you would be expected to have in a week if we had this course in person: lectures, recitation, and homework, so there are three main sections in each module: Lecture Materials, Recitation and Homework.

For each of these modules, you are expected to do the following:

1. **Finish the “Lecture Materials” section by Thursday.**

This includes watching lecture videos, finishing quizzes embedded in these videos (In-video quizzes), reviewing lecture slides and reading textbook chapters. **In-video quizzes are due on Thursday and 10% of your final grades are based on these quizzes.** Read more about In-video quizzes in “Assignments and Grading” below.

2. **Finish the “Recitation” section. (TBD)**

You need to sign up for one of the standard in-person recitation sessions. If you do not want to attend or cannot attend in-person recitations, we have another TA providing online recitation content. The online TA will transmit whatever recitation grades there may be back to the in-person TA whose recitation you have signed up for.

Recitations start from the second week of the semester. More information about recitations will be sent out in the first week of the semester, through class emails and Announcement on Canvas course page. To properly set them up, read “Class Emails and Announcement” above.

3. **Finish the “Homework” section by Sunday.**

There are links in this section leading you to MindTap to finish and submit homework. Read more about homework in “Assignments and Grading” below.

4. **Contact a TA or the instructor if you have any question about this course (contact information can be found at the beginning of this syllabus).**

We will have an exam module for an exam week.

There are two midterm exams and one final exam. Exams will be completed in exam modules. **Exams will be timed and need to be proctored using Proctorio.** Refer to “Proctorio” section above for more information.

Midterms: A midterm exam module will be unlocked at least a week before the Monday of an exam week and details about the exam will be announced then. For each exam module, **there is a practice exam due on Monday.** Each practice exam is graded based on completion and worth 1% of your final grade.

Final exam: Final schedule will be made by the university and is usually posted midsemester.

Read more about exams in “Assignments and Grading” below.

Assignments and Grading

Your final grade is determined as a weighted average among In-video quizzes (10%), Recitation (10%), Homework (12%), Practice Exams (3%), two Midterms (30%) and a Final (35%). The final class average will be about 80.

I will not under any circumstances change or bump up any individual grades at the end of the semester. If you think there is any mistakes, please reach out immediately; however, the grade you earn will be final. I will not respond to requests to individually bump up grades at the end of the semester.

In-video Quizzes	10%
Recitation	10%
Homework	12%
Practice Exams	3%
Midterms	30%
Final Exam	35%

In-video quizzes

For a quiz to be graded, you need to submit the quiz. Quizzes should be submitted before 11:59pm on the due date. Once you submit, your score for that quiz is the percentage of questions you have answered correctly in that quiz.

There are two attempts for each quiz and the grade will be the average of these two attempts. For the sake of the final grade, I will drop two lowest In-video quiz grades.

For late submissions, a 10% of the total points possible on a quiz will be deducted per hour the submission is late. Canvas rounds up the hour to the next whole number, so if you submit a quiz 1.5 hours late, 20% of the total points possible will be deducted.

Recitation (TBD)

You need to sign up for one of the standard in-person recitation sessions. If you do not want to attend or cannot attend in-person recitations, we have another TA providing online recitation content. The online TA will transmit whatever recitation grades there may be back to the in-person TA whose recitation you have signed up for.

Recitations start from the second week of the semester. More information about recitations will be sent out in the first week of the semester, through class emails and Announcement on Canvas course page. To properly set them up, read "Class Emails and Announcement" above.

Homework

Homework should be finished before 11:59pm on the due date. Assignments will always be submitted when the due date passes with no additional action from you. There are

three attempts for each question and the grade will be the highest of these three attempts. For the sake of the final grade, I will drop the lowest homework grade.

Information about "How to Do Homework in MindTap" is under module "Course Information" on our Canvas course page.

Practice Exams

The first practice exam is the "Proctorio Practice Exam (Remotely Proctored)" under module "Course Information". It is graded based on completion and worth 1% of your final grade. You get this 1% if you complete this practice exam before 11:59pm on **September 6th**. Besides, if you do not complete this practice exam by **September 13th** (two weeks prior to the first exam week) and have technical difficulties that prevent you from completing the midterms or final, **you will receive a zero** for that exam.

There are two other practice exams, one for each midterm. They are due on Mondays of the exam weeks. Each practice exam is graded based on completion and worth 1% of your final grade.

Midterms

Midterms will be timed and need to be proctored using Proctorio. Refer to "Proctorio" section above for more information.

Midterms are not cumulative by design; however, the material in this course naturally builds on previous material. For the sake of the final grade, if you score higher on Midterm II than Midterm I, I will drop your Midterm I and assign 30% of your grade to Midterm II. If you score higher on Midterm I, I will assign 15% of your grade to each midterm.

Final Exam

Final schedule will be made by the university and is usually posted midsemester. **The final exam will be timed and need to be proctored using Proctorio.** Refer to "Proctorio" section above for more information.

The final exam covers all the material taught in this course.

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 for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see [Temporary Medical Condition](#) 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. 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; 303-492-5550). Students 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](#).

Preferred Student Names and Pronouns

CU Boulder recognizes that students' legal information doesn't always align with how they identify. Students may update their preferred names and pronouns via the student portal; those preferred names and pronouns are listed on instructors' class rosters. In the absence of such updates, the name that appears on the class roster is the student's legal name.

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, **please contact your instructor as soon as possible and no later than September 13th**. I will be happy to accommodate you.

See the [campus policy regarding religious observances](#) for full details.

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, intimate partner abuse (including dating or domestic violence), stalking, or protected-class discrimination or 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. 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.