

**Intermediate Macroeconomics
Econ 3080-100
Summer Term A 2010**

University of Colorado at Boulder
Department of Economics

Instructor: Stephen Nicar
Office: Econ 304
Email: nicar [at] colorado.edu
Office hours:

Class time: M - F from 2:30 - 4:05 pm
Classroom: ECON 117
Course website: Most material will be posted on CU Learn.

Required Text:

Blanchard, *Macroeconomics*, 5th edition, Pearson/Prentice Hall Publishers.

Course Description and Objectives:

Macroeconomics is the study of aggregate economic performance, including both long-run growth and short-run fluctuations ("business cycles"). We will give brief attention to long-run growth issues, but will focus mostly on the standard topics of short-run macroeconomics, including income and employment determination, unemployment and inflation, exchange rates and the balance of payments, and monetary and fiscal policies.

Prerequisites:

1. Economics prerequisites: ECON 1000 or 2020
2. Mathematics prerequisites: ECON 1078 & ECON 1088 or MATH 1300 or MATH 1310 or MATH 1081 or MATH 1080 & 1090 & 1100 or APPM 1350 or equivalent.

The material covered in this course requires basic calculus. It will be assumed that every student has a working knowledge of calculus, and there will be no formal review of calculus techniques. The mathematics prerequisites will be strictly enforced. In addition, it will be assumed that every student is familiar with the vocabulary and basic concepts of macroeconomics.

Lectures:

Attendance for the first three classes is mandatory or you may be administratively dropped from the class. I will be taking attendance these days. While attendance will not be taken for the other days, it is strongly suggested that you attend all classes since the course material is difficult. You are responsible for all information covered in class lectures. **I do not post or give out my notes.** If you miss a class, you should be able to get notes from one your classmates.

Grading:

Your grade will consist of two exams, homework assignments and a project. Each portion of your grade will be weighted as follows:

| | | |
|---------------|-----|-------------------|
| Exam 1: | 35% | Monday, June 14 |
| Exam 2: | 35% | Friday, July 2 |
| Problem Sets: | 15% | Due on exam dates |
| Project: | 15% | Due on July 2 |

Exams:

Neither the midterm nor final are cumulative. I will not give any make up exams and will not give exams early.

Problem Sets:

Problem sets constitute 15% of your course grade which cannot be dropped. The problem sets must be handed in at the beginning of class on the day they are due. Students are encouraged to work on the problem sets in small groups (5 people or less). However, each person must submit their own write-up of each problem set and you must put the names of your group members on your assignment (make sure your name is distinct from the group members so I know who to give the grade to). Handing in identical homeworks is not permitted.

Project:

There will be an empirical project that involves compiling and analyzing macroeconomic data. The project will be due on the last day of class. Specific details will be provided in class.

Tentative Schedule:

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.

| Dates | Topic | Reading | Problems |
|------------|------------------|---------------|----------|
| June 1 | Intro | Chapters 1, 2 | |
| | Short-Run | | |
| June 2 - 4 | | | |

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: