

Introduction to Macroeconomics
Econ 002 – 040
UCR Spring 2016

Class: MWF 11:10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Physics building 2000.

Communication Policy: Please make sure you read your email and the course's iLearn announcements daily for notices and communications from your instructor. You are fully responsible to be informed and up to date. Due to the heavy volume of emails received during the quarter, I will not answer emails if the question is already addressed in the syllabus.

Course Description:

An introduction to the study of the economic system from a macro, or aggregate, perspective. Includes analysis of unemployment, inflation, and the impact of government policies on the level of economic activity.

Goals and Objectives:

To provide the student with introductory tools in macroeconomics and to connect the subject with the real world. The combination of theory and real world applications should empower the student with a set of tools to analyze and have a deeper understanding of our economic system and public policy. By the end of the course, students should be able to converse about the policies, monetary and fiscal, that could be used to address macroeconomic problems, such as unemployment, inflation, growth, and their limitations.

Required Textbook:

Principles of Macroeconomics, 7th Edition, by N. Gregory Mankiw.

Required subscription:

- **MindTap.** This will get you access to the Internet site for homework, exams, and other resources. Visit <http://www.cengagebrain.com/course/1-20C8BZ6> to activate your subscription.

Technology requirement to submit assignments online for this class:

Please read and plan ahead. Students are expected to be fully responsible for ensuring access to a high-speed stable Internet system to submit assignments online.

For this purpose, UCR has labs available to students equipped with computers where you could work if needed. Go to <http://cnc.ucr.edu/scs/complabs.html> for more details on locations and hours.

Therefore, each student has plenty of resources available to submit their work on time. Please, plan ahead.

Things to consider:

1. MindTap compatible browsers:

MindTap is browser-based and runs on a variety of browsers. Supported browsers include the latest and prior versions of Chrome, Firefox and Internet Explorer depending on the operating system. When newer versions of a browser release, MindTap no longer supports the oldest version. MindTap supports the following Internet browsers on the operating systems listed. Find your browser and determine which version of the browser you have installed:

- Firefox (latest and the next-to-latest version)
- Chrome (latest and the next-to-latest version)
- Internet Explorer (IE 11)

If you do not know which browser you have installed on your computer, navigate to <https://www.whatismybrowser.com/> to get an answer.

2. If you are not sure if your browser is adequate enough to work in MindTap, please go to <http://ng.cengage.com/static/browsercheck/index.html> for a quick answer.
3. The MindTap team recommends using the most recent version of Firefox with MindTap.
4. The full manual on system requirements can be found at http://assets.cengage.com/pdf/gui_mt-stu-syst-req-pc.pdf
5. For technical questions or problems please do not contact your instructor first. Instead, contact Cengage at **800-990-8211**. Or you can go to: <http://support.cengage.com/magellan/ClassLandingPage.aspx?OptyId=1-20C8BZ6>
6. If after several attempts to contact Cengage you do not receive a response, please email your instructor with a description of the problem and the attempts to communicate with Cengage.

Therefore, given that each student has plenty of time to complete their work online, utilizing an appropriate system as specified in this section of the syllabus, there will be no makeup or extra credit provided. Please, plan ahead.

Technology requirements for class attendance:

I will use clickers to take attendance. Please, purchase and register a **clicker** at the bookstore because we will begin using them on our second week of class.

Clickers can be purchased in CompUCR at the Bookstore.

After obtaining your clicker, you must go to the website <http://clickers.ucr.edu> to register the serial number of the clicker under your name. Every clicker on campus has a different, unique

serial number, and through this registration you are telling the campus computer “This is the serial number of my clicker for this quarter.” This on-line registration should be completed before **Monday, April 4, 2016**.

Just as with every other thing you do in your classes, you must exercise high academic integrity when using clickers. Academic integrity is detailed in the last section of this syllabus, and these rules fully apply to the use of clickers. The most common type of violation of academic integrity involving clickers is when one student says to another, “I can’t make it to class today. Here, take my clicker and enter answers to the clicker questions for me.” Such behavior is a clear violation of academic integrity.

Websites of interest:

<http://clickers.ucr.edu> - student registration site and instructor roster download.

<http://cnc.ucr.edu/clickers> - everything you want to know about clicker use at UCR.

<http://www.h-itt.com> - vendor site and site to download software to your machine.

Course Expectations:

Attendance to lectures: Is strongly encouraged. I will take attendance, at the beginning and at the end of lecture, using your clickers. These points will be extra, like extra credit points. The more you come to class the greater the cushion will be to protect your grade in the future.

Attendance to TA section: Each TA will cover materials during their lectures designed to help you understand difficult materials. They will also address your concerns and questions. I strongly advise going to your section. You will benefit from it and your grade may be greater as a consequence. Our TAs try their best to help you. They are a great resource.

Homework assignments: The four homework assignments, to be found in MindTap, are designed to reinforce concepts and to help students prepare for the exams. The format and content in the assignments will be similar to the exams. The homework assignments will only be available for 5 days.

Exams: The midterm and the final exam, based on class lectures and assigned readings, will be available in MindTap only during the scheduled day of the exam. You will have one hour to complete the midterm exam and three hours to complete the final exam.

Make-up Work/Exams: There will be no make-up for any work, homework, exams, quizzes, and class participation. There will be no extra credit either. Please, plan ahead.

Assessment and Evaluation:

Assignments	Percentage of Grade
Online Homework Assignments	25%
Online Mid-term Exam	35%
Online Final Exam	40%

Class attendance taken with Clickers (extra credit) 5%

Grade Scale:

95–100	A	71–74	C
91–94	A-	67–70	C-
87–90	B+	63–66	D+
83–86	B	50–62	D
79–82	B-	49	F
75–78	C+		

Schedule:

This schedule is tentative, a guideline as opposed to a rigid structure, and is subject to change. All changes will be announced in class. This schedule does not include other assignments to be announced during the quarter.

Week #	Lecture	Readings	Due
1 (Mar 28 – Apr 1)	• Introduction to the class: expectations and other issues • Basic economic ideas	Chapters 1 & 2	Register clicker by April 4
2 (Apr 4 - 8)	Let's talk about markets	Chapters 3 & 4	Register clicker by April 4; Homework 1 opens online on the 8 th at 1:00 p.m.
3 (Apr 11 - 15)	The psychology of consumers and producers and the effects of public policy	Chapters 5 & 6	Homework 1 due on the 13 th at 10:00 a.m.
4 (Apr 18 - 22)	Measuring economic activity and cost	Chapter 10 & 11	Homework 2 opens online on the 18 th at 1 p.m.
5 (Apr 25 - 29)	Economic growth and the financial system	Chapters 12 & 13	Homework 2 closes online on the 27 th at 10:00 a.m.
6 (May 2 - 6)	Measuring and thinking about unemployment	Chapter 15	Midterm exam online includes until week 4's material. The exam will be available on Monday,

Week #	Lecture	Readings	Due
			May 2 nd between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Once you begin you will have <u>one hour</u> to complete the entire exam as long as you begin to later than 12:00 p.m. Homework 3 opens online on the 6 th at 1:00 p.m.
7 (May 9 - 13)	The monetary system and inflation	Chapters 16 & 17	Homework 3 closes online on the 11 th at 10:00 a.m.
8 (May 16 - 20)	Let's talk about trade, policy, and politics.	Chapters 18 & 19	
9 (May 23 - Mar 27)	Let's talk about economic instability and policy.	Chapters 20 & 21	Homework 4 opens online on the 21 st at 1:00 p.m.
10 (Jun 1 - 3)	Activities to be decided later.		Homework 4 is due on the 1 st at 10:00 a.m.
Final Exam	Online exam		June 10 between 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. The final exam covers materials from and including week 5. You will have three hours to complete the exam as long as you begin no later than 9:00 a.m.

Additional Course Policies:

Academic Integrity: Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in this class by any means. Persons caught encouraging and/or involved in the act will be sent to the UCR academic integrity cell and will receive an "F" grade for the class. Students can work together on assignments. Additional information regarding UCR's code of conduct on academic integrity can be found online:

<http://conduct.ucr.edu/Policies/Academic+Integrity+Policy+and+Procedures.html>

Rules & Etiquette:

- Disruptive behavior is prohibited in class.

- Cell phones should be turned off during class.
- No late arrivals to class.
- Emails should start with the name of the instructor or TA you are addressing and end with your full name. It should have the course name (Econ 003) as the subject.

Special Accommodations: Students with disabilities and special needs are encouraged to contact me during office hours or by appointment.