



California State University, Sacramento
Department of Economics
Econ 1A (Section 03)- Introduction to
Macroeconomic Analysis
Spring 2020

Instructor: Min Min Thaw, Ph.D.
Email: minmin.thaw@csus.edu

Office: Benicia Hall 1019
Office Phone: 916-278-4624
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday
10:00 to 11:50 a.m., or by appointment

Course Link: <https://www.cengage.com/dashboard/#/course-confirmation/MTPNB6KN2PP7/initial-course-confirmation>

Course Key: MTPN-B6KN-2PP7

Class Time: Monday and Wednesday 3:00 to 4:25 p.m.
Mariposa Hall 1001

Course Description: Introductory inquiry into the workings and interrelationships of the aggregate economic system. The primary focus is on total production and its distribution, employment and price levels, and the forces influencing them. Other considerations are the roles of government, the monetary sector and related areas (University description). This course examines: how levels of output, employment, interest rates, and prices in a nation are interrelated; what causes these levels to change; and the use of monetary and fiscal policies to regulate them.

Learning Objectives:

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Understand how the tools of supply and demand are put to work to examine the effects of various government policies.
- Articulate how the overall quantity of production and the overall price level are used to monitor developments in the economy as a whole.
- Evaluate the model of aggregate demand and aggregate supply and explain short-run fluctuations, and the short-run effects of monetary and fiscal policy.
- Describe the forces that determine key real variables, including growth in GDP, saving, investment, real interest rates, and unemployment.
- Explain the determinants of the trade balance, the real exchange rate, and other real variables in the long run, and
- Describe how the monetary system is crucial in determining the long-run behavior of the price level, the inflation rate, and other nominal variables.

Textbook:

Brief Principles of Macroeconomics by N. Gregory Mankiw, 8th edition. (South-Western College Pub)

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Use link above to purchase MindTap for \$93.60. MindTap comes with e-text.

Homework assignments, practice questions and chapter power points are all on MindTap.

The Hornet bookstore has the same option listed for \$130.

If you wish to acquire a physical copy, you are welcomed to purchase a used book online.

G.E. Requirements: *Area D Learning Outcomes*

This course satisfies the General Education Area D requirement. As such, by the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Describe and evaluate ethical and social values in their historical and cultural contexts.
2. Explain and apply the principles and methods of academic disciplines to the study of social and individual behavior.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the role of human diversity in human society, for example, race, ethnicity, class, age, ability/disability, sexual identity, gender and gender expression.
4. Explain and critically examine social dynamics and issues in their historical and cultural contexts.

Writing Requirements: Writing Component in Lower Division G.E. Courses

All lower division courses listed in the G.E Program, unless granted an exception as provided in paragraph c) below, shall include writing which encourages students to think through concepts of the course. This may be accomplished in a variety of ways, including use of laboratory reports, essay examinations, formal writing assignments, and/or informal assignments. Writing in lower division courses need not be graded, but must, at a minimum be evaluated for clarity and proper handling of terms, phrases and concepts related to the course.

Grading:

Online Homework Assignments	30%
Two Midterm Exams	40% (20% each)
Final Exam	30%

The curve looks roughly like this:

87+ A and A-
74 to 87 B+, B, and B-
60 to 74 C+, C, and C-
55 to 60, D+, D, and D
Below 55 F

Please note that the curve will be adjusted according to the relative performance of the class. However, you will not pass the class if your final score is less than 55%.

Exams: Each exam will consist of multiple-choice questions. All exams are closed books, and close notes.

You are responsible to bring a Scantron form (#882-E) and a simple calculator. No cell phones or note cards are allowed. No make up exams will be given unless there has been a major catastrophe and I have been notified in advance.

If you are sick, you need to provide me with a physician's note that clearly states that you could not have taken a midterm or final on the date it was given. Merely being seen by a physician is not sufficient. Failure to provide a legitimate university excuse will result in a zero on the exam. Grade of incomplete will not be given.

Homework Assignments: Homework assignments will be completed online. I encourage you to have high-speed internet connection when doing homework assignments. **Computer problems are NOT an excuse** for missing assignments.

No late homework will be accepted. Due dates for all assignments will be posted on Mindtap. Make sure to give yourself plenty of time to complete the assignments. These assignments are challenging and important both for your homework grade and your performance in the class.

Make sure to seek out help from me or an economic tutor when you encounter problems. When answer keys are available after due date, please make sure to review them. Free peer tutoring for this class is available in the Department of Economics. Tutoring hours are posted in the department office during the first week of classes.

Class Policies: Regular attendance is expected. You are responsible for all work missed due to absences. Get the missed notes from a classmate as soon as possible following your absence to maintain a flow of materials.

Should you have reason to come to class late or to leave class early, please feel free to do so, but remember that all missed work is your responsibility. Please be courteous in entering and leaving a lecture and *make all attempts not to disturb your classmates*.

Academic honesty is expected. You are encouraged to work together and help each other in studying and working on homework. However, work submitted for grade must be that of an individual student. Academic dishonesty and plagiarism as described in the University policy may result in an “F” grade, should there is an evidence of cheating in the exams or in homework assignments.

If you have a disability and require accommodations, you need to provide disability documentation to SSWD, Lassen Hall 1008, (916) 278-6955. Please discuss your accommodations needs with me after class or during my office hours early in the semester.

Tentative Course Outline with Firm Exam Dates

Week	Topic	Reading
1: January 21	Syllabus Introduction	Chapter 1 GE Area D learning outcome: 1, 2, 3 and 4
2: January 27	Thinking Like an Economist and The Market Forces of Supply and Demand	Chapters 2 and 4 GE Area D learning outcome: 1, 2, 3 and 4
3: February 3	Measuring a Nation’s Income	Chapter 5 GE Area D learning outcome: 2 and 4
4: February 10	Measuring the Cost of Living	Chapter 6 GE Area D learning outcome: 1, 2 and 3
5: February 17	Cost of Living (continued)	
6: February 24	Midterm review: Monday, Feb 24 Midterm I: Wednesday, Feb 26	Chapter 7 GE Area D learning outcome: 2 and 3
7: March 2	Saving, Investment and the Financial System	Chapter 8 GE Area D learning outcome: 2, 3 and 4
8: March 9	Unemployment	Chapter 10 GE Area D learning outcome:

		1, 2 and 3
9: March 16	The Monetary System	Chapter 11 GE Area D learning outcome: 2 and 3
10: March 23	Money Growth and Inflation Midterm Review: Wednesday, March 25	Chapter 12 GE Area D learning outcome: 1, 2 and 3
11: March 30	Spring Break	
12: April 6	Midterm II: Monday, April 6 Aggregate Demand and Supply	Chapter 15 GE Area learning outcome: 3 and 4
13: April 13	The Influence of Monetary and Fiscal Policy on Aggregate Demand	Chapter 16 GE Area D learning outcome: 1 and 4
14: April 20	Open Economy Macroeconomics: Basis Concepts	Chapter 13 GE Area D learning outcome: 1, 3 and 4
15: April 27	Six Debates over Macroeconomic Policy	Chapter 18 GE Area D learning outcome: 1, 2, 3 and 4
16: April 27	Chapter 18 continued Final Exam Review: Friday, May 6	

Final Exam: Monday, May 11 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

How to access your MindTap course

Introduction to Macroeconomics-Sections1 and 3-Sac State

Instructor : Min Min Thaw

Start Date : 01/21/2020

What is MindTap?

MindTap empowers you to produce your best work – consistently.

MindTap is designed to help you master the material. Interactive videos, animations, and activities create a learning path designed by your instructor to guide you through the course and focus on what's important. Get started today!

Registration

1. Connect to <https://www.cengage.com/dashboard/#/course-confirmation/MTPNB6KN2PP7/initial-course-confirmation>
2. Follow the prompts to register your MindTap course.

Payment

After registering for your course, you will need to pay for access using one of the options below:

Online: You can pay online using a credit or debit card, or PayPal.

Bookstore: You may be able to purchase access to MindTap at your bookstore. Check with the bookstore to find out what they offer for your course.

Free Trial: If you are unable to pay at the start of the semester you may choose to access MindTap until 11:59 PM on 02/04/2020 during your free trial. After the free trial ends you will be required to pay for access.

Please note: At the end of the free trial period, your course access will be suspended until your payment has been made. All your scores and course activity will be saved and will be available to you after you pay for access.

Already registered an access code? Bought MindTap at your bookstore or online? Now use the course link from your instructor to register for the class: <https://www.cengage.com/dashboard/#/course-confirmation/MTPNB6KN2PP7/initial-course-confirmation>

System Check

To check whether your computer meets the requirements for using MindTap, go to <http://ng.cengage.com/static/browsercheck/index.html>

Please Note: the System Check is also accessible in the drop down box next to your name located in the upper right corner of your MindTap page.