



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

ECON 100A Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory
SUMMER 2008

Instructor:	Kristin Van Gaasbeck	Office:	Tahoe 3015
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Course web page:		Office Hours:	Wednesdays 4:00-5:00p.m., or by appt.
	http://www.csus.edu/indiv/v/vangaasbeckk/courses/100a/		

General Information	Lecture: M W 5:30-9pm	Call No.: 50146
	Section: 01	Prerequisite: ECON 1A & ECON 1B

Catalog Description Analysis of the determinants of the aggregate level of output, income, employment and prices. 3 units

Scope and Objectives This course is designed to familiarize students with the tools of modern macroeconomic theory at the intermediate undergraduate level. Models are developed to explain how output, unemployment and inflation are determined. These models then are used examine the determinants of economic growth, business cycles, and to analyze monetary and fiscal policies.

At the end of this course, you should be able to:

- (i) define and analyze data on key macroeconomic variables,
- (ii) identify and discuss the sources of differences in living standards and economic growth across countries,
- (iii) understand the sources of economic fluctuations over time,
- (iv) examine the role of monetary and fiscal policy in the economy, and
- (v) discuss and evaluate competing macroeconomic theories.

Another aim of this class is to give you the necessary tools to critically read and discuss current macroeconomic events. By the end of the semester, you will have a general understanding of the sources of economic growth and business cycles, such that you are able to address policy debates using theoretical and empirical analysis.

Required Resources Mankiw, N.G. (2007). *Macroeconomics* (6th ed.). New York: Worth Publishers. ISBN-10: 0716762137. ISBN-13: 978-0716762133.
Romer, D. (2006, January). *Short-run fluctuations*. (Available on course web site)

Grading Your grade will be determined according to the following weighting scheme:

Homework	30%
Participation/Attendance	10%
Two term exams	60% (30% weight on each)

Grades will be distributed according to the following scale:

A	90 or above	C	68-78	F	Less than 57
B	79-89	D	57-67		

Assignments and Participation

- Generally, you will be given one week to complete assignments. All assignments and answer keys will be posted on the course web site.
- Assignments are due at the beginning of class. If you arrive to class late the day an assignment is due, it will be marked late.
- Give yourself ample time to complete the assignments. Occasionally, the assignments will require that you access Library resources, so it is important to review the assignment and work on it well in advance. These assignments are challenging and important both for your homework grade and your performance in the class. I encourage you to spend time working through assignments carefully and to seek out help from me if you have difficulty completing them.
- The attendance/participation grade will be based on your participation in class discussion, and well as your responses to in-class assignments.

Policies

1. Academic honesty is expected. I encourage you to work together on assignments and to help each other in studying, however, work submitted for a grade must be that of the individual student. You will receive a mark of zero on any work (including exams) where cheating or plagiarism occur. Students suspected of cheating will be reported to Judicial Affairs.
 2. You are responsible for bringing a scantron form (#882-E or similar) on the day of exams. Exams will be closed book and given in class.
 3. There will be **no makeup examinations**. Exam dates are given in the course outline below and are on posted online. This is to avoid any potential conflicts.
 4. Late assignments will be marked down one full letter grade for each day that they are late. This includes days when class does not meet.
 5. Attendance is highly recommended. If you miss a class, be sure to check with your fellow classmates, and the course web page to see what material you missed.
 6. Come to class on time; you will not be given extra time if you are late for an exam.
 7. If you decide to withdraw from this class, make sure you do so with the registrar. If you withdraw without permission, you will be assigned a failing grade. No students will be assigned a grade of "WU". In order to be assigned a grade of "I", the student must complete satisfactory progress through the drop deadline in the course AND up to the point when the student requests an incomplete grade be assigned.
 8. **Keep cell phones and laptops shut off during class.** During exams, you may not use your cell phone as a calculator. You must bring a calculator without programming capabilities. Financial calculators are not permitted.
 9. If you have a learning disability or a physical disability that requires accommodation, please let me know as soon as possible. All needs that have been verified through the Services to Students with Disabilities (Lassen Hall) will be accommodated.
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Tentative Course Outline

Readings are from Mankiw (2007) unless otherwise noted.

	Dates	Topic	Reading
Week 1	June 2 nd	Lecture 1: The Science of Macroeconomics Lecture 2: The Data of Macroeconomics Lecture 3: National Income	Chapter 1 Chapter 2 Chapter 3
	June 4 th	Lecture 3, continued Lecture 4: The Open Economy	Chapter 5
Week 2	June 9 th	Lecture 5: Economic Growth	Chapters 7-8
	June 11 th	Lecture 5, continued Lecture 6: Money and Inflation	Chapter 4
Week 3	June 16 th	Lecture 7: Unemployment Exam #1 Review	Chapter 6
	June 18 th	Exam #1: Lectures 1-7	
Week 4	June 23 rd	Lecture 8: The IS-MP Model	Chapters 1-2 (Romer)
	June 25 th	Lecture 9: Aggregate Supply Lecture 10: The Phillips Curve	Chapter 3 (Romer) Chapter 13
Week 5	June 30 th	Lecture 11: Stabilization Policy Lecture 12: Advanced in Business Cycle Theory	Chapter 14 Chapter 19
	July 2 nd	*** No Class Meeting ***	
Week 6	July 7 th	Lecture 13: Consumption Theory Exam #2 Review	Chapter 15
	July 9 th	Exam #2: Lectures 8-13	