

ECO 1110 Current Economic Problems

Baruch College || Fall, 2019

Instructor

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Email

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Class Schedule

MW 2:30 pm – 3:45 pm,
Room: B - Vert 10-210

General Information

Course Description

This course examines the historic and political backgrounds of economic thought, the concepts and tools of micro-economics, the measurements and policies of macro-economics, their limitations and the evolution of current economic discourses. This course will view issues and methodologies through the lens of American economic development, and selected world economic experience. Students will be expected to present and discuss readings and cases concerning assigned texts and materials.

Learning Outcomes

The objective of the course is to provide students enough economic background so that they will be able to

- Master the basic terminology of the field and explain the fundamental concepts
- Use the tools learnt in the class in order to analyze the economic phenomenon
- Form their own opinions about the critical issues that American economy faces today
- Being up to date with recent economic development by consulting the economics and financial press on a regular basis
- Understand the market mechanism with agents such as consumers, producers and the government.
- Obtain basic knowledge of market system and role of the government in the welfare of the economic agents

Course Materials

Required Book

- Principles of Macroeconomics, N. Gregory Mankiw, 7th Edition (previous editions are also fine)

Optional Material

Apart from the text mentioned above, I will upload the notes on the blackboard if required. The assignments will be regularly uploaded on the blackboard with the due date mentioned.

Important Dates

Date	Content
28-Aug	Ch1
2-Sep	Labor Day (No Class)
4-Sep	Ch2
5-Sep	Ch2,3 (Monday Schedule)
9-Sep	Ch3
11-Sep	Ch4
16-Sep	Ch4
18-Sep	Ch5
23-Sep	Ch5,6
25-Sept	Ch6
30-Sept	No Class
2-Oct	Review
7-Oct	Midterm Exam
9-Oct	No Class
14-Oct	No Class
16-Oct	Ch10
21-Oct	Ch10
23-Oct	Ch10
28-Oct	Ch11
30-Oct	Ch11
4-Nov	Ch12
6-Nov	Ch12
11-Nov	Ch13
13-Nov	Ch13
18-Nov	Ch14
20-Nov	Ch14
25-Nov	Ch15
27-Nov	Ch15
2-Dec	Ch16
4-Dec	Ch16
9-Dec	Discussion
11-Dec	Review

Additional Information and Resources

GRADES

There will be two exams (one midterm and one final exam) throughout the course. The final exam **will not be cumulative**. You are also responsible for submitting the assignments on Blackboard. The assignments will be due before the start of the class. I will announce via Blackboard and email if there is any change on due dates. **Also note that there will be no extra credit assignments. I do not fit a curve** to calculate the final grade.

Course Evaluation will be as follows:

Attendance	10%
Assignments	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Discussion sessions	10%
Final Exam	40%

Grading Scale

Score	Letter Grade
90% and above	A
85% - 90%	A-
80% - 85%	B+
75% - 80%	B
70% - 75%	B
65% - 70%	C+
60% - 65%	C
55% - 60%	C-
50% - 55%	D+
45% - 50%	D
40% - 45%	D-
Below 40%	F

DISCUSSION SESSIONS:

We will have two discussion sessions during the semester. Your grade will depend on your active participation in the discussion.

1. I will assign you a documentary to watch towards the end of the semester and one of the discussion sessions will be based on the documentary. You will also have small quiz on the topic. (I will give you more details on this in the second half of the semester after the midterm exam.)

2. In the assignments, I will also ask your opinion on a couple of articles from the Wall Street Journal. This will continue throughout the semester and will help you to cultivate the habit of forming your own opinion using the tools you learn in the class.

POLICIES:

Attendance and appropriate classroom participation are critical factors for a profitable production of good grades in this class. Cellphones, beepers, late entrances and early departures, talking to your classmates while the teacher is talking—all create negative externalities.

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. In such a case, **you will receive a grade of F for the course.** This also includes talking and looking around during the exams.

If you miss any exams without a valid proof of absence your grade will suffer a score of zero. **Written documentation of a valid excuse gives you the opportunity to take a make-up exam.** (Note that flight tickets, hotel reservations do not count as valid proof)

If you have a special condition or an urgency that prevents you to attend a class session or submit an assignment on due date, notify me via email in advance. Otherwise you will get score zero.

If you are a differently abled student, please feel free to contact me early in the semester for any help or accommodation you may need.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

It is each student's responsibility to fully understand academic policies of the College and its rules and regulations on grades, dropping courses, cheating and plagiarism, deadlines, etc. Knowing them well will allow you to proceed to graduation efficiently and with a strong transcript. Study carefully everything in Baruch's brochure on Academic Honesty. If you do not have a copy, please go to the Baruch College homepage at <http://www.baruch.cuny.edu> where the "Academics" tab at the top gives a pull-down menu that includes "academic honesty."