

Principles of Macroeconomics (Econ 112)
Spring 2012
Oxford College of Emory University
MWF 11:45-12:35 (Section A)

Instructor: Dr. Jasminka Ninkovic
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Office Hours:

MW: 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Th: 10:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. or by appointment

Book and Support Materials:

Required: N. Gregory Mankiw, *Principles of Macroeconomics*, 6th edition, South-Western, 2012, 2009 & Aplia access (see book buying options on the attached sheet)

Recommended: *The Economist*

I personally believe everybody should glance through *The Economist* every week. It is an excellent news source with well-written articles on a wide range of topics. Arguments are well organized and supported with evidence. (For an interesting exercise, compare it with the articles in *Time* or *Newsweek*.)

Overview of the Course:

The course focuses on the performance of the economy as a whole by discussing macroeconomic concepts such as unemployment, inflation, fiscal and monetary policy, budget deficit, income growth, banking institutions, interest rates, etc. Theory and measurement of key variables as well as policy issues are at the center of discussions.

Expected Student and Teacher Conduct:

Please be respectful toward your classmates and the teacher, honest in your work and prepared for class sessions. If there are any problems or suggestions about the course, please let me know. *There is no need for electronic devices in this class and you are asked not to use them unless specifically asked by the instructor.*

Honor code:

Honor code is strictly enforced in this class. Examples of scholastic dishonesty include (but are not limited to) receiving or giving help on exams and plagiarizing or sabotaging another student's work. The usual penalty for violations of honor code is grade F in this course.

Communication and Attendance:

You are responsible for any announcements or assignments made in class.

Your homework assignments, class documents, as well as detailed weekly readings will be posted on Aplia.

I strongly encourage you to attend class, participate in class discussion, study regularly, and complete the assigned readings and assignments sets in a timely manner.

Goals and Pedagogy of the Course:

There are four important goals in this course:

- The emphasis is on learning theories and principles as currently understood by the mainstream economic thought (IDEA objective #2);
- Important goal is to learn to apply course material through development of problem solving skills (IDEA objective #3);
- Another important goal is to acquire skills in working with others as a member of a team (IDEA objective #5)

The pedagogy in this class aims at engaging students in the learning process on a daily basis. Teacher's role is to facilitate class discussions and lecturing is minimal as a way of acquiring knowledge. Team based learning (TBL) is a pedagogy that puts emphases on collaborative learning in permanent teams. Group work in general will happen in class in a form of learning activities and readiness assessments. More about TBL at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=GKEeNbey8Wg.

Assessment and Grading Policies:

RA Individual: 9% (1.5% each)

RA Group: 15% (2.5% each)

Exam I: 20%, Feb 10th

Exam II: 20%, April 9th

Final exam: 20% (comprehensive), Monday, May 7th, 2:00 – 5:00

Homework: 6%

Other in Class Assignments/Quizzes, Attendance: 5%

Pear Evaluation; 5%

Bonus points: Other Assignments (Experiments, News Reporting, Participation), up to 3%

Homework sets will involve concepts discussed in class and will be given weekly and assigned as on-line assignments. Lowest or one missed homework will not be counted towards your grade. You may discuss homework with your classmates but submit your knowledge.

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Failure to take a test or RA will lead to a score of zero. No exception will be made except in medical emergencies where the other exams or RAs will be adjusted. Written verification is required in such cases.
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Grades are not curved (60-69 is D, 70-79 is C, 80-89 is B and 90 and up is A with pluses and minuses in each range).

Paper assignments are due at the beginning of the class. Late assignments will not be accepted. You need to be in the class to submit an assignment.

What is Aplia?

Aplia is an on-line product that contains homework practice and assignments and will be also used as our main communication tool outside the class. Please note that if you miss an Aplia problem set for whatever reason, I cannot let you take it once the deadline is past. We will also use the other tools on Aplia web-site (experiments, discussion board) to enrich learning experience in this class.

Students Athletes, Students with Accommodations and Religious Holidays

If there is an interference with your class schedule because of your athletic commitments or religious reasons, please inform your instructor a.s.a.p. Also, if you have accommodations for the class, you are expected to bring in a letter from the responsible college institution a.s.a.p.

Reading List and Class Schedule:

Week 1 (Jan 16 – Jan 22)

Unit 1: Introduction & Review (Ch 1, Ch 2, Ch 3, Ch 4)

Jan 20th, RA I on Unit 1

Week 2 (Jan 23 – Jan 29)

Unit 2: Most Important Macroeconomic Concepts (Ch 10, Ch 11 and Ch 15)

Jan 25th, RA II on Unit 2

Week 3 (Jan 30 – Feb 5)

Unit 2 continued

Week 4 (Feb 6 – Feb 12)

Unit 2 continued

Feb 10 Mid I

Week 5 (Feb 13 – Feb 19)

Unit 3: Financial and Monetary System (Ch 13, Ch 16, Ch 17)

Feb 15th, RA III on Unit 3

Week 6 (Feb 20 – Feb 26)

Unit 3 continued

Week 7 (Feb 27 – March 4)

Unit 3 continued

Week 8 (March 5 – March 11)

Unit 3 continued

Week 9 (March 12– March 18)

Spring Break

Week 10 (March 19 – March 25)

Unit 4: Business Cycle and Economic Policy (Ch 20 and Ch21)

March 19th, RA IV on Unit 4

Week 11 (March 26 – April 1)

Unit 4: continued

Week 12 (April 2 – April 8)

Unit 4: continued

Week 13 (April 9 – April 15)

April 9th, Mid II

Unit 5: Long-run Growth (Ch 12)

April 13, RA V on unit 5

Week 14 (April 16 – April 22)
Unit 6: **Open Economy** (Ch 9, Ch 18)
April 20th, RA VI on Unit 6

Week 15 (April 23 – April 29)
Unit 6: continued

Week 16 (April 30)
Last class
May 2 – Reading Day

Additional readings will come from newspapers and magazines and will be related to the current economic events.

Detailed weekly readings will be announced on Aplia.

Note: This syllabus is tentative and the instructor reserves the right to make any changes during the course as deemed necessary. These might include, but are not restricted to, addition or deletion of readings, assignments and changes in the schedule.

Please note that student work submitted as part of this course may be reviewed by Oxford College and Emory College faculty and staff for the purposes of improving instruction and enhancing Emory education.”