ECON 204: Principles of Macroeconomics

Course Section and Location

- ***Lecture*** meets twice a week on Tuesday and Thursday
  - ***Section 002:*** 11:00 – 11:50 am in CHEM A101
- ***Recitation*** meets once a week on either Monday or Friday. Please review your class schedule from ramweb.colostate.edu for your recitation day and time.

Instructor

Instructor: ***Nara Chung***
Email: *nara.chung@colostate.edu*
Office: *Social Science Hall C3920 cubicle G*
Office Hours: *Tuesday and Thursday 1:30-3:00pm*

Teaching Assistants:
Diah Utami
Email: *Diah.Utami@colostate.edu*
Office: *Social Science Hall C3914*
Office Hours: *Monday and Wednesday 11:00 – 12:30 pm*

Ahmed Mustafa Labib
Email: *AhmedMustafa.Labib@colostate.edu*
Office: *Social Science Hall C3914*
Office Hours: *Tuesday and Thursday 2:00 – 3:30 pm*

Instructors and TAs

Your main points of contact are your instructor and TA for the recitation section you are registered for, but you may also use other TAs as a resource. Do not hesitate to attend office hours of any and all TAs for guidance. ***Please note, while TAs from other sections will be able to help you with course material questions, you will need to go to your TA or your instructor of your section for grade-related questions.***

Course Materials

Principles of Macroeconomics 3e, published by Openstax. The book is available in three formats.

a. Read the ebook for free in a web browser at https://openstax.org/details/books/principles-macroeconomics-3e
b. Purchase a printed copy of the text for around $30.
c. Download the free app to read the ebook on your phone or tablet (same link as above).

Class Websites

- Canvas will serve as our primary website. Here, you will find course material and announcements of important information.
- Login using your Colorado State University netID and password.
- Note: all email correspondence will be through your CSU rams email address.

Prerequisites

Algebra [MATH 117 (College Algebra in Context I) or MATH 118 (College Algebra in Context II) or MATH 141 (Calculus in Management Sciences) or MATH 155 (Calculus for Biological Scientists I) or MATH 160 (Calculus for Physical Scientists I)]

Course Description

This course provides a critical introduction to the study of macroeconomics. Students will learn the tools and concepts necessary to study economic problems as they pertain to the economy in the aggregate, including economic fluctuations, unemployment, inflation, growth, and monetary and fiscal policies. The course will also introduce students to handling and interpreting basic macroeconomic data.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course, you should be able to:

- identify the data and tools used in making macroeconomic policy;
- describe economy-wide phenomena such as inflation and unemployment;
- evaluate public policies in an informed and objective manner;
- understand the determinants and consequences of certain economic crises; and
- further your analytical, research and writing skills.

Course Weekly Structure

Each week, you will have two lectures with the lead instructor and one recitation with one of the teaching assistants.

- **Lectures:** Exam material will be largely drawn from lectures. Attendance is therefore highly recommended, and participation is strongly encouraged.
- **Recitations:** Once a week you will be required to attend a recitation section. Recitations will be used to practice current material, review past material, and work on a semester long group project. Therefore, it is in your best interest to attend recitation and get to know your Teaching Assistant, as well as utilizing office hours as needed.

Coursework

There are 1050 points available on the course with final grades calculated out of 1000 points. This will allow you some leeway should some assignments not go as planned; **there will be no additional extra credit on this course.** All coursework can be divided into five categories: Weekly Quiz, EOC In-Class Exercise, Macroeconomic Project, Exams, and Participation.

1. Weekly Quiz

There will be one weekly quiz per week (except week one and exam weeks). The format of the weekly quiz will be multiple choice. They will be open book and open notes, and you are encouraged to work with classmates. All quizzes will be submitted through Canvas (labelled as "Quizzes" in Canvas). **Each weekly quiz will be worth 10 points and is due on Tuesday at 11:59pm.** Your highest 10 scores (out of 11) will count towards your grade (i.e., your lowest score will be dropped).

2. End-of-Chapter (EOC) In-Class Exercise

During a lecture, you will be given an exercise about economic concepts, graphs, and economic data at the end of each chapter. You will work on this in handwriting in a pair for 10 minutes. The whole class will solve it together on board. **Each student takes a picture of one's work and submits it through Canvas within the day when it happens. Each EOC in-class exercise will be worth 7 points.**

3. Macroeconomic Project

This project aims to deepen your understanding of macroeconomic principles by comparing and analyzing the economic conditions of a chosen country with those of the United States. You will work individually during recitations to conduct this analysis throughout the semester. There will be a weekly worksheet for a macroeconomic topic in the recitation, which needs to be submitted on Canvas before the next recitation, and you will present your reorganized findings in **a presentation in recitation at the middle of the semester** and **an oral defense of final report at the end of the semester**.

4. Exams

There are three exams. Each exam will **NOT** be **cumulative** and will cover material for the most recent section of the course. See class schedule for exam dates.

5. Participation (extra credit)

There will be 50 points of participation credit available (= 5% of the course grade). 40 participation points will be determined through **iClicker questions** and **office hours visit**. These points will require that you have access to iClicker cloud and participate in in-class activities during class and cannot be made up under any circumstances. **At least one visit to the instructor's office hours is needed**. Additionally, 10 participation points will be awarded to everyone in the class if 80% of the whole class completes the course survey near the end of the semester.

Grading Schedule

Assignment	Frequency/points per assignment	Points
Weekly quiz	10 @ 10 points each *(Note: Drop lowest)*	= 100
EOC in-class exercises	14 @ 7 points each *(Note: default 2 pts)*	= 100
Macroeconomic project	1 @ 320 points	= 320
Exams	3 @ 160 points each	= 480
Participation (extra credit)	Varies by week	= 50
	Total	**= 1050 pts**

Letter Grades
Each number below represents the minimum point threshold necessary to achieve the following letter grade:

980 pts. – 1000 pts.	A+
920 pts. – 979 pts.	A
900 pts. – 919 pts.	A-
880 pts. – 899 pts.	B+
820 pts. – 879 pts.	B
800 pts. – 819 pts.	B-
780 pts. – 799 pts.	C+
700 pts. – 779 pts.	C
600 pts. – 699 pts.	D
000 pts. – 599 pts.	F

This class does use +/- grading.

These point thresholds are non-negotiable and no "bumps" will be awarded. With 1050 points available, but the class being graded out of 1000 points, there will be no curving, additional extra credit, rounding, or similar grade changes at the end of the semester, **even if you are a fraction of a point away**.

Total Course Time Estimates
The expectations for homework or other work outside of instructional time equivalent to the federal credit hour definition of 2 hours of outside work for each contact hour:

Attend lecture and recitation	3 hours
Complete weekly problem sets	2 hours
Writing assignment / group presentation	1 hour
Prepare for exams	1 hour
Personal reading/study	2 hours
Total Hours per week:	9 hours

Make-ups, Missing Assignments, and Regrades
No makeup exams, problem sets, discussion posts, papers, or participation point activities will be allowed. The only exceptions are for *exams and papers* in cases of documented medical emergencies or conflicts with University sanctioned activities and generally these need to be made up prior to the actual deadline, with rare exception. Any regrade requests must be made within one week of the grade being posted on Canvas. I reserve the right to regrade the entire assignment when requests are made.

Academic Integrity
We take academic integrity seriously. At minimum, academic integrity means that no one will use another's work as their own. The CSU writing center defines plagiarism this way:

> *"Plagiarism is the unauthorized or unacknowledged use of another person's academic or scholarly work. Done on purpose, it is cheating. Done accidentally, it is no less serious. Regardless of how it occurs, plagiarism is a theft of intellectual property and a violation of an ironclad rule demanding credit be given where credit is due."*
> http://writing.colostate.edu/guides/researchsources/understandingplagiarism

Academic Dishonesty could result in expulsion from the university. This course will adhere to the CSU Academic Integrity **Policies and Guiding Principles** as found in the General Catalog and the **Student Conduct Code**. At a minimum, violations will result in a grading penalty in this course and a report to the Office of Student Resolution Center.

Department Statement on Copyright

The use of online "homework helper" sites including, but not limited to, Chegg, NoteHall, Quizlet and Koofers is not permitted in this course. Please do not share material from this course in online, print, or other media. Course material is the property of the instructor who developed the course. Materials authored by third parties and used in the course are also subject to copyright protections. Posting course materials on external sites (commercial or not) violates both copyright law and the CSU Student Conduct Code. Students who share course content without the instructor's express permission, including with online sites that post materials to sell to other students, could face disciplinary or legal action.

Classroom Conduct

Students are required to act respectfully in the classroom at all times, any disruptive behavior that inhibits fellow-student learning will not be permitted and will constitute a one-day removal from lecture/recitation; a second offense will require a formal meeting. Such behavior includes holding conversations during lecture/recitation, any unauthorized cell phone, laptop, or tablet use, or other behavior which detracts from the class.

Accommodations and Tutoring Options

All students are ***highly*** encouraged to take advantage of these extremely beneficial and costless resources.

- **Resources for Disabled Students:** Students with disabilities or chronic health condition may be eligible for accommodations in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. It is the student's responsibility to disclose any learning disabilities. Please contact the instructor if a special accommodation is required. To request accommodations, students should contact the Student Disability Center at https://disabilitycenter.colostate.edu/. Documentation of disability is required and the SDC office will assist in this process.
- **Writing Center:** Help with written assignments can be found at the Writing Center (http://writingcenter.colostate.edu).

GT Pathways

The Colorado Commission on Higher Education has approved ECON 204 for inclusion in the Guaranteed Transfer (GT) Pathways program in the GT-SS1 category. For transferring students, successful completion with a minimum C– grade guarantees transfer and application of credit in this GT Pathways category. For more information on the GT Pathways program, go to http://highered.colorado.gov/academics/transfers/gtpathways/curriculum.html.

Pursuant to this certification, students will learn, in this class, to:

a. Demonstrate knowledge of economic or political systems.
b. Use the social sciences to analyze and interpret issues.
c. Explain diverse perspectives and groups.

Furthermore, students in this course have the following *Civic Engagement, Critical Thinking, Diversity & Global Learning, and Written/Oral Communication* student learning outcomes: **GT Pathways Core Student Learning Outcomes Economic or Political Systems (GT-SS1)**

<u>Civic Engagement</u>

Civic Knowledge:

a) Connect disciplinary knowledge to civic engagement through one's own participation in civic life, politics, and/or government.

Critical Thinking

Explain an Issue:

a) Use information to describe a problem or issue and/or articulate a question related to the topic.

Utilize Context:

a) Evaluate the relevance of context when presenting a position.
b) Identify assumptions.
c) Analyze one's own and others' assumptions.

Understand Implications and Make Conclusions:

a) Establish a conclusion that is tied to the range of information presented.
b) Reflect on implications and consequences of stated conclusion.

Diversity & Global Learning

Build Self-Awareness:

a) Demonstrate how their own attitudes, behaviors, or beliefs compare or relate to those of other individuals, groups, communities, or cultures.

Examine Perspectives:

a) Examine diverse perspectives when investigating social and behavioral topics within natural or human systems.

Written/Oral Communication

Develop Content and Message

a) Create and develop ideas within the context of the situation and the assigned task(s).

Use Sources and Evidence

a) Critically read, evaluate, apply, and synthesize evidence and/or sources in support of a claim.

Use language appropriate to the audience.

Fall 2026

Course Schedule (subject to change)

Weekly Assignments:

- Quizzes are due at 11:59 pm on Tuesday night unless otherwise noted.

	Lecture 1 (Tuesday)	**Lecture 2 (Thursday)**	**Quizzes (Tuesday)**	**Important dates**
Week 1 (Aug 24 – 28)	Chapter 1: Welcome to Economics	Chapter 6: The Macroeconomic Perspective	*No quiz*	
Week 2 (Aug 31 – Sep 4)	Chapter 6: The Macroeconomic Perspective	Chapter 7: Economic Growth	Ch. 6	**EOC in-class exercise on Tuesday**
Week 3 (Sep 7 – 11)	Chapter 7: Economic Growth	Chapter 8: Unemployment	Ch. 7	**EOC in-class exercise on Tuesday**
Week 4 (Sep 14 – 18)	Chapter 8: Unemployment	Chapter 9: Inflation	Ch. 8/9	**EOC in-class exercise on Tuesday**
Week 5 (Sep 21 – 25)	Chapter 9: Inflation	**EXAM ONE**	*No quiz*	**EOC in-class exercise on Tuesday/Exam 1 on Thursday**
Week 6 (Sep 28 – Oct 2)	Chapter 3: Demand & Supply	Chapter 3: Demand & Supply	Ch. 3	**EOC in-class exercise on Thursday**
Week 7 (Oct 5 – 9)	Chapter 20: International Trade	Chapter 21: Globalization and Protectionism	Ch. 20/21	**EOC in-class exercise on Tuesday/Mid-term presentation**
Week 8 (Oct 12 – 16)	Chapter 21: Globalization and Protectionism	Chapter 11: The AD/AS Model	*No quiz*	**EOC in-class exercise on Tuesday**
Week 9 (Oct 19 – 23)	Chapter 11: The AD/AS Model	Chapter 12: The Keynesian Perspective	Ch. 11	**EOC in-class exercise on Tuesday**
Week 10 (Oct 26 – 30)	Chapter 12: The Keynesian Perspective	Chapter 13: The Neoclassical Perspective	Ch. 12/13	**EOC in-class exercise on Tuesday/Thursday**
Week 11 (Nov 2 – 6)	**EXAM TWO**	Chapter 14: Money & Banking	*No quiz*	**Exam 2 on Tuesday/Oral defense of final report**
Week 12 (Nov 9 – 13)	Chapter 14: Money & Banking	Chapter 15: Monetary Policy & Bank Regulation	Ch. 14	**EOC in-class exercise on Tuesday/Oral defense of final report**
Week 13 (Nov 16 – 20)	Chapter 15: Monetary Policy & Bank Regulation	Chapter 16: Exchange Rates and International Capital Flows	Ch. 15	**EOC in-class exercise on Tuesday/Oral defense of final report**
Fall Break (Nov 23 – 27)	No class	No class	No quiz	
Week 14 (Nov 30 – Dec 4)	Chapter 16: Exchange Rates and International Capital Flows	Chapter 17: Government Budgets and Fiscal Policy	Ch. 16	**EOC in-class exercise on Tuesday/Oral defense of final report**
Week 15 (Dec 7 – 11)	Chapter 17: Government Budgets and Fiscal Policy	Chapter 17: Government Budgets and Fiscal Policy	Ch. 17	**EOC in-class exercise on Tuesday**
Finals Week (Dec 14 – 17)		**EXAM THREE (12/17 9:40 – 11:40 am)**		**Exam 3 on Thursday**