
INTERMEDIATE MACROECONOMICS

ECON 304 003 (FACE-TO-FACE INSTRUCTION COURSE)¹

SPRING 2021

INSTRUCTOR: DR. NIROJ BHATTARAI

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics

Director of Online Studies in Economics

Colorado State University

1771 Campus Delivery • Department of Economics • Fort Collins, CO 80523-1771

OFFICE HOURS: By Appointment (please send an email to set an appointment; all meetings will be conducted via Zoom).

TEACHING ASSISTANT: ADAM WALKE

PhD Student, Department of Economics

TA Office Hours via Zoom (<https://zoom.us/j/4817895838>)

Monday	4:30pm—5:30PM
Wednesday	1:00PM—2:00PM
Friday	9:30—10:30AM

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is offered through the Department of Economics at Colorado State University. This course builds upon the concepts learned in principles of macroeconomics to develop a more in-depth comprehension of the theoretical foundations and apply those models to real world analysis. Students will develop competence with these tools to: a) understand the determination of aggregate output, unemployment, prices, and growth, and b) analyze the impacts of fiscal and monetary policy on the macro-economy. Extensive references to current events will come up and students will apply concepts learned during the semester to surrounding policy issues.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course, students should be competent in the following areas:

- i. The measurement of GDP as expenditure, income, and output

¹ First week and weeks following the Spring Break will be conducted remotely via Zoom as per CSU requirements.

- ii. The measurement and cost of unemployment
- iii. The measurement and cost of inflation
- iv. The analysis of the macroeconomy in the short-run using the IS-LM model
- v. The analysis of the macroeconomy in the medium-run using the AD-AS model
- vi. The analysis of the macroeconomy in the long-run using the Solow Growth model, and the measurement of technical progress using growth accounting.
- vii. The effects of monetary and fiscal policy
- viii. The analysis of open economy macroeconomics and exchange rate determination

COURSE PREREQUISITES

Principles of Macroeconomics (ECON 204)
Calculus (MATH 141 or MATH155 or MATH160)

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIAL

Textbook: Mankiw, G (2019) *Macroeconomics*. Worth Publishers.
Sapling Software
Contact the bookstore for an all-inclusive access for this specific course.

COURSE WEBSITE

Canvas is our class website:

GSSL 3097/200 Intermediate Macroeconomics

<http://www.online.colostate.edu/courses/GSSL/GSSL3097.dot?sel=1555575>

- Login using your username and password
- Under Course List, click on the relevant course
- Grades, presentations, and additional reading will be posted on Canvas.

Assignments will be through Sapling Learning (www.saplinglearning.com):

- The direction for opening an account and completing assignments will be posted on Canvas.
- All homework assignments will be done through Sapling.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY AND DELIVERY

This course is delivered via distance education format using the CSU Canvas system and Zoom for the first week, and the weeks following Spring Break. Weeks 2 through Spring Break will be conducted in a Face-to-Face format in the CSU designated classroom. This format will use a combination of lecture, readings, online assignments (via Sapling), exams, and other web-based resources. You will submit assignments following the course outline using Canvas.

SEATING CHART

To follow the CDC and CSU guidelines for social distancing while in the classroom, a seating chart is generated and provided on Canvas. Students must sit in their designated seats during class for the entire semester.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADE DETERMINATION

The academic requirements of this course consist of Sapling Assignments, Exams, and a Group Assignment. Course grades will be determined by the performance in these categories based on the following weights:

Assignment	Frequency	Unit Percentage	GRADE PERCENTAGE
Lecture Pop-Ups	Multiple	Equal weight	10%
Group/Individual Projects	2	5%	10%
SAPLING Learning Curve	Multiple (weekly)	Equal weight	10%
SAPLING Quick Quiz	Multiple (weekly)	Equal weight	10%
SAPLING Homework	Multiple (weekly)	Equal weight	20%
Exams (Midterm + Final)	2	20%	40%
TOTAL			100%

COURSE GRADING CRITERIA

Grade	Percentage Grade	Equivalent Points	Indicates
A+	96.67 to 100	96.67 to 100	
A	93.33 to < 96.67	93.33 to < 96.67	Excellent
A-	90.00 to < 93.33	90.00 to < 93.33	
B+	86.67 to < 90.00	86.67 to < 90.00	
B	83.33 to < 86.67	83.33 to < 86.67	Above Average
B-	80.00 to < 83.33	80.00 to < 83.33	
C+	76.67 to < 80.00	76.67 to < 80.00	
C	70.00 to < 76.67	70.00 to < 76.67	Average
D	60.00 to < 70.00	60.00 to < 70.00	Below Average
F	0.00 to < 60.00	0.00 to < 60.00	Failure

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Please keep a copy of all work created for the course, including work submitted through Canvas.

LECTURE POP-UPS (10%)

There will be random pop-up assignments throughout the semester. Some will be completed during class time and some will be take-home. All pop-up assignments are equally weighted. At the end of the semester, **I will drop the lowest 3** and take the average of the rest to calculate your grade for this component.

Note that I do not grade on attendance, however, if you do miss a pop-up assignment, you **CANNOT** make it up, unless it is a documented medical emergency. Doctor/Medical Personnel excuse notes should be sent directly to me from their official e-mail address or should be on the provider's official letter head with contact information clearly printed.

EXAMS (2 x 20% = 40%)

There will be two exams for this course, each worth 20% of the total course grade. The exams will be some combination of multiple choice, calculations, and short-answer questions.

THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUP exams! If you must unexpectedly miss an exam, **you must present written evidence of a medical emergency.**

GROUP/INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS (2 x 5% = 10%)

There will be two (2) projects due this semester each worth 5% of the final course grade. The format of these projects will be calculations, short answers, and policy analysis. They are meant to help you dive deeper into the content presented in class.

These assignments will test your ability to write using grammar, mechanics, formatting, vocabulary, and documentation appropriate for economics. You will need to analyze the material, evaluate it from the mindset of an economist and recognize conflicting issues. Through this process you will be able to effectively discuss and assess the issues at hand from an economic standpoint and be able to apply your knowledge and reasoning to make suggestions and recommendations.

You will have several days to work on these projects, and **you should expect them to be in-depth and difficult.** You may work on these projects by yourself or work with other members of the class. If you decide to work with other members of the class, you should let me know who the group members are by the end of 2nd week of classes. The maximum number of students allowed for a group is 3.

All submissions will go through a plagiarism detection software.

No late assignments will be accepted.

SAPLING

There will be assignments due every week on Sapling. Schedule and due dates are available on weekly modules and on Sapling homepage.

ACCOUNT REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR SAPLING IS AVAILABLE ON CANVAS.

SAPLING ASSIGNMENTS (40%)

LEARNING CURVE (10%)

For the LC assignments, you will have a target score you will need to reach to earn full credit. These assignments are designed to adapt to your specific learning needs. The grades for this assignment are either 0 or 100. If you do not complete the assignment, you will get a zero. If you complete the assignment by earning the target points, you will receive 100. So, essentially, here you earn points for full participation. You are expected to do this by Friday night, although I would encourage you to do them earlier. Additional information is on Canvas.

QUICK QUIZZES (10%)

For each chapter there will be a quick quiz. This is to help you learn and apply the concept covered in the chapter, and to check your understanding of the material. While the Learning Curve did not have a penalty for multiple attempts (remember, if you get to the set points, you get 100), these Quizzes are set up with a “small *penalty*” grading policy. Students will BE PENALIZED 5% FOR EACH ATTEMPT. This will allow the students to attempt as many times as they would like. They will also be able to see the resources while taking the quiz. The idea is that you will take these practice quizzes to identify areas of improvement, read the chapter/class notes, and be prepared before you attempt the Homework, where you only get 1 attempt. So, for a multiple-choice question with 4 choices, the lowest you can score is 85, if you keep track of your answers. ☺ The small penalty is placed here to incentivize you to want to get the answer correct on the first try.

Your final score for this assignment will be the average of all the quick quizzes. This average score will be 10% of your final course grade as stated above.

HOMEWORK (20%)

These assignments consist of graphical, mathematical, and other content-based questions. You only get 1 attempt for the homework, and the answer will be revealed after the due date. At the end of the semester I will take the average of all assignments to calculate your final grade for this category, which is worth 25% of your final course grade.

ALL Sapling assignments are due by Monday nights, except for the Learning Curve, which is due on Friday nights. No extensions or make-up assignments will be provided.

If you miss an assignment, you will receive a score of zero for it.

[Additional Information](#)

POLICY ON DUE DATES

No make-up of quizzes, midterm, final, and the group projects will be provided in this course, unless a university-recognized excuse is communicated to the instructor in advance. This policy is not negotiable.

POLICY ON EXTRA CREDIT

No extra credit will be offered.

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.”

—Writing Guides: Understanding Plagiarism.

<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. As per university policy: “Any student found responsible for having engaged in academic dishonesty will be subject to academic penalty and/or University disciplinary action.” (General Catalog 2011-2012, 1.6, p.8).

Any academic dishonesty in this course may result in a grade of “F” for the course and may be reported to the Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct Services. Please be aware that the General Catalog specifically identifies the following examples of academic dishonesty: cheating in the classroom, plagiarism, unauthorized possession or disposition of academic materials, falsification, and facilitation of cases of academic dishonesty. Plagiarism is defined as follows: “Plagiarism includes the copying of language, structure, ideas, or thoughts of another, and representing them as one’s own without proper acknowledgement. Examples include a submission of purchased research papers as one’s own work; paraphrasing and/or quoting material without properly documenting the source.” (General Catalog 2011-2012, 1.6, p.8). Of course, academic integrity means more than just avoiding plagiarism and cheating. It also involves doing your own reading and studying. It includes class attendance, careful consideration of all class materials, and engagement with the class and your fellow students.

CSU HONOR PLEDGE

Academic integrity lies at the core of our common goal: to create an intellectually honest and rigorous community. Because academic integrity, and the personal and social integrity of which academic integrity is an integral part, is so central to our mission as students, teachers, scholars and citizens, I will ask that you affirm the CSU Honor Pledge as part of completing your work in this course. While you will not be required to affirm the honor pledge, you will be required to affirm the following statement:

"I have not given, received, or used any unauthorized assistance."

Further information about Academic Integrity is available at CSU's [Practicing Academic Integrity](#).

DEPARTMENT STATEMENT OF COPYRIGHT

Please do not share material in this course in online, print or other media. Materials authorized by third parties and used in the course are subject to copyright protection. 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.

TITLE IX

CSU's Discrimination, Harassment, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking, and Retaliation policy designates faculty and employees of the University as "Responsible Employees." This designation is consistent with federal law and guidance, and requires faculty to report information regarding students who may have experienced any form of sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, relationship violence, stalking or retaliation. This includes information shared with faculty in person, electronic communications or in class assignments. As "Responsible Employees," faculty may refer students to campus resources (see below), together with informing the Office of Support and Safety Assessment to help ensure student safety and welfare. Information regarding sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, relationship violence, stalking and retaliation is treated with the greatest degree of confidentiality possible while also ensuring student and campus safety. Any student who may be the victim of sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, relationship violence, stalking or retaliation is encouraged to report to CSU through one or more of the following resources: Emergency Response 911, Deputy Title IX Coordinator/Office of Support and Safety Assessment (970) 491-1350, Colorado State University Police Department (non-emergency) (970) 491-6425. For counseling support and assistance, please see the CSU Health Network, which includes a variety of counseling services that can be accessed at: <http://www.health.colostate.edu/>. The Sexual Assault Victim Assistance Team is a confidential student resource that does not have a reporting requirement: <http://www.wgac.colostate.edu/need-help-support>.

DISCLAIMER

All of the information in this course syllabus is subject to change when deemed necessary by the instructor. Students will be notified via postings on Canvas, or by email if such changes occur.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS ON COVID-19:

All students are required to follow public health guidelines in any university space and are encouraged to continue these practices when off-campus(es). Students also are required to report any COVID-19 symptoms to the university immediately, as well as if they have potentially been exposed or have tested positive at a non-CSU testing location. If you suspect you have symptoms, please fill out the COVID

Reporter (<https://covid.colostate.edu/reporter/>). If you have COVID symptoms or know or believe you have been exposed, it is important for the health of yourself and others that you complete the online COVID Reporter. Do not ask your instructor to report for you; if you report to your instructor that you will not attend class due to symptoms or a potential exposure, you are required to also submit those concerns through the COVID Reporter. If you do not have access to the internet to fill out the online COVID-19 Reporter, please call (970)491-4600.

If you report symptoms or a positive test, your report is submitted to CSU's Public Health Office. You will receive immediate, initial instructions on what to do and then you will also be contacted by phone by a public health official. Based on your specific circumstances, the public health official may:

- choose to recommend that you be tested and help arrange for a test.
- conduct contact tracing.
- initiate any necessary public health requirements or recommendations and notify you if you need to take any steps.

If you report a potential exposure, the public health official will help you determine if you are at risk of contracting COVID.

For the latest information about the University's COVID resources and information, please visit the CSU COVID-19 site (<https://covidrecovery.colostate.edu/>).

COURSE SCHEDULE, READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Timeline	Week of	Chapter Readings	Course Requirements DUE
Week 1	1/19	Chapter 1	Sapling Assignments
Week 2	1/25	Chapter 2	Sapling Assignments
Week 3	2/1	Chapter 3	Sapling Assignments
Week 4	2/8	Chapter 4	Sapling Assignments
Week 5	2/15	Chapter 5	Sapling Assignments
Week 6	2/22	Chapter 6	Sapling Assignments
Week 7	3/1	Chapter 7	Sapling Assignments
Week 8	3/8	Chapter 8	Sapling Assignments Midterm Exam is on FRIDAY, March 12, 2021
Week 9	3/15	Chapter 9	Sapling Assignments
Week 10	3/22	Chapter 10	Sapling Assignments
Week 11	3/29	Chapter 11	Sapling Assignments
Week 12	4/5	Chapter 12	Sapling Assignments
No Classes--Spring Break 4/12-4/16			
Week 13	4/19	Chapter 13	Sapling Assignments
Week 14	4/26	Chapter 14	Sapling Assignments
Week 15	5/3	Chapter 16 and 17	Sapling Assignments
Week 16	5/10	Catch-up	Catch-Up
FINAL EXAM is on Tuesday, May 18, 2021			

- This is a tentative schedule. I reserve the right to adjust/change as I see necessary. Any changes will be posted on Canvas.