Course Description:
Principles of Macroeconomics is an introduction to the behavioral science of economics which focuses on the aggregate behavior of households, firms and the government. Topics covered include gross domestic product, national income, economic growth, unemployment, inflation, the business cycle, fiscal policy and monetary policy, and international trade.

Prerequisites: None
Important Skills: The Appendix to ch. 2 gives a good review of graphing for students.

Text: Greg Mankiw; Principles of Economics 8th Ed, South-Western. The online homework tool Aplia is also required, the Course Key is MTPN-JC2P-HQ8Z

Grading: The course grade will be based on four equally weighted exams worth 100 points each (75% of your overall grade), ten Aplia assignments worth 10 points each (19% of your overall grade) and six assignments worth 5 points each (6% of your overall grade). This gives a total of 530 available points in the class.

A: At least 477 points  B: At least 424 points.  C: At least 371 points.
D: At least 318 points.  F: Below 318 points.

Exams: Exams will be held on Wednesday Sept. 20th, Friday October 13th, Monday November 6th, and Wed December 6th. Exams will be held during normal class hours.

Final Exam: Monday Dec. 11th from 8:00am - 10:00am. (You can take your final on Wednesday Dec 13th from 10:30am – 12:30pm if you prefer)

Optional Final: The Final Exam for the course is optional and will replace the lowest test grade achieved during the semester. This can help raise a student’s average if they did poorly on a previous exam, but it can also lower a student’s grade if they do poorly on the final.

Aplia Assignments: A total of 12 Aplia assignments will be given with 10 counting toward your grade. The Aplia assignments will allow you to have 3 attempts on each question with the average of these attempts counting toward your grade. Be sure to complete these assignments well before when they are due since the deadlines will not be moved for any reason.
Assignments/ Attendance: Small assignments will be handed out or assigned periodically, to practice or reinforce concepts from class. At least 7 of these assignments will be given with only 6 counting towards the final grade. Attendance is not mandatory, though I do track attendance and will report attendance to Athletics or the College as requested.

Lateness and Courtesy: Please arrive on time to class and please turn off all cell phones. Texting during class is discouraged since it often distracts other students.

Topics: This is a tentative schedule that can change

Week 1 – Intro: Definitions - Introduction and Chapters 1 & 2
Week 2 – Production and Int’l Trade - Chapters 2 & 3
Week 3 – Micro: Supply and demand shifters and Elasticity – Chapters 4 & 5
Week 4 – Intro to Macroeconomics
Week 5 – Macro: GDP and the circular flow diagram - Chapter 23
Week 6 – GDP using the circular flow diagram, GDP calculations and drawbacks - Chapter 23
Week 7 – GDP Deflator and CPI Calculations and inflation discussion - Chapters 23 & 24
Week 8 – Employment: Unemployment rate & Labor - Chapter 28
Week 9 – Unemployment, Investment: Determinants of the market interest rate - Ch 28 & 26
Week 10 – Investment continued - Chapter 26 and U.S. Debt/Deficit
Week 11 – Aggregate Supply and Demand - Chapter 33
Week 12 – Money and Monetary Policy - Chapters 29 & 34, Schools of Economic Thought
Week 13 – Policy: Fed’s organization and policy decisions - Chapters 29 & 30
Week 14 – Advanced Policy: Policy comparisons and concerns – Chapters 33, 34, & 36
Week 15 – Aggregate Demand and Supply Shocks. Basics of Finance Chapters 33 & 27
General Student Policies:

Academic Integrity (A-9.1)
Abiding by university policy on academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes, but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials on any assignment or exam; (2) falsifying or inventing of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were one’s own. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when is at least partly the work of another person; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from the Internet or another source; and/or (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author credit. Penalties may include, but are not limited to reprimand, no credit for the assignment or exam, re-submission of the work, make-up exam, failure of the course, or expulsion from the university. Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student_academic_dishonesty.pdf.

Course Grades (University Policy 5.5)
At the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic unit head, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F, except as allowed through policy related to active military service. If students register for the same course in future semesters, the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average. Please refer to the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades.pdf.

Students with Disabilities
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Room 325 in the Human Services Building, 468-3004/468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

Student Conduct (University Policy 10.4)
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the full Student Conduct Code at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-code-of-conduct_10.4.pdf). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic, or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the iCare Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.