Principles of Macroeconomics
ECO – 231 – 500
Fall 2017
Online

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Office Hours: 8:00 – 11:00, Monday and Wednesday; or by appointment.
Online Office Hours: 11:00 – 1:00 (online), Tuesday; and 2:00 – 4:00 (online), Thursday.

Course Description: An introduction to the behavioral science of economics that 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.

Program Learning Outcomes: Program learning outcomes define the knowledge, skills, and abilities students are expected to demonstrate upon completion of an academic program. These learning outcomes are regularly assessed to determine student learning and to evaluate overall program effectiveness. You may access the program learning outcomes for your major and particular courses at http://www.sfasu.edu/cob/ug-plo.asp.

General Education Core Curriculum Objectives/Outcomes: This course has been selected to be part of Stephen F. Austin State University’s core curriculum. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has identified six objectives for all core courses: Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Empirical and Quantitative Skills, Teamwork, Personal Responsibility, and Social Responsibility. SFA is committed to the improvement of its general education core curriculum by regular assessment of student performance on these six objectives.

- Critical Thinking (C): To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
- Communication (V): To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.
  - This course includes instruction in visual communication.
  - Graphic modeling including its proper utilization and interpretation is an integral component of this course.
- Empirical and Quantitative Skill (E): To include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.
- Social Responsibility (S): To include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.
Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student should be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of:

- News relating to the economy as a whole as reported in such publications as The Wall Street Journal (C, S)
- The economic implications of changes in government fiscal or monetary policy (C, V, E, S)
- How interest rates are determined (C, V, E)
- The role of interest rates in personal and corporate decision-making (C, V, E, S)
- Critically apply economic concepts when participating as a citizen in a democratic society (C, S)

In particular, the students should be able to:

- Calculate equilibrium national income levels (C, V, E)
- Calculate and use various multipliers (C, E)
- Convert nominal values to real values (C, E)
- Use a graph to explain the impact of changes in fiscal and/or monetary policy on income and price levels (C, V, E, S)
- Use simple models of international trade to study the flow of goods between countries (C, V, E, S)
- Discuss the costs of protectionism within the context of such models (C, V, E, S)

Required Text: N. Gregory Mankiw, Principles of Economics, 8\textsuperscript{th} edition.

We will be using MindTap/Cengage in this course. This software is NOT optional. All of your homework assignments are completed through MindTap. The good news is it comes with an online e-book version of our text (if you don't want to get a hard copy of the textbook). You will need to sign up using the following information:

- **Registration:**
  - Connect to: [https://studentdashboard.cengagebrain.com/#/course-confirmation/MTPPQ18PS3WV/initial-course-confirmation](https://studentdashboard.cengagebrain.com/#/course-confirmation/MTPPQ18PS3WV/initial-course-confirmation)
  - Follow the prompts to register for your MindTap course. Our course section is 500.

- **Payment:**
  - After registering for your course, you will need to pay for access using one of the options below:
    - **Use previously purchased two-semester code:** If you took ECO 232 at SFA last semester and you purchased the Aplia two-semester code, you should be able to use the second semester code to pay for access to Aplia this term.
    - **Online:** You can pay online using a credit or debit card, or PayPal for either a one or two-semester code.

- **One-semester versus two-semester version:**
  - You can purchase one-semester or two-semester access to MindTap. If you plan to take ECO 232 (Principles of Microeconomics) in Spring 2018 or Summer 2018, purchase the two-semester version. You will not have to pay for MindTap in the spring or summer. However, if you have no
plans to take ECO 232, you can purchase the one-semester version. The difference in price is trivial ($130.00 versus $145.00).

✓ If you would like, you can purchase a hard-copy of the textbook. I trust that you can do that on your own.

- **Free Trial:**
  
  You can access MindTap for about three weeks for free. After the free trial ends you will be required to pay for access.

  Please note: At the end of the free trial period, your course access will be suspended until your payment has been made. All your scores and course activity will be saved and will be available to you after you pay for access.

- **Technical Support:**
  
  If you encounter any problems with using MindTap, please contact their technical support team. They will help you. The MindTap technical support phone number is 800-354-9706.
Course Requirements: We will cover the following chapters in order: 1 – 4, 6 (pp. 111 – 120), 23 – 26, 28 – 30, and 33 – 34. Each chapter will have an Aplia problem set due at various times during the semester. There are four quizzes, and a cumulative final exam.

Course Schedule: The course is divided into the five sections shown below. Please pay special attention to all the due dates. The due dates will not be changed to accommodate any technical or scheduling issues you may have, so plan accordingly.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Chapters Covered</th>
<th>Various Due Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>Section 1 (8/28 – 9/20)</td>
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<td>Section 4 (11/4 – 12/1)</td>
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<td>Quiz #4 – 12/1</td>
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<td>Section 5 (12/2 – 12/11)</td>
<td>Study for your Final Exam</td>
<td>Final Exam – 12/12 or 12/13</td>
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Grading: 
- Quiz #1: Wednesday, September 20th 15%
- Quiz #2: Wednesday, October 11th 15%
- Quiz #3: Friday, November 3rd 15%
- Quiz #4: Friday, December 1st 15%
- Problem Sets: Due at various times 15%
- Final Exam: Tuesday, December 12th or Wednesday, December 13th 25%
Class Policies:

**MindTap Homework:** Each chapter covered with have a problem set associated with it on MindTap. Students will have the opportunity to try each problem set three times. The HIGHEST score is then selected. There are a total of 14 problems sets. I will drop your two lowest problems set scores when calculating your total problem set grade.

**Practice Tests:** Multiple choice practice exams are available for each chapter. They are not graded, and the answers are provided. The multiple choice problems are drawn from the test bank that used to create your graded exams. The practice exams are designed to familiarize you with the types of questions you will see on your graded exams.

**Bonus Problems:** I will periodically assign bonus problems, and they will be due at various times during the semester. YOU CAN EARN UP FIVE POINTS ADDED TO YOUR FINAL GRADE IF YOU DO THE BONUS PROBLEMS. For example, suppose I calculate you final grade, and you score an 85. I will then add your bonus problem score to the 85. If you did the bonus problems, and you averaged 100 percent, your bonus problem score is 5 points, and you will receive a 90 in the class. If you did the bonus problems, and you averaged 50 percent, your bonus problem score is 2.5 points, and you will receive an 88 in the class.

**Quizzes:** Quizzes are multiple choice and, given the online nature of the course, you can use your textbook, notes, etc. The quizzes will open on the dates shown above at 8:00 am, and I will close them at 11:00 pm. Once you begin a quiz, you will have 75 minutes to complete it. You cannot stop the clock once you start the quiz, so make sure you have set aside 75 minutes for yourself.

**Missed Quizzes:** If you miss a quiz, you must choose between two options. Option 1: Accept a zero on the exam. I will weight that zero as 5% of your grade and reweigh the other three exams accordingly. Option 2: Come to the university and take a face-to-face make-up exam. THE FACE-TO-FACE MAKE-UP EXAM IS CLOSED BOOK AND CLOSED-NOTE. Option 2 probably isn’t possible for the distance learners in the class. However, I do offer bonus problems which will allow you to fill in that zero a bit. DO YOUR BONUS PROBLEMS AS INSURANCE AGAINST INADVERTENTLY MISSING AN EXAM.

**Missed Final Exam:** If you miss the final exam, you will receive a zero on it unless you have a university approved excuse.

**WHAT FollowS IS INFORMATION PERTAINING TO YOUR FINAL EXAM. PLEASE READ THIS CAREFULLY.**

The final exam is cumulative and proctored. You cannot use your textbook, your lecture notes, your cell phones, etc., on this exam. You will have two hours to complete the final exam. The final exam is similar to your quizzes in that it consists only of multiple choice questions.

**There are two options for taking the final exam.**

**Option 1:** The exam is administered twice on campus. On session will be in the morning, the other session in the afternoon. You may take the final exam on Tuesday, December 12th, 8:00 am – 10:00 am, or you may take the final exam on Wednesday, December 13th, 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. I will inform you where the exam will take place later in the semester. If you come to one of these sessions, you will take the final exam the old fashioned way with a pencil, paper, calculator, and scantron. IF YOU CANNOT
TAKE THE EXAM FACE-TO-FACE ON CAMPUS, THEN YOU MUST TAKE OPTION 2 FOR THE FINAL EXAM. THERE ARE NO ALTERNATIVES.

Option 2: If you cannot make one of the on campus sessions, then you are required to use an exam proctoring service called ProctorU. If you use ProctorU, your exam is scheduled for Wednesday, December 13th. At one point, the university paid for this service but that is no longer the case. THE STUDENT MUST NOW PAY $25.00 TO TAKE THE FINAL EXAM. ALSO, YOU MAY HAVE TO UPGRADE YOU COMPUTER TO ACCOMMODATE THE SERVICE. When the university paid for ProctorU, I required all students to use it. It is very easy to use, and students had no issues with it. If you plan on using ProctorU, the following describes what you must do:

ProctorU, an online proctoring service using live proctors, allows you to take an online exam while being proctored by a live person at a remote location. Taking an exam through ProctorU requires that you have a functioning webcam and microphone. In addition, you will need a reflective surface, such as a hand mirror, CD, or DVD to make sure there is no material (such as sticky notes) on the monitor. You will also need access to a desktop or laptop computer. Tablets, smart phones, Chromebooks, and other mobile devices are not supported at this time.

- It is your responsibility to schedule your exam(s) and abide by all rules for bringing only appropriate materials into your testing area. You will need to provide photo identification to your proctor prior to taking your exam. Appropriate identification includes: driver’s license, SFA student ID, passport, or other government-issued photo identification.

- You must schedule your exam at least four (4) or more days in advance, or you will be required to pay a fee. If you schedule your exam four (4) or more days in advance, you will not need to pay anything! If you schedule later that 4 days before the exam, you may have to pay a late registration fee.

- When you schedule your exam, be sure to take into account that verifying your identity and validating the integrity of your testing area will take a few minutes.

- Before scheduling your exam, you need to ensure your computer is compatible with ProctorU’s software.

- In the weeks/months before your exam, follow these steps to learn how ProctorU works and how to schedule an exam.
  2. Go to Test My Computer to test out your computer to see if everything such as your webcam, microphone, bandwidth, etc., meet the requirements for ProctorU.
  3. You can also visit Technical Specifications for Using ProctorU to see required specifications. Note: Google Chrome is the best browser to use when taking an exam with ProctorU!
  4. Additional specific information is available at ProctorU.com.

- If you take your online exam but do not use ProctorU, you will receive a zero on the exam.
• You will be monitored during the exam. Suspected violations will be noted and a report will be sent to me. If I feel you are violating the rules of the exam, you will receive a zero on the exam.

• Take your exam in a private location. **DO NOT TAKE THE EXAM AT STARBUCKS, MCDONALD’S, ETC.**

**Concluding Remarks:** Please email me if you have any questions about the material. This course is not easy, and some of the material is difficult to understand. Don’t be embarrassed if you don’t understand it after reading over the lecture notes once. If you email me, it’s best not to do so through D2L because I have to get on a computer to answer you. If you use the email address at the top of the syllabus, then I can answer you fairly quickly through my cell phone.
Student Academic Dishonesty (University Policy 4.1)

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-conduct-code.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.