ECO 231.004 Principles of Macroeconomics
Monday Wednesday Friday, 10:00 – 10:50, McGee Business Room 116
Fall 2019

Instructor: Dr. Mark Scanlan
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Nelson Rusche College of Business
Department: Economics & Finance
Web Site: https://d2l.sfasu.edu/
            http://faculty.sfasu.edu/scanlanm/
Office Phone: 1883
Office Location: 303H
Office Hours: T TH: 12:30 – 2:30
MW: 11:50–12:50
Online Office hours: MW 2 - 3
Or make an appointment for any time

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: though graphing skills help. See the appendix of Ch2 for graphing help.

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

Grading:
The course grade will be based on four equally weighted exams worth 100 points each (73% of
your overall grade), ten Aplia assignments worth 10 points each (18% of your overall grade) and ten assignments worth 5 points each
(9% of your overall grade). This gives a total of 550 available points in the class.

Points needed to earn each letter grade
A: At least 495 points
B: At least 440 points.
C: At least 385 points.
D: At least 330 points.
F: Below 330 points.

Exams:
Exams will be held on
Exam 1: Wed. Sept. 18th
Exam 2: Mon. Oct. 14th
Exam 3: Friday Nov. 8th
Exam 4: Friday Dec 6th
Exams will be held during normal class hours.

Final Exam:
Wednesday December 11th from 10:45am – 1:15pm

(You can take your final on Monday December 9th from
8:00am - 10:30pm, if you prefer with my other class if you
don’t have a conflict with another course)

The Final Exam for the course is optional and will replace the
lowest test grade achieved during the semester. This can help
raise your average if you did poorly on a previous exam, but it
can also lower your grade if you do poorly on the final.
Course Materials:
MindTap is a required component of this course. Assignments completed in MindTap will make up around 20% of your course grade. Also, MindTap comes with an electronic copy of the textbook. You can only connect with the MindTap and the e-text through D2L.

- **What is MindTap?**
  MindTap is an online learning environment. You will complete your homework and study activities in MindTap. For each chapter you can watch videos, work with flash cards, and do practice exams. MindTap provides multiple attempts and instant feedback on your performance.

- **Registration**
  1. Link to the e-book and online homework content, MindTap, through D2L.
     - From the course home page select “Content” tab at the top of the page, then choose the “Mindtap-Aplia” folder and click on the link provided. You must have popups enabled for this to work.
  2. Follow the prompts to register for Cengage Brain or to log into a previous Cengage Brain account. Once you have registered you will follow the D2L link to the e-text and online homework content.

- **Free Trial**
  - You can access MindTap now for free using the trial period option. 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 of your scores and course activity will be saved and will be available to you after you pay for access.

- **Payment**
  After registering, you will need to pay for access using one of the options below:
  1. If you bought the dual semester book for this course or ECO 232 last term, then you should have free access through this semester.
  2. **Pay online through Cengage brain:** You can pay through your new Mindtap account using a credit or debit card, or PayPal. (Cheapest option)
  3. Purchase with loose-leaf copy of text (optional) at an SFA bookstore.
    - a. Loose-leaf copies of the text from SFA bookstores will come with a MindTap access code.
    - b. **Buying the book from online textbook retailers is very likely to cause problems.**

- **Course Key**
  There is no course key. Simply log in using D2L.

Text/Aplia Options
- **Loose-Leaf Options at the Barnes & Nobel Student Center Bookstore:**
  - a. A loose-leaf hard copy of the text is optional.
  - b. This option includes the e-text and Aplia access codes (see above).
    - ISBN: 9781305306295 (Two Semester, Macro & Micro)
    - Enter the included code in your Aplia account accessed through D2L.
**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 11 of these assignments will be given with only 10 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.

**Classroom Expectations**: I have a passion for this topic that I hope rubs off on everyone during the semester. I want the classroom to be an active learning environment where you feel comfortable asking questions about the material or about how it relates to issues in the news. Never hesitate to stay after class or to come by my office with questions. As college students I do expect everyone to work hard in the course to earn their grade and to complete all assignments on time. Be patient with your classmates as they ask questions, even if you think you know the answer, since I will expand on these answers in ways that will help everyone understand the material better. And of course, have fun! (At least as much as is possible in an economics course)

**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](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](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/](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](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.
General Education Core Curriculum Assessment

General Education Core Curriculum

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has identified six core learning objectives listed at the front of this syllabus. SFA is committed to the improvement of its general education core curriculum by regular assessment of student performance on these six objectives. ECO 231 is a general education core curriculum course and fulfills the “Critical Thinking” general education core curriculum requirement.

During the semester, you will receive an assignment associated with general education core curriculum assessment. When you complete the assignment you will upload the assignment to the “Core Curriculum – Critical Thinking” dropbox that you will find on your account in Brightspace by D2L. This dropbox is for core curriculum assessment only. Your course instructor may provide another set of instructions for submitting this assignment for your course grade.

If you have any questions, please see your instructor or contact the Office of Institutional Effectiveness at (936) 468-1038 or assessment@sfasu.edu.

The chart below indicates the core objectives addressed by this course, the assignment(s) that will be used to assess the objectives in this course and uploaded to the Critical Thinking dropbox this semester.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Objective</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Course Assignment</th>
<th>Date Due in D2L</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical Thinking Skills</td>
<td>To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.</td>
<td>Title: Minimum Wage Analysis</td>
<td>Date: Nov. 1st 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication Skills</td>
<td>To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas though written, oral, and visual communication.</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empirical and Quantitative Skills</td>
<td>To include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teamwork</td>
<td>To include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal Responsibility</td>
<td>To include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making.</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Responsibility</td>
<td>To include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Date</td>
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