



Lincoln University

Econ 20A – Principles of Economics: Macroeconomics

COURSE SYLLABUS

Spring 2016

- Professor:** Prof. Sergey Aityan, PhD, DSc
Lecture Schedule: Thursday, 12:30 PM – 3:15 PM
Additional Classes: Students are advised to keep Fridays, 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM time open for optional additional classes if students need more explanations to catch up with the course. Most students will most likely need it.
- Credits:** 3 units (45 lecture hours)
Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, 11:15 AM – 12:15 PM
Students are advised to schedule appointments by signing their names on the appointment list which is located on the information board next to the professor's office that will ensure exact appointment time without waiting.
e-mail: aityan@lincolnuca.edu
☎: (510) 628-8016
- Assistant to the Instructor:** Genadi Feldman
e-mail: genkaf@gmail.com
- Textbook:** **1. Supporting Textbook:**
N. Gregory Mankiw (2014).
Principles of Macroeconomics, 7th Edition, South-Western College Pub
ISBN-10: 128516590X
ISBN-13: 978-1285165905
*** previous editions of this book are okay too ***

Last Revision: January 9, 2016

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Survey is made of American economic institutions; introduction to the methods of economic analysis, fundamental concepts, and discussion of current economic problems. The course considers institutions, national income analysis, money and banking, fiscal policy, markets, income distribution, and international trade. (3 units)

REQUIREMENTS

Continuous assessment is emphasized. Written or oral quizzes will be given every week. Reading and writing home tasks, problem solving, and “business case study” assignments

will be made throughout the course. Students must complete all home tasks, other assignments, and take all quizzes, mid-term exam and final exam on the dates due. Zero tolerance to plagiarism and cheating is enforced. Plagiarism or cheating will result in grade “F” (with zero points) and a report to the administration.

ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to attend each class session. If you cannot attend class due to a valid reason, please notify the instructor prior to the class.

EXAMS

Both, midterm and final exams are structured as written essay to answer the given questions. Each exam includes six questions. The essay must be written clearly and easy to read, structurally with clear logical presentation of the answers. Graphs, charts, tables, and other supporting illustrations are required if needed. Examples to illustrate the answers are required.

Exams will cover all assigned chapters, any additional readings or supplementary materials covered in class. The final exam is comprehensive, i.e. includes the whole course. The exams are neither “open book” nor “open notes.”

Cheating in exam results in immediate termination of the exam, grade “F” with ZERO points, and report to the dean.

GRADING AND SCORING

All activities will be graded according to the points as shown below.

Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	F
Points	94-100	90-93	87-89	83-86	80-82	77-79	73-76	70-72	67-69	60-66	0-59

In exams, every answer is graded by points from 0 to 100 and the total points for an exam are calculated as the average of the points received for all answers in the exam.

The final grade for the course will be given as the total weighted score for all activities according to the percentage shown in the table below.

Activity	Time	Percent
Quizzes, home tasks, and classroom activities	Every week	30%
Mid-term exam	In the middle of the course	35%
Final exam	Last week of the course	35%

If both grades for the midterm and final exams are “F” the term grade for the course is “F” regardless of the grades for other activities.

MAKE-UP WORK

Assignments are to be completed on time during the course. Late assignments will result in a reduced grade. Mid-term and final exams and group presentations cannot be made up if missed unless there is a documented emergency.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Lectures		Topic	Chapters
#	Date		
1	21-Jan	(a) About the Course (b) Ten Principles of Economics	Ch. 1
2	28-Jan	(a) Thinking Like an Economist	Ch. 2

		(b) Interdependence and the Gains from Trade	Ch. 3
3	4-Feb	(a) The Market Forces of Supply and Demand (b) Elasticity and Its Application	Ch. 4 Ch. 5
4	11-Feb	(a) Supply, Demand, and Government Policies (b) Consumers, Producers, and the Efficiency of Markets	Ch. 6 Ch. 7
5	18-Feb	(a) Application: The Cost of Taxation (b) Application: International Trade	Ch. 8 Ch. 9
6	25-Feb	(a) Measuring a Nation's Income (b) Measuring the Cost of Living	Ch. 10 Ch. 11
7	3-Mar	(a) Production and Growth (b) Saving, Investment, and the Financial System	Ch. 12 Ch. 13
8	10-Mar	(a) The Basic Tools of Finance (b) Unemployment	Ch. 14 Ch. 15
	17-Mar	Easter Break – No classes	
9	24-Mar	Midterm Exam	Ch. 1-15
10	31-Mar	(a) The Monetary System (b) Money Growth and Inflation	Ch. 16 Ch. 17
11	7-Apr	(a) Open-Economy Macroeconomics: Basic Concepts (b) A Macroeconomic Theory of the Open Economy	Ch. 18 Ch. 19
12	14-Apr	(a) Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply (b) The Influence of Monetary and Fiscal Policy on Aggregate Demand	Ch. 20 Ch. 21
13	21-Apr	(a) The Short-run Trade-off between Inflation and Unemployment (b) Six Debates over Macroeconomic Policy	Ch. 22 Ch. 23
14	28-Apr	Discussion on Trends in Economy	
15	5-May	Comprehensive Final Exam	Ch. 1-23 as in lectures

OTHER COMMENTS

- Please participate. What you put into the class will determine what you get out of it – and what others get out of it.
- Please come on time. Late arrivals disturb everyone else.
- If you miss a class, you are responsible for getting notes/slide printouts on the material covered from a classmate or the instructor.
- To avoid distracting noise in class, cellular phones must be turned off or the ringing mode silenced.
- Questions and comments during the class are welcome. Do not hesitate to ask questions – do not leave anything unclear for you.

MODIFICATION OF THE SYLLABUS

The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus at any time during the semester. Announcements of any changes will be made in a classroom.